



# Benches on the Avenue

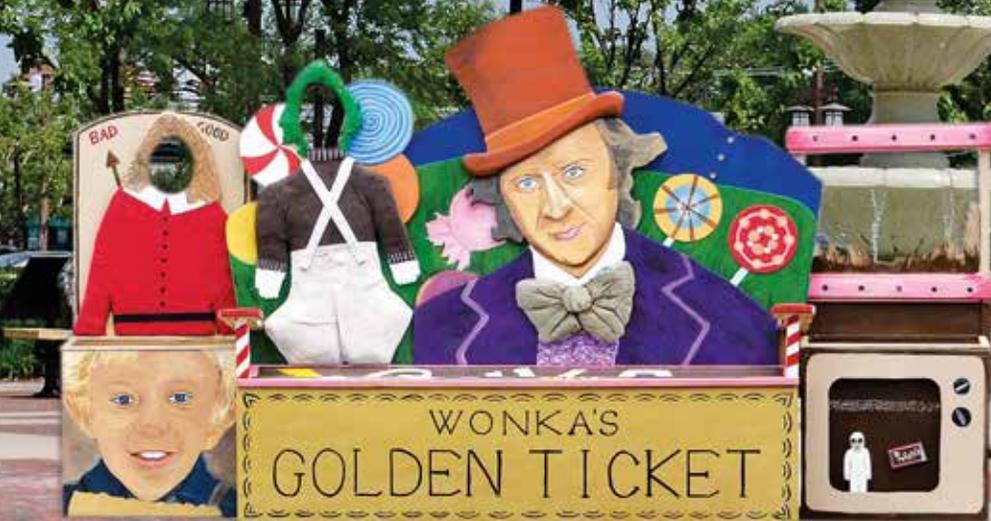
– PRESENTS –



## Once Upon a Time...



Favorite Children's Storybooks



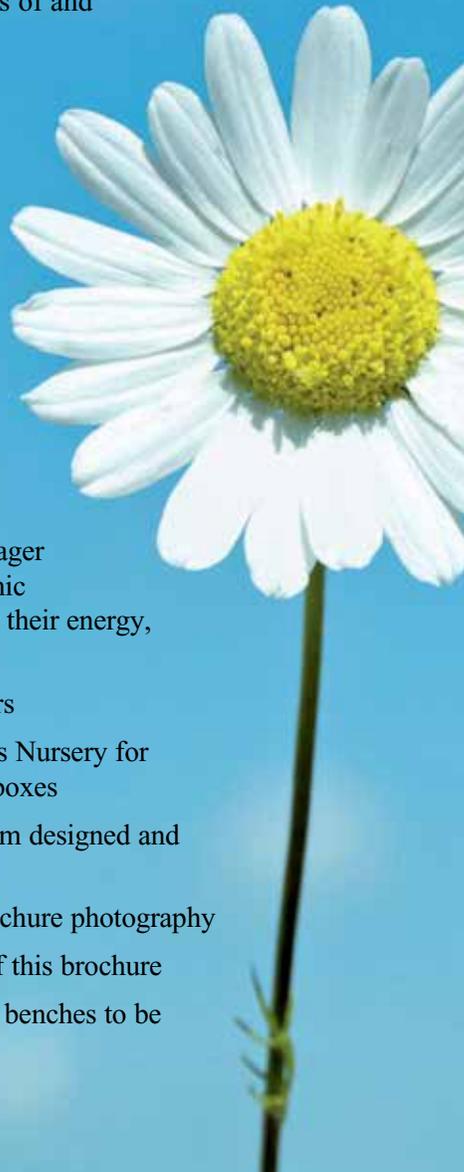
This project was created and implemented by the Village of Tinley Park's MainStreet Commission in an effort to beautify our community and showcase downtown Tinley Park.

**Many thanks to the following contributors without whose help this project would not have happened:**

- Our generous sponsors for their financial support of this project
- Each and every artist who generously shared his or her time, incredible talent and creativity with the residents of and visitors to the Village of Tinley Park
- John Kasman of Aero Rubber Co. for donating warehouse space to house the benches
- Becky Nichols of Evon's Trophies & Awards for donating and installing the plaques to identify the artists and sponsors
- The Tinley Park Young Volunteers and the Tinley Park Garden Club for planting the flowers in the benches and for maintaining the flowers throughout the summer

**A Very Special Thank You to...**

- Village of Tinley Park employees – Project Manager Nancy Byrne, along with the Marketing, Economic Development and Public Works Departments for their energy, creativity, resourcefulness and timely support
- Village of Tinley Park MainStreet Commissioners
- Michael Reihsmann and his assistants at Saunoris Nursery for coordinating the flower selection for the planter boxes
- The carpenter, Gerard & Roberts Inc., who custom designed and built the benches for the artists to decorate
- Rick Butkus of Photos by Rick for the bench brochure photography
- Crossmark Printing for the design and printing of this brochure
- The individual property owners who allowed the benches to be displayed on their property



# Log on to [www.downtowntinley.com](http://www.downtowntinley.com) to view photos of the benches.

Prizes will be awarded to the artists by a panel of judges  
in the following categories:

**Most Creative, Best Portrayal of Theme, Best Use of Materials,  
Best Group/Family Project, Best Three-Dimensional Bench,  
Best First Time Participant, Judges Choice**

Winners will be announced at the Music in the Plaza Concert  
on August 27, 2016 at the Downtown Tinley Park train station.

## September 11th Commemorative Bench by artist Nick Schulien

Fire Station #1 — 17355 S. 68th Court

**A tribute to the innocent victims and their families,  
the heroic first responders and those who sacrificed  
their lives to save the lives of others**



# The Village of Tinley Park

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# Benches on the Avenue 2016

—PRESENTS—



## Once Upon a Time...

Favorite Children's Storybooks



- 1 Pure Imagination**  
Artist: John Tamulis & Brian Luethy  
Sponsor: Portillo's Hot Dogs - Tinley Park  
Zabrocki Plaza, South Side

Inspired by *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, the Pure Imagination bench is a mixed media experience! From face cut-outs of Oompa-Loompas and children, to three-dimensional characters and candy, this bench is a fun, colorful experience to be enjoyed by all! Artist John Tamulis is a local artist whose talents include painting, drawing, sculpting and creative designs for custom pieces! He and Brian can be found at local craft shows and conventions. Artist Brian Luethy is a local woodworker specializing in hand-carved, custom wood boxes and pieces. John is a second-year bench artist.



- 2 Sleepy Time Olie**  
Artist: Jennifer Lilly  
Sponsor: Pronger Smith Medical Care  
Zabrocki Plaza, North Side

This book by William Joyce tells the story of a robot family working together to help each other fall asleep. Jennifer Lilly, the artist, read this fun, rhyming story many times to her children before bedtime. The materials she used are plywood, paint, canvas, plastic bags, wooden seat or table circles, nuts and bolts, sign posts, ice maker wire tubing and pom-poms. This is Jennifer's 11th year finding ways to create new and unique benches. She enjoys participating in Benches on the Avenue for the pure enjoyment of creating art and for the joy it brings to others.



- 3 Fee Fi Fo Fum**  
Artist: Sherrie Bartolini Ordaz & Michael Woodman  
Sponsor: Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center  
17313 S. Oak Park Avenue

*Fee Fi Fo Fum* is inspired from the book *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The bench features Jack climbing the bean stalk high into the clouds. The materials used are: acrylic paints, stuffed canvas, spray foam, fiberglass resin, shopping bags, river rocks, glass tiles, stone grout, solar-powered lights, glitter, glow-in-the-dark paint, recycled picture frames, plastics and upcycled items from neighbors like you! Artists Sherrie and Michael share a passion for creating unique and challenging art projects using distinctive and varied types of materials.



- 4 You Never Know Until You Try**  
Artist: Maya Scott  
17255 S. Oak Park Avenue

*Green Eggs and Ham* is a terrific tale of the saying... "you never know until you try." The scene portrays everything falling down and an unnamed character who finally tries the green eggs and ham. *Green Eggs and Ham* was one of the stories the artist's mother read to her often. First-time bench artist Maya Scott received her degree in painting and drawing in 2012. Normally an abstract artist painting on canvas with oils and acrylics, Maya enjoyed the fun challenge of creating this bench. She has also started a small business, Switch 2 Peace, to give back to her community.



- 5 Where the Wild Things Are**  
Artist: Kent Hoselton & Emma Eaton  
17225 S. Oak Park Avenue

Using mostly acrylic paint and plywood, the artists, Kent Hoselton and Emma Eaton, tried to recreate the fantastic story of *Where the Wild Things Are* featuring all of the beastly characters and two famous quotes. "There should be a place where only the things you want to happen, happen." And that's where Max is headed. On his sailboat, Max is awaited by the wild things on the island. Both Emma and Kent are art students at Lincolnway East High School and first-time Benches on the Avenue artists. They hope you enjoy it and let the wild rumpus start!



- 6 Steg-O-Snore**  
Artist: Michelle and Melissa Patino  
17217 S. Oak Park Avenue

This bench was inspired by the book "*How do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?*" which is also published in Spanish, "*Como dan las Buenas Noches los Dinosaurios.*" The bench features a stegosaurus hugging a plush toy bear. Both the head and pillow were constructed with mortar paper mache. Other three-dimensional elements are the wooden bed frame and working night light. This is Michelle's second year as a bench artist, after her first year winning "Best Young Artist." Michelle's twin sister, Melissa, who is also an avid artist, was instrumental in the painting and sculpting processes.



- 7 The Very Hungry Caterpillar**  
Artist: Providence Catholic High School Studio Art Class, Instructor: Denise Zlogar  
Sponsor: Lawn Funeral Home  
17208 S. Oak Park Avenue

This colorful and three-dimensional bench depicts the iconic children's book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The students worked collaboratively to capture the colorful and tactile qualities, which make Eric Carle's illustrations so loved. As first-time participants, this art class thoroughly enjoyed the experience and challenge. Members of the class include Aiden Christianson, Sean Daugherty, Dana Joseph and Ryan Pilon. Special thanks to Sarah Kaley and the Providence Maintenance Department.



- 8 Ode to Seuss**  
Artist: Madeleine & Margaret Jager  
Sponsor: Local 17 - Heat & Frost Insulators  
17236 S. Oak Park Avenue

This bench features the beloved Dr. Seuss characters of *The Cat in the Hat*. The Cat, Thing One and Thing Two, the children, and the Fish were all constructed with plywood and painted with acrylic paints. Madeleine and her mother, Margaret, are both residents of Mokena and love visiting Tinley Park to see the benches! They are first-time bench artists. Madeleine is currently an art student at Joliet Jr. College, and Margaret runs a business with her husband. They both thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to create this wacky bench for Tinley Park, and hope others enjoy it for years to come!



- 9 The Lorax & Friends**  
Artist: Illinois Institute of Art, Tinley Park  
Sponsor: Fredric S. Tatel, D.D.S.  
17244 S. Oak Park Avenue

This bench is an amusing rendition of *The Lorax and Friends* on raised plywood surfaces. The mission of the Arts Program at the Illinois Institute of Art is to provide a focus on conceptual thinking while developing artistic skills. With the conjoining of the Graphic Design, Animation and Photography Departments, students shared talents in producing this fun-loving bench. A 20-student team, working together sharing ideas, skills and artistic insight, proudly created *The Lorax and Friends* with movable truffula trees with the intention of making a piece of art for the community to enjoy.



- 10 Clifford the Big Red Firehouse Dog**  
Artist: Jackie Bobbitt  
Sponsor: Aero Rubber Company Inc.  
17316 S. Oak Park Avenue

*Clifford, the Big Red Dog* becomes firefighter for a day, saving local Downtown Tinley businesses from fire disaster. Using wood, acrylic paint and pages from the book, Clifford's story comes to life. Clifford supports the Tinley Park Fire Department's message, encouraging residents to practice fire prevention tools like "Stay Low in Smoke" and "Stop, Drop and Roll!" Jackie is a first-year bench artist whose creative talents were evident at a very young age. She is a Tinley Park resident with a passion for art, volunteering and giving back to her community. With support from her family, Jackie is proud to share her artistic talents and honor our hometown heroes.



**11 Now You've Done It**  
 Artist: *Roberto Almanza*  
 17322 S. Oak Park Avenue

Based on the book *No, David!* by David Shannon, this bench depicts iconic elements from the multiple books in the series, and captures the mischievous spirit of David. Just like David, all this fun, interactive and photo-worthy bench wants is some attention! Plywood, acrylic paints, a rubber grommet and creativity were used to complete this project. The artist is a first-time participant in Benches on the Avenue. Aside from driving a school bus for fun, Roberto is a freelance illustrator and designer whose work includes children's books, toy designs and seasonal decor.



**12 The Sneetches**  
 Artist: *Jennifer Lilly*  
 Sponsor: *Tinley Park Park District*  
 17332 S. Oak Park Avenue

The *Sneetches* is one of artist Jennifer Lilly's favorite Dr. Seuss stories. She has enjoyed this book since her childhood and has shared it with her own children. The message of acceptance, that we are all people despite our differences, is so important today. The materials used are plywood, paint, wire, hooks and marker. This is Jennifer's 11th year creating benches and she enjoys challenging her creativity to come up with new and unique ways to design benches each year. She feels that this opportunity to use her talents to bring joy to others is a very rewarding experience.



**13 I Can Lick 30 Tigers Today!**  
 Artist: *Jackie Perell*  
 Sponsor: *First Midwest Bank*  
 Oak Park Avenue & Hickory Street

The artist, Jackie Perell, created this bench as a tribute to her father who read this book to her as a child. Stacked plywood creates the basic structure of the piece, while bright paint captures the genius style of Dr. Seuss. The three-dimensional tiger on the seat is the focal point and is constructed using layers of wood, foam and plaster. Other characters appear through the use of sculpture, wood and textiles. As a local interior designer, "Jackie of All Trades" enjoyed this great opportunity to express herself creatively in order to exemplify that name and to show her children that hard work and imagination are powerful tools.



**14 The Giving Tree**  
 Artist: *Nikki Walsh*  
 Sponsor: *Durkin Electric*  
 17424 S. Oak Park Avenue

Artist Nikki Walsh was inspired by the book *The Giving Tree* when designing her bench. The artist chose this idea because *The Giving Tree* was her husband's favorite book as a child and it became a story that their children now also love! She decided to replicate the cover of the book in this three-dimensional bench. She used paint, wood putty, varnish, plywood, lng bolts and vinyl. The artist, her husband and two children are ten-year Tinley Park residents. Nikki is a first-year bench artist who enjoyed providing a beautiful piece for the community she loves!



**15 The Napping House**  
 Artist: *Renee & Christopher Galvin*  
 17432 S. Oak Park Avenue

Who needs a nap? *The Napping House* bench was created for you to be able to sit back and relax, or even take a nap of your own! Just as the story of *The Napping House* was created by a husband and wife team, so was this bench. Chris and Renee Galvin are both local artists. Their main goal was to use the power of paint to create texture and movement without compromising the comfort of the bench. Renee Galvin is a children's book author and illustrator. These first-year artists have loved working on the bench together this year.



**16 The Marauder's Bench**  
 Artist: *Narita Sharma, Devin Walker, Kathleen De Jong, Shelby O'Hara, Natasha Swindle, Alexis Jannotta, Samantha Bynum, Nicholas Wyatt (South Suburban College students)*  
 Sponsor: *Gatto's Restaurant & Bar*  
 17500 S. Oak Park Avenue

This *Harry Potter* bench was painted by a group of eight South Suburban College painting students who were excited to bring together their favorite childhood memories of the stories and characters as elements of this bench. The front depicts a well-known scene, and the back was designed to allow for different artists' styles by using a gallery theme. The group used their individual strengths and experience to work together during class time and until school security closed the building at night. Being part of a group project and sharing their love of the *Harry Potter* stories was the primary motivation behind their choice.



**17 Dr. Seuss Oh, the Places You'll Go!**  
 Artist: *Nadia Hoselton*  
 17514 S. Oak Park Avenue

Hooray! You are on your way...as you take a stroll through life's ups and downs, whimsically portrayed from Dr. Seuss's *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* The artist, Nadia Hoselton, used wood, canvas, yarn, plumbing pipes and even a roller skate to add dimension to the bench. This bench is dedicated to her wonderful stepson and the entire graduating class of 2016. Congratulations! The artist is an interior designer by trade and owns Nadia Hoselton Design. She is a second-year bench designer.



**18 Rainbow Fish**  
 Artist: *Suzanne Ostrowski*  
 Sponsor: *Ed & Joe's Restaurant & Pizzeria*  
 17501 S. Oak Park Avenue

The *Rainbow Fish* is a great story about sharing and friendship and is a favorite of the artist, Suzanne Ostrowski. As a first-time bench artist she was excited to learn new skills and create a large-scale, useful piece of art. The artist is a graphic designer who is always looking to learn new things, especially relating to art. She used wood, paint, a gift bag, stuffing, canvas, polyvinyl and polyester casting resin to bring the *Rainbow Fish* to life for viewers. Suzie has been a long-time fan of the Benches on the Avenue and is very excited to be participating this year.



**19 Somewhere Over the Rainbow**  
 Artist: *Michael Schultz & Angela Simpson*  
 Sponsor: *Odyssey Fun World*  
 17459 S. Oak Park Avenue

This mother and son-in-law team created their bench based on the popular children's story, *The Wizard of Oz*. As first time participants, they wanted a colorful bench to reflect the many elements of the story and achieved this with acrylic paints, wood, glue, glitter, twine, mesh and iridescent film. Angela, an SIU graduate, is an electrician at the Ford Chicago Assembly Plant UAW Local 551 who has a passion for art and creativity. Mike is a tattoo artist and a roofer with Local 11 who attended the Illinois Institute of Art in Chicago and had his own art studio in the Arts District of Chicago. Together they had a great time collaborating their skills and creativity for this fun project!!



**20 But No Elephants**  
 Artist: *Nick Schulien*  
 Sponsor: *Bettenhausen Automotive*  
 17401 S. Oak Park Avenue

This story is about Grandma Tildy, who took in a lot of pets, but no elephants. The elephant was left at her doorstep and was soon covered with snow. Tildy tried to get him in but his foot went through the floor. He ate everything in sight. So he walked the house south to warmth and sunshine. The artist, Nick Schulien, has lived in Tinley Park for more than 60 years. He taught high school art at Bolingbrook High School for 34 years and has been retired for about 14 years now. He has enjoyed creating benches for Benches on the Avenue for most of those retired years. His bench includes plywood, stuffing, canvas, Great Stuff, yarn, felt and plastic tubing.

# Bronze Statues on the Avenue

These timeless statues and monuments on Oak Park Avenue add beauty and dignity to our town. Many of the statues typify what Tinley Park is all about – rich in family values, hometown warmth and pride in our neighborhoods. Our village welcomes all of you to take

the walking tour along Oak Park Avenue and see the wonderful bronze sculptures we have on display. A special thanks to Emily Zabrocki for her assistance in selecting the bronze sculptures and for writing the descriptive narratives.



**1 The Good Book** sculpted by Mark Lundeen. This sculpture captures the bond between the old and young. Many of us remember a grandmother, favorite aunt, neighbor or friend reading to us as we sat enjoying not only the story, but the sense of sharing and love that brought us together.



**2 First Star** sculpted by Dennis Smith. Children, being shorter than we adults, see a totally different world. It is probably part of why they love high places that will elevate them above their short world. In First Star, a father, rooted as an observatory, scans the dusky sky of a summer day, searching for that first evening star, creating for his daughter a vision of a broad universe beyond anything her young mind can yet imagine.



**Home Delivery** sculpted by Blair Muhlestein. Home Delivery transports us to an earlier time, much like the buildings that we see from the Plaza. Here we see a young man, taking pride in his bike and his delivery of papers. Many of us remember the responsibilities of the papers delivered on time, as well as the drudgery of getting up early and facing those bad weather days!



**4 Long May It Wave** sculpted by Blair Muhlestein. Three children, recreating the battle weary flag-bearer and fife and drum players of the Revolutionary War as they play. This sculpture takes on added significance as we remember the events of September 11, 2001. We continue to take pride in our flag and what it symbolizes and remember to rejoice in our freedoms as Americans. We also are reminded that the freedoms we enjoy came about because of the sacrifices of many and that it takes continued vigilance to stamp out hatred, fostering understanding and respect for all the peoples of this world.



**Tinley Park Firefighters** sculpted by A. Joseph Kinkle. The Tinley Park Fire Department was organized in 1901. The design of this statue was selected to depict those early days, a firefighter called to duty with a look of determination and concern to handle the task at hand. The base was designed and engraved by Maurice Moore Memorials. This tribute contains the names of all firefighters who served Tinley Park during the first 100 years, 1901 to 2001.



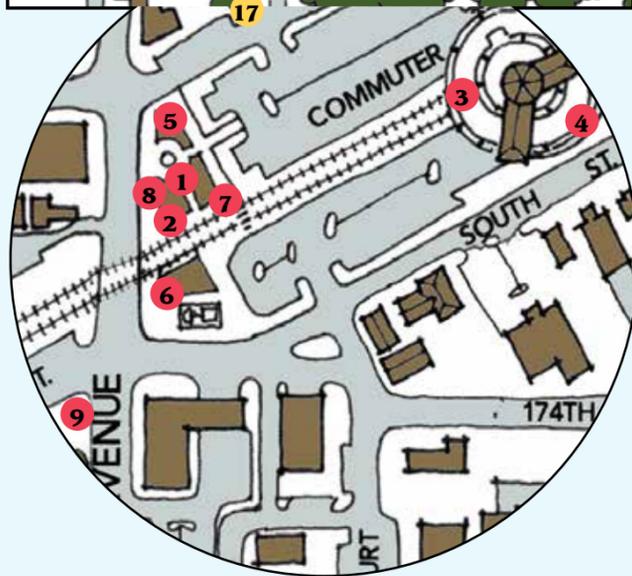
**6 Twist in Time** sculpted by James Haire. Here we see a young boy, enjoying a fine summer day on a rope swing beneath the branch of a favorite tree. Another simple pleasure, reminding us that happiness doesn't need to involve owning the newest, most expensive gadgets, whatever our age. Most of us remember the joy of feeling the wind brush across our face as we swoop up and down, up and down, higher and higher on the swings of our youth.



**Heading Out** sculpted by Dennis Smith. Heading Out is an image about beginnings. Think about the mind and vision of a child; the trial and error—the pure work that accompanies the task of learning to walk. Beyond the falls, the bumps and bruises of the effort, finally those first steps take form, and the child heads out into the wide and endless vision of a world filled with new things and endless places to explore.



**8 Dorothy and Friends** sculpted by Phyllis C. Beattie. This sculpture was originally commissioned to memorialize Dorothy Vogt, who was a community leader and volunteer in Arapahoe County, Colorado. It depicts Mrs. Vogt as a young girl, doing what she loved best, reading with her dog in the park. It reminds us of the days you could find us outside, enjoying nature, a good book, and our animal friends.



**9 Tender Touch** sculpted by George Lundeen. Tender Touch is a life size sculpture of a young woman dressed in period clothing from the turn of the century. In one arm she holds an infant swathed in a blanket and with her other arm she holds the hand of a young girl with a crutch who is leaning against her. Alongside her is a steamer trunk. This woman stands between Fulton House and the train station and brings to mind the early settlers who underwent difficult journeys and untold hardships to find for themselves and their families the promise of a better life.