



FALL/WINTER 2023

NEWSCASTING

Grounds For Sculpture's publication for members and volunteers

Members' Musings, Member Appreciation Day, and more!

*Cloud Swing
at GFS*

*Bloom Watch and
Garden Challenges*

*Education Studio
Exhibitions*

*Spiral Q
Procession*

SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER

WELCOME

Dear Members & Friends,

Every season at Grounds For Sculpture is a new opportunity for reflection, contemplation, and for fresh inspiration.

I am starting out this fall remembering Brian Carey, GFS's long-time landscape designer and architect who passed away last September. This September, we are gathering to remember Brian and celebrate his life and his indelible contributions to GFS. Brian was responsible for the design of virtually all the buildings and landscapes here at GFS. From the Red Maple Allee, to the Wisteria Arch, to the "Rabbit Building" turned Museum Building, Brian's vision and creativity are evident at every turn. To honor Brian's enduring legacy, we have established an endowment in his name to support the ongoing care of our landscape, gardens, arboretum, and horticulture collection.

I continue to be inspired by this year's indoor exhibitions, *Local Voices: Memories, Stories, and Portraits* and *Spiral Q: The Parade*. These artist-led and community-driven exhibitions are an opportunity for us to get to know our audiences better. Since opening in April, the response has been extraordinarily positive. I have heard from many of you directly as well as spoken to visitors on the grounds who say that the stories shared in both exhibitions are universal and make you feel connected to one another. As a leading museum, it is our duty to stay relevant. One of the ways we do this is by presenting art that inspires a dialogue with our community, and that welcomes new audiences as well. The exhibitions are really a springboard for long-term, meaningful engagement with our community. For instance, in partnership with Spiral Q and Artworks Trenton, we held our first ever community Procession in August called - *Breaking Boundaries: Grounds For Gathering*. After building puppets and

creating colorful banners and flags with our Trenton neighbors — many of whom were kids from the Artworks Trenton summer camps — people gathered at Grounds For Sculpture to celebrate with a lively parade amongst the grounds, concluding with plenty of festivities and performances. You can read a lovely write up about the event [here](#).

In case you haven't visited recently, I encourage you to check out our newest outdoor installation that is in progress, *Cloud Swing*, an interactive sculpture that accommodates people of *all* abilities. It features three standard swings and two wheelchair accessible swings that hang from a cloud-shaped metal canopy. Bringing *Cloud Swing* to GFS was a process many months in the making. The work was designed by Isometric Studio, and the fabrication and installation of *Cloud Swing* was funded by Wellcome Trust as part of their multi-year *Mindscape*s mental health program. Many of you also helped to support *Cloud Swing* as a part of our Access Campaign in June. Our goal with *Cloud Swing* is to promote accessibility, community, and playfulness — all core to our joyful work at GFS. You'll see this work along the main loop, by the pond on the way to the entrance of Rat's. It should be ready for use by mid-Fall, and I encourage you to delight in a few moments of unbridled fun.

Thank you, as always, for believing in GFS and for choosing to be part of our world.

With gratitude,


Gary Garrido Schneider
Executive Director



HOURS THIS SEASON

Daytime Admission — Covered by your membership!

Wednesday — Monday (closed Tuesdays) | 10AM — 5PM

Night Forms — On view November 24, 2023 — April 7, 2024

Friday — Sunday | Sunset — 10PM (last ticket available at 9PM)

Members visit spontaneously without reservation on weekdays. Free reservation required on weekends and holidays to ensure your desired entry time.

RESERVE YOUR VISIT:

[groundsforsculpture.org/timed-admission-tickets](https://www.groundsforsculpture.org/timed-admission-tickets)

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP Register on the GFS website

Registering your membership's online account allows you to "Sign In" to conveniently reserve your free visits, renew, register for programs, and receive your member discounts where applicable! **If you have not already done so, register your membership's online account [here](#).**

CONNECT WITH GFS!
@GROUNDSFORSCULPTURE



The Access Mobile Tour is a 45-minute tour that is available daily for visitors with disabilities or limited mobility. The cart can accommodate a maximum of five people or four people and a wheelchair. Tours are scheduled at 11AM, 12PM, 2PM, 3PM. Reservations strongly recommended by calling 609.586.0616.

"I took the accessibility tour and our guide was wonderful. So knowledgeable and really took the time to answer questions and make sure we had the opportunity to take pictures. She pointed out sculptures that I may have missed. Thank you for providing this opportunity for people with limited mobility."

Docent Tours are available based on docent availability. Check in at the Welcome Center to see what pop-up tours are available during your visit!

Discover something new or learn more about a longtime favorite!

Explore our collection of 400+ works on our [website](#) and our interactive map ([gfsmap.org](#)), which features sculpture and horticulture throughout the grounds, as well as an [audio tour](#) offering docent interpretations of 28 sculptures and 2 historical spots. View our tool box of new [self-guided activities](#) to enhance your next visit.

SIGN UP FOR GFS E-NEWS:

bit.ly/2Qhyen2

MEMBER EVENTS

For more information or to register for these events, visit [groundsforsculpture.org/calendar](https://www.groundsforsculpture.org/calendar) or 609.586.0616

FAMILY OPEN STUDIOS

First Saturday of each month, 11am– 3pm

Family Open Studios continues this fall exploring themes of color, wellness, and nature. Join us the first Saturday of each month from 11:00AM — 3:00PM in our Education Studios making artwork with your friends and family. This drop-in workshop invites all ages to create together and is FREE for members.

September 2: **Field Day** - temporary art and wellness stations

October 7: **Stained Glass Stories** - build a stained-glass window

November 4: **Swirly Solar System** - planet paint marbling

December 2: **Flying Friends** - simple bird feeders and bird identification

Learn more: [groundsforsculpture.org/calendar/?fwp_event_type=family](https://www.groundsforsculpture.org/calendar/?fwp_event_type=family)

Family Open Studios are supported in part by PNC Foundation.

MEMBERS' MUSINGS

14th Annual Exhibition of artwork created exclusively by GFS Members

Guest Curator: Jihan Thomas

September 1st: Announce prospectus to members

October 1 — October 16: Submit entry via email

November 3: Notification of selection via email

December 2: Opening reception

December 1 — February 26th, 2023: Exhibition on view

ARTISTS IN ACTION:

LOCAL VOICES + SPIRAL Q: THE PARADE

Local Voices: Sunday, November 5, 2023, 1pm

Spiral Q: Saturday, November 18, 2023, 1pm

Each of these artists talks will dive deep into the planning, creation and impact of this year's exhibitions. The artists, storytellers, and community partners will reflect on their experience from participation in the exhibition and/or residency.

Local Voices: Memories, Stories, and Portraits and Spiral Q: The Parade Programs are supported by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



MEMBER DISCOUNTS AT GFS

Members enjoy **10% off** on all merchandise in the Museum Shop and **10% off** dining at the Van Gogh Café and Rat's Restaurant. Be sure to show your eMembership card at check-out or to your server. View Rat's hours + Seasonal Menu: [ratsrestaurant.com](https://www.ratsrestaurant.com)

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

GFS membership is the gift that lasts all year, sparking the imagination and encouraging wellness through art and nature. To give a gift of GFS membership, visit: bit.ly/join-gfs

NIGHT FORMS OPENING CELEBRATION

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Free for Contributor, Sustainer, and Benefactor level members

Contributor, Sustainer, and Benefactor level members enjoy an exclusive Opening Celebration of *Night Forms* by Klip Collective. New members are welcome to join and current members are invited to upgrade to attend this free VIP event.

- Join or upgrade to *Contributor* level to attend the Opening Celebration
- Join or upgrade to *Sustainer* level to attend the Opening Celebration + receive 2 extra complimentary passes to share or return during the season
- Join or upgrade to *Benefactor* level to attend the Opening Celebration + receive 4 extra complimentary passes to share or return during the season

New members join online. Current members please call 609.586.0616 or 609.249.0225 to upgrade. Official Opening Celebration invitation to follow.

NIGHT FORMS MEMBER PREVIEW NIGHT

Saturday, November 18, 2023

Member Preview Night is an exclusive opportunity for GFS members to be among the first to experience *Night Forms*. Members enjoy discounted tickets and a complimentary hot beverage from the Member Lounge on Member Preview Night. Sell out likely. Member Adult \$20, Member Child \$16.

More info: [groundsforsculpture.org/member-preview-night-for-night-forms](https://www.groundsforsculpture.org/member-preview-night-for-night-forms)

Night Forms is supported by Lead Supporter Stark & Stark, P.C.

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MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, December 2, 2023

- Members exclusively enjoy **20% off** everything in the Museum Shop | Peruse new and unique merchandise for perfect holiday gifts
- Connect with staff in the Member Lounge over complimentary hot beverage and cookies
- Enjoy **20% off** in the Van Gogh Café
- Explore the brand new Members' Musings exhibition on view in the Education Gallery

VISIT US IN THE MEMBER LOUNGE!



Friday-Sunday, 11AM — 2PM

Located in a bright corner of the Welcome Center overlooking the gardens, the Member Lounge is an inviting space for members to take a break with a complimentary refreshment. Read museum publications, learn about upcoming programs, or connect with a staff member.

Grounds For Sculpture staff and Perry the Peacock helped Trenton Thunder celebrate its 30th season!



On Saturday, July 22, members at Family, Family Plus, Contributor, Sustainer, and Benefactor membership levels enjoyed breakfast and family-focused activities together during **GFS Family Breakfast**. This year families used various materials to create mixed-media 3-D collages.



Marketing Residency

This spring, the Marketing team was delighted to participate in GFS's first internal residency. The GFS residency program was created by Christina Joseph, Manager of Workforce Development, to allow employees from one department to have internal residency, or opportunity to work, in another department. This allows the resident to learn about another department and enhance their skill sets in new areas. This April and May, the Marketing team hosted Colleen Molnar, who is a Senior Visitor Assistant in Guest Services. Colleen focused on social media: creating and posting content that focused on subjects such as upcoming programming, the current 'Perspectives' exhibitions and AAPI month. The Marketing team was appreciative of her contributions and looks forward to participating in the residency program again soon.



WHAT GFS STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS ARE READING:

52 Ways to Walk by Annabel Streets
The Story of Art Without Men by Katy Hessel

Ain't no party like a GFS staff party...

Annmarie Holler | Manager of Guest Services

The staff at GFS strive to ensure our guests and members are having a positive and welcoming experience. As a team, we believe it's important to create the same fun and welcoming environment for ourselves, too. From ice cream socials to Trenton Thunder outings, the GFS Fun Committee which includes staff from the Administrative and Guest Services teams, believe it's important to create activities to bring our staff community closer together. It has allowed the staff to focus on their own mental health and wellbeing. This past September, during our off-season schedule, we held our very first Field Day event where staff worked together on teams to complete a wild scavenger hunt. It was a day of teamwork, competition, and fun. The Fun Committee also plans a quarterly Art Card Swap for the staff. This activity has become a GFS tradition. It's a great way for us to showcase and express our own creativity and receive positive feedback. The fun doesn't stop after-hours; every year the Committee plans a Trenton Thunder outing where staff can show off their sports knowledge and cheer on our home team. Once the summer season begins, we enjoy ice cream socials that allow us to catch up while enjoying a delicious ice cream sundae... because a GFS staff party doesn't stop (mic drop)!



Young Adult Memberships

Grounds For Sculpture's new Young Adult (18-25) Individual membership level is officially available! This level is exclusively for individuals aged 18-25 and offers all the same benefits as the regular Individual level membership, but is just \$45 (instead of \$95) for year-round access to GFS!

[Join or Gift a Membership](#)

DIGITAL MEMBER LOUNGE

View artist talks and videos from the archives, and more! Stop by the Digital Member Lounge: groundsfor sculpture.org/digital-member-lounge

HAVE AN IDEA FOR FEATURE IN NEWSCASTING?

Email Claire Cossaboon, Director of Membership, at: ccossaboon@groundsfor sculpture.org

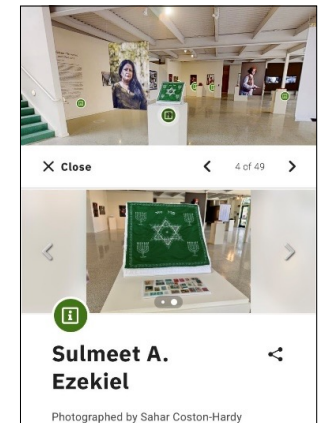
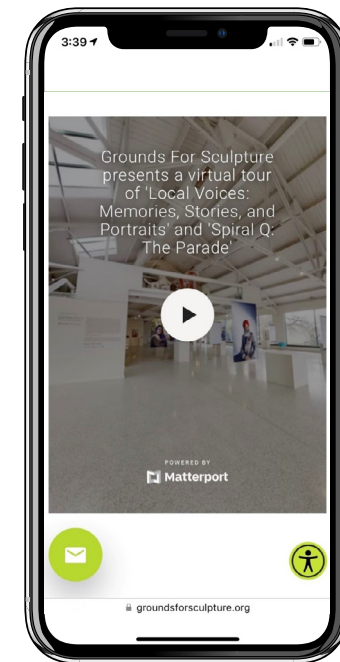
Faith McClellan | Director of Collections & Exhibitions

Virtual tour available of new exhibitions

While there is no substitute for visiting Grounds For Sculpture in person and taking the experience in through all your senses, a large selection of exhibition content is also available digitally through a virtual tour of the Domestic Arts building's two exhibitions, *Local Voices: Memories, Stories, and Portraits*, and *Spiral Q: The Parade*. Visitors to these Exhibition pages on the GFS website (groundsfor sculpture.org/exhibitions/spiral-q-the-parade and groundsfor sculpture.org/exhibitions/local-voices-memories-stories-and-portraits) will find a portal to a virtual tour, which allows remote visitors to wander through the galleries via computer, tablet, or smartphone. [Watch a video navigating the virtual tour demo here.](#)

The virtual tour includes highlights with additional information available by clicking or touching the green "i" icons, including images of the works, audio from individuals associated with that piece or event, videos of storytellers sharing their unique life experiences, and links for more information.

The use of this platform is supported by the Brooke Barrie Art Fund, which was launched in 2016 in memory of GFS' inaugural Director and Curator. Barrie is described as having a passion for nurturing artists and promoting their work—often championing and commissioning the creation of new works that would become part of the collection. Her legacy continues through



Screenshots of virtual tour content, photography/hosting: Bruce M. White

the financial assistance provided by the fund named in her honor, which is used to support exhibitions, collections care, and future acquisitions. For more information about the Brooke Barrie Art Fund, please visit: brookebarrieartfund.org

Night Forms continued

Night Forms will continue with its third season of activation of the grounds in the winter evenings. Opening November 24, 2023 and running through April 7, 2024 the exhibition hours are Friday through Sunday evenings, sunset until 10pm (last tickets at 9pm). GFS is once again working with the groundbreaking artistic team Klip Collective to bring back their extraordinary installations from *Night Forms: Infinite Wave*, which engage in a dialogue with the collection. Highlights include a mesmerizing light and sound experience along the Wisteria pergola and a mind-bending play on spatial perception using light,

sound, and projection mapping to highlight a sculpture created by Klip Collective for this exhibition, which was fabricated at The Seward Johnson Atelier. More information to come, including opportunities for live performance programs after the New Year! Get your tickets here: groundsfor sculpture.org/nightforms

Night Forms is supported by Lead Supporter Stark & Stark, P.C.

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Breaking Boundaries, Grounds For Gathering

Saturday, July 29, 2023 Julio Enrique Badel | Director of Education & Community Engagement

Our current exhibition, *Spiral Q: The Parade*, was created as an opportunity for us to work with the Trenton community, and creating a public procession is a powerful way to build relationships! Grounds For Sculpture (GFS) in partnership with Artworks Trenton, invited Spiral Q to lead us in their practice of creating public processions from the ideas, memories, and creativity of the community. We started in December 2023 as the three organizations engaged the city of Trenton through outreach and later, during the summer, art making at multiple block parties. I worked alongside Trenton Artworks Director Craig Shofed and Education Director Nasir Square with Spiral Q staff, lead by Co-Directors Liza Goodell and Jennifer Turnbull, who set the framework for engagement. We brought questions for the public to respond to: the questions included, what do you want to protect, remember, and celebrate within Trenton? The answers to these questions were reflected in the banners &

artwork made by the participants and highlighted the Trenton Bridge, food, family and lifting the next generation of residents. Throughout all the artmaking the invitation was for the local community to be welcomed into GFS and on a humid August day we welcomed over 250 guests to the grounds for a celebration with music, dance and art. Attendees gathered in the East Gallery and, after face-painting and adhering sparkles to our faces, visitors gathered posters, puppets and banners to move across the grounds in celebration of Trenton. The afternoon featured performers including the West Powelton Steppers and Drum Squad, the Watson-Johnson Dance Theatre, Charlie Thomas on Percussion and Pastor Tone showcasing a boxing demonstration with a student. This procession brought GFS closer to the community it hopes to serve while also raising awareness on the need for deeper, consistent, relationship building with our neighbors.



4th Grade Hamilton School Visits

This spring GFS was pleased to welcome 314 4th grade students from the Hamilton School District's Kuser Elementary School, Klockner Elementary School, Kisthardt Elementary School, Wilson Elementary School, Greenwood Elementary School, and Yardville Heights Elementary School.

Classes and their chaperones visited and explored the exhibitions and sculptures at GFS. As a part of their visit, teachers were provided with activities from the GFS Educational Toolbox related to the art that connect and engage students as they explore the world around us through deeper conversations, observations, and reflections. These are all skills that they can apply in any subject area of the curriculum.

Supported, in part, by The Northfield Bank Foundation.

Art Educators of New Jersey 2023 John J. Pappas Recognition Award

Congratulations to Julio Badel, Director of Education & Community at GFS, who has been selected as the recipient of the Art Educators of New Jersey (AENJ) 2023 John J. Pappas Recognition Award. The John J. Pappas Recognition Award was established to honor former President John J. Pappas, whose dedication to the idea that universal and inclusive Arts Education involves those who support Arts experiences from a wider perspective. His outstanding achievements and remarkable contributions have earned Julio this well-deserved recognition. This year's awards will be presented at AENJ's Annual Fall Conference President's Awards Dinner on Monday, October 30th. We look forward to celebrating with Julio and witnessing his continued positive impact in the field. To learn more about these awards, please visit: aenj.org/awards

Julio shared, "I am very humbled by this recognition and look forward to sharing this with our team here at GFS who equally deserve the credit. Sharing this award announcement that reflects ALL of our effort, creativity, passion, and dedication to arts education. Thank you to the Education team for bringing your full selves to GFS and winning every day. This is for us to celebrate together with more cake!"

The Art Educators of New Jersey is a non-profit association created in 1939 by art educators interested in advocating for Visual Arts Education in our state. Their purpose is to promote and maintain the highest degree of quality Visual Arts instruction in New Jersey's schools. Our membership includes public and private school art teachers on every level, art supervisors, pre-service and in-service students, museum educators, and those actively involved in national and international leadership in Art Education. Members come from every NJ county, rural, suburban, and urban areas, and teach at every grade level. Our goal is to provide Art Education Leadership, Professional Development and Advocacy to members across the state.



The Education team is very excited to add Akiko Jackson, Manager of Ceramics Program to lead the development of our best practices, structures, network, & growth in the field of ceramics. Originally from Kahuku, a rural North Shore community on the island of O'ahu, Hawaii'i, Akiko brings over 20 years of experience in the field, having studied, exhibited, worked, and taught at organizations and universities across the country. In addition to leading workshops at GFS for the past two years, she is currently an artist-in-residence at The Clay Studio and works at Crane Arts—both in Philadelphia. Check out her artwork here - [Akiko Jackson](#). This past year, her university teaching engagements included Temple University, Rowan University, and Maryland Institute College of Art. Akiko will be a central driver for building the ceramic studio at GFS, which builds our mission and strategic planning for the future as a leader in the arts.



VIEW UPCOMING CERAMIC CLASSES



The 14th Annual Excellence in Cultural Access Awards was once again hosted at Grounds For Sculpture on June 15, 2023. The morning session featured a panel discussion on transportation options in our state for people with disabilities, the challenges of transportation for people with disabilities, and how we as a community can break down transportation barriers to our venues.

PANELISTS:
Sam Hwang, Director of Guest Services, Grounds For Sculpture
Namecca Parker, General Manager of NJ Paratransit/AccessLink
Erica Saganowski, Executive Director, Mercer County Office on Aging
Reed Thomas, PASP Coordinator, Mercer County Office on Aging
Wanda Williford, President, NJ Council on the Blind

Education Gallery 2023 Exhibitions

This past year the Education Gallery showcased three exhibitions highlighting our work with community partners and revealing more of Spiral Q's community engagement process. These exhibitions were curated by the various artists involved in the exhibition along with support from the Education and Curatorial teams.



HOME March 11 – April 23, 2023

The artists of the Arc Mercer, in partnership with the Education team and volunteers at Grounds For Sculpture, welcomed the public to explore artists' interpretations of building and activating our places of living. The work in this exhibition was created over a year-long period of onsite artmaking and community building at Grounds For Sculpture. Through a process of collaborative brainstorming, materials exploration, and several artmaking sessions, the theme of familiarity with the world around us emerged. HOME explored and reimagined everyday people, places, and things in a joyful and vibrant way.

The Arc Mercer is a non-profit agency devoted to supporting individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities in Mercer County. In addition to vocational training, Arc Mercer offers various artistic programs, such as music, drama and visual art, which allow participants to express themselves creatively. The Arc knows the beauty of art is that it enables individuals to find their own voice and show the world who they truly are. Learn more at arcmercer.org

Arc Mercer Partnership
 is supported in part by NRG Energy 



Something Beautiful May 1 – May 28, 2023

This past spring GSF visited the Millhill Child and Family Development center classes to provide art programming that benefited students, teachers, and families. Students developed an ownership of their art and were proud of what they created by sharing it with their teachers, parents, and other visitors to the classroom. The experiences provided and encouraged the development of physical motor

skills, language, and self-expression. Storytelling was used as a vehicle to allow students to imagine as well as build vocabulary by introducing new words and ideas. Through our partnership with the Millhill Child & Family Development preschool classes we have created something beautiful. What childhood book inspired you? What was your favorite part of preschool? What art project did you enjoy the most when you were young?

The community partnership with the local classes is being used as a model for future school related community programming at GFS. Being able to create a framework for working with young children outside of GFS in the community is a valuable tool as we expand our educational offerings to the local school community.

This exhibition is supported in part by PNC Foundation.



Spiral Q's SparQ in Schools features Spiral Q's ninth annual partnership with Blankenburg Elementary School and the art carried in the school's 7th parade. In 2020 and 2021, the pandemic interrupted the parade, but in 2022 and 2023 Blankenburg students were back in action out in the streets of their school's neighborhood parading for the public, bringing students, staff, teachers, parents, and surrounding community out to celebrate their work.

Spiral Q's art education residencies use a sequential project-based engagement methodology to unleash the power of art to connect people, actions, values, neighborhoods, and movements to each other and to their collective creative force for change.

Teaching artists lead participants through a collaborative artmaking process that centers storytelling, transforming life experiences shared in story circles into large-scale artwork to be presented to the public in celebratory parades. More of Spiral Q's work can be found in the exhibition Spiral Q: The Parade in the Domestic Arts Building along with an original song and music video produced in the 2021 academic year in lieu of the parade.

Spiral Q: The Parade is made possible by major support from Marjorie Ogilvie and Miller Parker (PNA Foundation) and The Gordon and Llura Gund Foundation. Additional generous support is provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Brooke Barrie Art Fund, Drs. Umesh and Sunanda Gaur, Holman, NRG, and PSE&G. Support is provided in part by the Atlantic Foundation, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel & Tourism, and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

Grounds For Sculpture hosted "Dancing With The Blind" in the East Gallery on April 28, 2023. Krystle Allen (co-founder of Eyes Like Mine) is a member of the Access Advisory Council, co-led by the Director of Guest Services, Sam Hwang.

"Dancing With the Blind" is a performance art program organized by members and supporters of Eyes Like Mine (eyeslikemine.org). This 8-week program involves fitness and dance training, creativity, and an inclusive accessibility platform through descriptive choreography and movement. The program offers an opportunity for people with and without disabilities to express themselves without barriers for their sighted partner to be enlightened by the culture of blindness.

Corporate Volunteering

Volunteers from NRG were instrumental in helping to preserve the health of our river birch collection near *Space of Stone* by Magdalena Abakanowicz. The volunteers used pruning saws to thin and prune out weak growth so that the birches can thrive. In addition, the volunteers removed invasive vines and enjoyed using the uprooter tool to remove invasive trees. Removal of such invasives eliminates competition for the birches that could otherwise lead to their decline. As result of their work, approximately twelve loads of debris were removed from the area. Volunteers assisted with the loading of the debris and its transportation to the compost dumpster.

Volunteers from Bloomberg have helped to beautify the Wisteria Pergola located near the Sculpture Court. Volunteers trimmed back growth, cleaned up debris, and helped remove invasive species. Bloomberg's help allowed us to keep the wisteria healthy and keep the path enjoyable and safe for visitors.

Cure Insurance Arena volunteers spent a day in the heat helping clean up the Lakeside area of the park. They removed and chopped dead bamboo to help stimulate healthy growth in the area. Volunteers had lots of fun utilizing the loppers to help cut down the bamboo into manageable chunks.

Many of our corporate partners volunteer with us. To learn more about our corporate partnerships and get involved visit: groundsfor Sculpture.org/business-partner-opportunities



[Cure Insurance Arena volunteers]

Faith McClellan | Director of Collections & Exhibitions

New work on loan

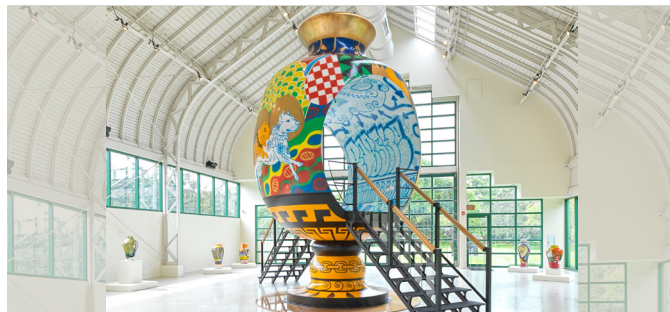
Members who participated in the April 2023 Member Preview Day may recall an awkward presentation around a new work on loan, *Cloud Swing* which as it turned out, was not yet installed in time for the preview. GFS members are a gracious and understanding group, and as a reward, those attending the presentation got to learn more about the trials and tribulations of creating a new work from the ground up, one that not only is designed to sit within the landscape, but also directly engages people of all abilities to physically engage to activate the piece. Challenge accepted! Over the course of the spring and early summer, GFS continued to work on preparing the site and installing the work. Due to its size, once fabrication was completed and the swings were tested, the sculpture had to then be cut apart at the fabrication facility in Brooklyn for shipping and was then reassembled and rewelded on site by Oliver Construction Group.

Cloud Swing is designed to inspire a world in which public art and play invite and include people of all abilities. Three slat board swings and two wheelchair



Cloud Swing installation in progress

accessible swings hang from a cloud-shaped metal canopy. The swings face each other, fostering community and a sense of belonging. This sculpture was designed by Brooklyn based Isometric Studio, whose mission is to unite graphic design and architecture to create empowering visual identities and spatial experiences. Through their collaboration with leading cultural institutions and non-profits, they create opportunities and partnerships characterized by intellectual rigor, aesthetic sophistication, and memorable storytelling. The fabrication and installation of *Cloud Swing* is funded by Wellcome Trust as part of their multi-year *Mindscapes* mental health program.



New Acquisition

Grounds For Sculpture recently acquired Roberto Lugo's monumental sculpture *Put Yourself in the Picture* which was commissioned for his 2022 GFS exhibition, *Roberto Lugo: The Village Potter*. This sculpture was fabricated through a partnership with The Seward Johnson Atelier (TSJA) and the Digital Atelier. The design was digitally sketched by Lugo then milled in foam, hard-coated, and painted. Though it is exhibited indoors as part of *The Village Potter* exhibition, it was designed for outdoor installation.

The sculpture references patterns and themes that occur throughout Lugo's works, including graffiti, references to blue and white Chinese porcelain, African kente cloth, and Lugo's series of black and orange vessels inspired by Greek kraters, focused on policing and mass incarceration. The central element in his ceramic work often includes a portrait of Black or Latino historical figures or cultural icons, however in this large-scale piece, Lugo leaves the central space open, creating a platform that allows visitors to interact within the center of the work and providing a moment for visitors to celebrate their individual uniqueness in a monumental way. This platform will also continue to be a site for programming and has been activated for live performances.

On August 26, 2022, GFS's Education team activated this sculpture with an inspiring evening of spoken word titled *Verses of Perception*, in celebration of the *Roberto Lugo: The Village Potter* exhibition with local performance artists Nikki Nalbone, Takara Alexander, and Leah James. This event showed the power and potential for the artists and the public to re-interpret public sculptures.

Acquiring this work expands the diversity of Grounds For Sculpture's collection and allows an opening for dialogs around contemporary and global issues, one of the primary goals of the Curatorial Plan adopted in 2021, which outlines a strategy for the next decade of collection and exhibition growth.

We are deeply grateful to Roberto Lugo for his gift to us, as well as to the individuals in the GFS community who provided a portion of the acquisition funding, in particular our members Gil Kunz and Danielle Guindo. Gil's late wife and Danielle's mother, Camille Lombard, was a longtime volunteer at GFS. Camille was also a gifted educator, whose career was devoted to teaching elementary students in public schools in New York and New Jersey, and instructing future teachers at the university level. After retirement, her volunteer work as a tour guide and with the horticultural team at GFS provided her with peace and purpose, and she spent countless afternoons walking the Grounds with Gil, her children, and grandchildren. When Gil and Danielle learned about GFS's need to fund the remaining portion of the acquisition, they knew immediately that this was an opportunity that would have resonated with Camille. Roberto Lugo said, "Art [should] be accessible everywhere: in schools, on the streets, and everywhere in between...art builds empathy and an understanding of other humans that will lead us to see ourselves in one another and thus grow a family rather than a society. This is about how beautiful we are when we get to see all of us." Camille embraced a similar vision, incorporating an understanding and appreciation of all kinds of artwork in her classroom, in her home, when she traveled, and in her lasting influence on her children and grandchildren. By dedicating this piece of art in Camille's memory, GFS and Camille's family and friends honor her unique gift of inspiring others to embrace the beauty and art around them, in all its forms.

My experience as a GFS Volunteer

Gary Tully | Volunteer

Kathy and I talked so many times over the years about getting a membership to Grounds For Sculpture, but we never did. I became a member a few weeks after she passed away. However, I was hesitant to take the trip to Hamilton. I continued to renew my membership, yet still didn't go! I didn't think visiting Grounds For Sculpture would help my grieving. It would just be an additional painful experience providing thoughts of another enjoyable event we could have done, should have done, didn't do, and shall never ever be able to experience together.

One of a widower's challenges is what to do with her wardrobe. This was accomplished 21 months after her death when I delivered her wardrobe to the Rescue Mission of Trenton in November 2022. An unexpected, but very fulfilling and happy event! Sitting in my car I thought what else can I do besides just go back home? Grounds For Sculpture came to mind. Amazing to me, it was only three miles away!

I arrived late in the afternoon—just enough time to explore the gallery exhibit about Seward Johnson. To my surprise, I felt very comfortable exploring the exhibits. I became overwhelmed with emotions when reading his quote about when he first met Cecelia, his future wife:

"I knew without a doubt I had met the woman I was meant to marry. I could feel the emotional hole I had tried to fill for so long was closing..."

I kept re-reading his quote with tears flowing down my cheeks. I was sobbing, yet with a marvelous feeling of contentment. Smiling and truly "drowning" in waves of happiness and joy! I could feel my own "emotional" hole of losing my wife of 51 years closing!

A thought came into mind: *You've found happiness here, this place makes you feel good. Followed by, You should come here more often. . . . I want you to become a volunteer here!... I want you to be happy!*

I sensed I wasn't alone! My heart and soul embraced with joy and happiness, knowing Kathy was there with me! We were together. We were enjoying our first visit together to the Grounds For Sculpture.

Everything about Grounds For Sculpture—its openness, the beauty of the grounds, the art, the peacocks, the fish, conversations with guests, watching their pure enjoyment, especially the children—continues to support and provide my reason for being at Grounds For Sculpture. Kathy knows this "place makes me feel good." She knows "I come here often."—She "wants me to be happy," and I am!

Protect what matters most

To thank you for supporting our future, we want to make it easier to support yours. We're sharing a free estate planning resource with our community to make this important task simple and 100% free. [Start your free will today!](#)

If you're looking for another way to continue your support for Grounds For Sculpture without spending anything today, include a legacy gift in your will and protect what you love.

By using FreeWill, you can:

- Make an estate plan 100% for free to protect the people and assets you value
- Create a legacy gift that protects our art, horticulture, and programming
- Ensure GFS can share the magic of art and nature with future generations of visitors

Everyone who makes an estate plan that includes GFS will be welcomed into our Legacy Society. If GFS is already in your estate plans, please let us know so that we can include you. If you have any questions, please reach out to Marissa Reibstein, Chief Development Officer, mreibstein@groundsfor sculpture.org or 609.249.0233.

GFS Annual Fund

You are vital to GFS's mission. Please consider including Grounds For Sculpture in your Year-End giving plans.

We rely on the generosity of the public to keep GFS thriving. [Your support](#) helps us serve as a leading community anchor, where innovative art, sprawling gardens, and educational programming all serve to encourage discovery, connection, learning, and healing.

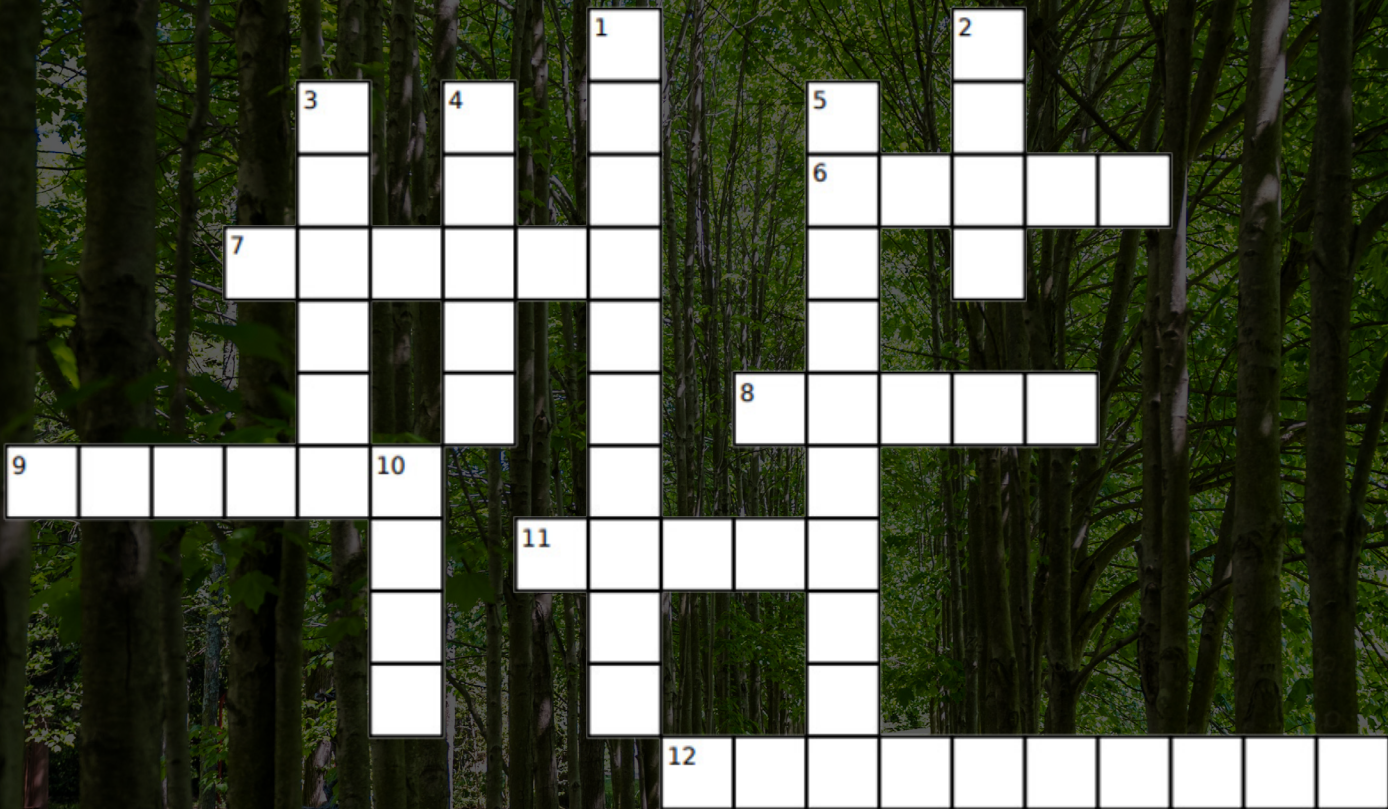
Thank you for all you make possible.

To make a gift of any size, visit groundsfor sculpture.org/donate or contact our Development Office at 609.249.0245. We are happy to discuss your donation options and answer any questions you may have.



COLLECTION CROSSWORD

Explore the GFS collection at groundsfor sculpture.org/collection, in-person, or interactive map GFSMAP.org to complete the puzzle.



- Down:
- 1. Carmelita material
 - 2. Group of three
 - 3. Optical illusion
 - 4. _____ Takes His First Steps
 - 5. Ulmus glabra
 - 10. Number of Muses

- Across:
- 6. Stewart’s Beast from space
 - 7. General _____
 - 8. Dog retrieving a ball
 - 9. Mythical Octopus
 - 11. Harp of _____
 - 12. Heart’s Desire artist

Answers: 1. Fiberglass, 2. Trio, 3. Mirage, 4. Henry, 5. Camperdown, 6. Allen, 7. Bronze, 8. Fetch, 9. Kraken, 10. Nine, 11. David, 12. Vanderbilt
Created by Leah Southerland, Assistant Manager of Guest Services



Meet the Horticulture Staff

The Horticulture staff is often busy working on the grounds, but we are always happy to stop and chat with our members and answer any questions you might have. Please feel free to say ‘hi’ – and in case you have not met us yet and want to put a face to a name, here is the staff pictured with our brand new tractor. From left to right: **Julian**, Intern; **Jen Mothes**, Horticulturist; **Cat Swiderski**, Manager of Horticulture; **Janis Napoli**, Director of Horticulture; **Pat Carey**, Horticulturist; **James MacDuff**, Intern

Garden Challenges

Cat Swiderski | Manager of Horticulture

At Grounds For Sculpture, our unique horticulture collection provides an ever-evolving landscape throughout the seasons. Every month brings new blooms, new colors, and new forms. However, the care of such a collection is not without its challenges. Here is a look at some of the current challenges that the Horticulture team is addressing:

PESTS: One of the pests that has posed a particular challenge during the previous three summers is the American Lotus Borer (*Ostrinia penitalis*). As the name suggests, this pest is native to North America and has been problematic for the Lotus Pond. In its adult form, the pest is a tan moth that lays eggs on the surface of the lotus leaves. In its larval form as a caterpillar, it feeds on the lotus leaves which results in damage to the leaf edges (see photo). The larvae bore into the stem of the leaf to pupate--they will also bore into flowers, buds, and seed heads--and emerge as a moth in their adult form through an exit hole. As the pest bores into the stem, it damages the transport tissues within, resulting in the wilting and collapse of the entire leaf. Boring damage is evident in misshapen flowers and seed heads as well. Given that the Lotus Pond is a major summer highlight for many of our members and guests, the Horticulture team does their best to manage this pest. As the Lotus Pond is an active and thriving ecosystem with various species such as fish, frogs, and turtles, chemical management is not an option. The Horticulture team takes a mechanical/cultural approach instead, which entails physically removing all the above-water plant parts with evidence of infestation. To do this, we put on waders, go into the pond, and cut out infested leaves. This physically intensive task is not 100% effective but does help limit the damage and results in a longer bloom time.

DISEASES: One of the major diseases we contend with is Rose Rosette Disease (RRD). RRD is caused by a virus (*Emaravirus sp.*), which is transmitted from plant to plant by a tiny mite (*Phyllocoptes fructiphilus*). Both the virus and the mite are believed to be native to North America. There is no cure for RRD and the mite that vectors the virus is difficult to control, as it can travel long distances via wind, as well as on tools, clothing, and plant debris. Most landscape roses are susceptible, and the virus can kill an infected plant in two to four seasons. You may have observed evidence of RRD disease yourself – symptoms include excessive thorniness, elongated shoots with unusual red



1. American Lotus Borer (*Ostrinia penitalis*) in larval (caterpillar) form feeding on a lotus leaf and the subsequent damage 2. A cutting from a rose infected with Rose Rosette Disease, exhibiting the classic witches’ broom growth pattern along with excess thorniness and red pigmentation

or yellow pigmentation, distorted leaf growth, and witches’ brooms or rosettes (unusual cluster of shoots exhibiting the above symptoms; see photo). Chemical control of the mite is difficult, expensive, and has limited effectiveness. The management of the mite and virus poses a particular challenge for the Horticulture team, especially given the size and scope of our rose plantings. At GFS, we primarily use mechanical/cultural methods for addressing RRD and are experimenting with different rose cultivars. Recent research has identified several cultivars that may be resistant either the mite or the virus. This research is only in its infancy, but the GFS Horticulture team will be keeping a close eye on the results.

CLIMATE CHANGE: Perhaps one of our biggest ongoing challenges is the effects of climate change. According to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, the last two springs in New Jersey have been some of the warmest on record and the summer of 2022 was the third warmest summer on record. Mercer County was also in a drought for much of summer 2022, which extended into the fall as well. The results of such increasing extremes have been felt throughout the garden. Our arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis*) and cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) have suffered as a result. You have may noticed the effects on these plants in your own neighborhood as well. The process of removal and replacement is no small undertaking, as these plants make up a substantial portion of our collection. As we move forward in this process, the Horticulture team continues to research alternative plants, including those with more heat tolerance.

Bloom Watch

(September - December 2023)

Cat Swiderski | Manager of Horticulture

The weather may be cooling down but some of our plants on the grounds are heating up! Here are some fall and early winter blooms not-to-be-missed.

SEPTEMBER

Heptacodium miconioides (Seven-Son Flower) is a small tree that brings multi-season interest to the grounds. Our *Heptacodium* trees begin to bloom in late summer to early fall, with graceful panicles of fragrant white flowers throughout the canopy. These flowers serve as an excellent late-season food source for many pollinators. *Heptacodium* is the gift that keeps on giving – by late September, as the white petals fall away, the sepals remain, elongating and turning red, creating an even showier display. Come winter, be sure not to miss this tree's lovely exfoliating bark as well. Our two *Heptacodium* trees can be found along the bank of the Carmelita pond, towards the end nearest the Maple Allée.

OCTOBER

Tricyrtis hirta, commonly referred to as Toad Lily, is an herbaceous perennial that blooms in the shade. Be sure to take a close look at these small yet intriguing one-inch flowers. The star-shaped blossoms have an orchid-like quality to them and are lavender dotted with vibrant shades of purple; colors will vary by cultivar, however. Toad Lily flowers emerge all along the stem from within the leaf axils as well as in clusters at the end of each stem. You'll find this woodland beauty at the base of *On Poppied Hill* and along the stream bank near the Maple Allée.

NOVEMBER

Osmanthus heterophyllus 'Gulf tide' (False Holly) is a dense evergreen shrub commonly used as a hedging plant and can be found throughout the grounds. While dutifully serving its purpose as a hedge or screen, *Osmanthus*



1. *Heptacodium miconioides* in bloom late summer to early fall 2. After the petals fall away in late September, the showy red sepals create an even more stunning display 3. A Toad Lily in bloom near *On Poppied Hill* 4. *Osmanthus* in full bloom near the Van Gogh Pond 5. *Camellia* x 'Winter's Joy' budded and blooming in December

also gives us the gift of incredible fragrance in late fall. As the weather begins to turn chilly, the dainty white flowers begin to open all along the stems. Though they are tiny, these blooms are powerfully fragrant and can perfume a surprisingly large area. Be sure to walk across the Van Gogh Pond bridge towards the Member Lounge while the False Holly hedges are in bloom to take in this magnificent aroma.

DECEMBER

Flowers in December? Yes, we have those at Grounds For Sculpture! The appropriately named *Camellia* x 'Winter's Joy' puts on a spectacular show, often beginning in November and continuing into December. This particular *Camellia* hybrid has been bred for extra cold hardiness and always seems quite content in its home, tucked into a corner of the Water Garden. If you find yourself wishing for a little extra "winter joy" this season, be sure to take a stroll through the Water Garden for a delightful reminder that beauty can thrive even when least expected.


Don't forget to save the date for our Spring Plant Sale: May 4-5, 2024. Our Grounds to Yours, Grounds For Sculpture's Spring Plant Sale, is supported in part by Power Place, Inc. - Thank you!

eMEMBERSHIP TIPS & SUGGESTIONS

Allow Notifications from the eMembership app for exclusive member news, deals and special happenings. Discover ways to make the most of your GFS membership by exploring the FAQ's in the eMembership app.

(See screen examples on right)

SHARE YOUR DIGITAL GUEST PASSES WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

When in your eMembership app account, view your guest passes under "Membership Benefits" then tap "Guest Pass". Tap the  button in the upper right-hand corner.

Next, select the guest passes you'd like to share, then choose to text or email the Guest Pass(es) to your guest.

Guest Passes are one-time use, and are marked as USED when redeemed at Grounds For Sculpture.

