



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Salem Announces the 5th Annual Rotating Sculpture Garden

Celebrating Seven new Sculptures on view at Lesley's Retreat Walking Path!

Salem, Massachusetts - Seven sculptures in a variety of media have recently been installed at the Leslie's Retreat Walking Path as part of Salem's annual Rotating Sculpture Garden program supported by the Salem Public Art Commission. The artworks will be on display from May 2025 through April 2026.

The Salem Public Art Commission will host a “**ribbon cutting**” to celebrate sculpture exhibit and its participating artists on **Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 11am at Leslie's Retreat Park** (best GPS address is 73R North St. Salem, MA). A casual artist-led walking tour of the sculptures on display will follow formal opening comments. This event is free and open to all. Light refreshments will be provided via a generous donation from Gallows Hill Artist Studios.

This year's participating sculptors include Joseph Chirchirillo, Christopher Froehlich, R. Douglass Rice, Shawn Farrell, Jack Howard-Potter, James Kitchen, and Joseph Gray. Information about these artists and their work is available at www.salem.com/public-art-commission or by using a smartphone camera to hover over the QR codes on the signs that will accompany the works along the pathway.

About the participating artists and sculptures currently on display:

Joseph Chirchirillo – Interplanetary Systems: Described by the artist as a “solar system that has been stripped down to its structure. It’s hard, lard and geometric; it’s rocky, raw and red. At its heart, this sculpture is about respect for nature.”

Christopher Froehlich – The Four Directions: In the artists’ words “represents a prayer for harmony and connectedness to Spirit and self. It honors the helping spirits of the East, South, West, and North. It honors the sacred life-giving structure of the planet that we have come from and live on. It honors the Sacred Space within each one of us that connects us to all beings and life on this planet. It honors the sky, home of the Sun, and reminds us that we are all star-seeded.”

R. Douglass Rice – Colliding Worlds: A resident of Stonington CT and graduate of both Phillips Exeter and Stanford University, Rice has exhibited in numerous galleries, libraries, museums, and park throughout his career. He has served on the board of the Bronx Museum of the Arts where he is now Chair Emeritus.

Shawn Farrell – Nouveau Gothic: Farrell lives in Hamilton and teaches art at N. Andover HS. Served for many years as head selectman for the Town of Hamilton and a big supporter of affordable housing.

Jack Howard-Potter – Valkyrie: A stunning, 11ft tall steel model.

James Kitchen – Mandala: The artist, also a poet and musician with his own band, lives in western MA. His band is called James Kitchen and the Appliances.

Joseph Gray – Great Blue: For more than 40 years, Gray has been creating art out of stone that can be seen in galleries, sculpture gardens, and private and public gathering spaces.

The City would also like to give a special thanks to Judith Klein, our local curatorial consultant with Flying Horse Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit, and the City's Department of Public Services who supported these installations and made this program possible.

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