



Grass Lake Nature Park
Call for Art

Concept Proposal

ABE SINGER

Abe's Iron Art, LLC

METAL SCULPTURE

hand forged & fabricated

Grass Lake Nature Park Call for Art

Bird Blind

- *approximately 6' x 10'*
- *along the boardwalk for viewing the birds without being seen*

Two entryway sculptures

- *Harrison Avenue and Kaiser Road entrances*
- *welcoming visitors to the park*
- *continuing theme*

Project Material
Grass Lake Water Tank



Project Goals

- *Functional art pieces with strong ongoing theme*
- *Redirecting salvage material for creative use*
- *Support the public's enjoyment of the surrounding nature*
- *Appreciation for habitat preservation and wildlife protection*
- *Increased park accessibility to encourage more people to connect with nature*
- *Safe for diverse audiences*
- *Withstand wet seasonal conditions*



Community Engagement

*Meeting with
Citizen Science Institute students
at Thurgood Marshall Middle School*

Important Insights

- *Passionate and invested*
- *Strong knowledge of the park*
- *Diverse ecosystem*
- *Restoration; watershed improvement*
- *Tree planting*
- *Preserving/fostering wildlife*
- *Subtle earthy tones*
- *Capture the sentiment of the park: what it was, what it is, what we hope it will be*



My Artistic Themes

welcoming

*elevating
natural elements
typically overlooked*

integrating the viewer



Inspiration from CSI

The park has undergone a metamorphosis.
The trees are growing; trash has been removed.
The park is making a comeback and it is inspiring to see the restoration.





Nurse Logs

Nurse logs play an important role in the constant renewal that prevails in a healthy forest.

As they decay, they offer shade, nutrients, water and protection from disease and pathogens, thus nurturing and making way for the new generation.



*When we look at nurse logs,
we see the process of forest evolution
from generation to generation
captured in a moment of time.*



*The Tank
is the Nurse Log*





Fungi

As decomposers,
they help return energy to the earth.
Mushrooms slowly break down the tree
into a new generation of soil.
The tree is returned to the soil
from which it came.

Recycling the water tank mirrors
the process of recycling nutrients.

Entryway Maquette



Entryway Maquette



Entryway Sculptures Specs & Materials

- *Approximately 8' tall x 7' wide*
- *Weight depends on material thickness and internal engineered support bracing*
- *Root portion of sculpture extends into approximately 24" wide x 48" deep sonotube concrete pier
(actual size TBD by weight and wind shear)*

Materials:

- *Mild steel reclaimed from water tank provided*
- *Incidental mild steel supports/bracing, mounting hardware, etc.*
- *Structural welding with E71T electrodes using dual shield FCAW welding process*
- *Decorative stainless steel highlights welded with E309 electrodes using dual shield FCAW welding process*

Frog's Eye View



Bird Blind Concept Sketch



Bird Blind 1":1' Scale Maquette



Bird Blind 1":1' Scale Maquette



Bird Blind 1":1' Scale Maquette and Top View



Bird Blind Maquette



Bird Blind

Specs & Materials

- *Two 6' long half round sections from body of tank, one section inverted and the two sections welded together to create a 6' x 10' S curve panel*
- *Viewing windows through decorative cut outs*
- *S shaped footprint creates stable base*
- *Connected to boardwalk structural members with mounting brackets welded to backside with E71T electrodes using dual shield FCAW welding process*

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Maintenance

- *Gentle cleaning with mild soapy water and soft brush or sponge as needed*
- *Graffiti can be removed with citrus based commercial graffiti removal product such as “Graffiti Off!”*
- *Biennial reapplication of Owatrol rust inhibiting oil or as needed locally after graffiti removal*



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Happy trails to you!