

Benches on the Avenue



May thru September, 2012

112



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
- Bill Moran of Carlin-Moran Landscapers, Inc. for donating the watering of the beautiful flowers throughout the season
- Rick Butkus of Photos by Rick for donating the photography of all of the benches
- Becky Nichols of Evon's Trophies & Awards for donating and installing the plaques to identify the artists and sponsors
- The Cub Scouts and parents from Pack #398- Millennium Elementary School and Pack #400-Cardinal Bernardin School for planting the flowers in the benches

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: Chairman Mike Clark, Rick Butkus, Jack Cochonour, Jim Fuentes, Tom Kane, Becky Nichols, Kim Scalise
- 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
- Crossmark Printing for the design and printing of this brochure
- E-Mail Logic for the on-line contest web design work
- The individual property owners who allowed the benches to be displayed on their property

September 11th Commemorative Bench by artist Nick Schulien Fire Station #1 – 17355 S. 68th Ct.

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.



Vote for Your Favorite Bench!

Log on to www.downtowntinley.com to view photos of the benches and vote for your favorite in the following categories:

Most Creative, Best Portrayal of Theme, Best Use of Materials, Best Group Project, Best Young Artist, Best First Time Participant, Best School Group Project

Winners will be announced at the Music in the Plaza Concert on August 18, 2012 at the downtown Tinley Park train station.

Benches on the Avenue 2012

Benches on the Avenue presents: The Magic of Music'

Don't forget to vote for your favorite! www.downtowntinley.com





Ride of the Valkyries

Artist: Nick Schulien Sponsor: Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center Zabrocki Plaza, South Side

This portrayal of the opera by Richard Wagner illustrates all the mayhem usually associated with opera including a profound story ending in tragedy. The bench comes alive with the creative use of nautical rope, aluminum tape and upholstery tacks. This veteran bench artist has created 23 benches over the course of eight years. Nick is a Tinley Park resident and retired high school art teacher.







Flight of the Bumblebee Artist: Jennifer Lilly

Sponsor: Aero Rubber Co. Zabrocki Plaza, North Side

"The Flight of the Bumblebee" has always been a favorite piece of music for this artist. Here she has recreated the movement of the piece with the suspension of the bee above the bench. Coco basket liners, plywood and foam were used to create the magnificent flowers. Jennifer, who works in Tinley Park, is a seventh year bench artist and thoroughly enjoys the challenges of the Benches on the Avenue project.

It's Magic!

4

6

Artist: Grissom Middle School Art Club Sponsor: First Midwest Bank

17313 S. Oak Park Avenue

These sixth, seventh and eighth grade students have created a colorful interpretation of a magician's hand pouring musical notes out of his hat. This is the art club's third year participating in Benches on the Avenue. The club's 45 members meet after school and during homeroom. They also made a mural and stained glass mosaics this year.

The Fab Four's Yellow Submarine

Artist: *Madelyn Rose* Sponsor: *Odyssey Fun Farm* 17255 S. Oak Park Avenue

This vivid bench commemorates the Beatles and their popular song "Yellow Submarine". The Fab Four's song was also made into an animated movie in 1968. The bench reflects the art present in the movie. Madelyn is 13 years old and has worked on a bench previously with her sisters and has created another by herself. This is her third year participating in the project.

Stevie Ray Vaughan

Artist: Randy Campbell Sponsor: Available

17225 S. Oak Park Avenue

This bench reflects the fiery style of Stevie Ray Vaughan who was named one of the greatest guitarists of all time by Rolling Stone Magazine. His music bridged the gap between blues and rock and ignited the blues revival of the 80's. The artist is also a musician and operates his own home recording studio. This is Randy's first year as a bench artist.

The Music of Vince Guaraldi Artist: Kari Hoffman Sponsor: Crossmark Printing 17217 S. Oak Park Avenue

A tribute to the composer, Vince Guaraldi, this bench depicts the *Peanuts* characters dancing to their well-loved and easily-recognized musical themes. Guaraldi, a talented jazz pianist, composed the music for 15 Peanuts television specials between 1964 and 1976. A first year bench artist, Kari is a music teacher and homeschooling mom who enjoys drawing and painting for fun. Don't miss the musical component on the back side of the bench!







17208 S. Oak Park Avenue

The ideas of Trompe-l'oeil are used to "trick the viewers eye" on this 3-D piano bench. Sheet music decorates the flower boxes. Acrylic paint, airbrush and an array of mediums have been used to create a range of flat and glossy surfaces. Illinois Institute of Art students Nicci Allen, Tara Deliberto, Stacey Jurewicz, Adam Schuld and Bethany Nemec, along with instructors Kathleen Enright and Jill Decker worked together to create their first Benches on the Avenue bench.



The Supremes

Artist: Roger Gerencir Sponsor: SEECO Consultants Inc. 17244 S. Oak Park Avenue

From 1959 to 1977 The Supremes were one of Motown's leading acts. This all-female singing group recorded twelve #1 hits from 1964 to 1969 and was considered the most popular female group of the sixties. On this bench, Roger portrayed the glamorous side of his all-time favorite singing group. The artist is a retired art teacher and has produced 13 benches during his seven years as a bench artist.





The Arts are Alive in Tinley

Artist: Arts Alive! Community Band Sponsor: Available

17244 S. Oak Park Avenue

Celebrating 25 years as a concert band, this colorful bench depicts silhouettes of various players and instruments. First time entrants, The Arts Alive! Community Band is part of the Tinley Park District's "Arts Alive" program, established in 1987. They have twice toured in Germany as part of the Sister Cities Exchange and have represented Illinois at ceremonies surrounding the dedication of the National WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C.

10 Play On

Artist: Lisa Hanna Akroush Sponsor: Best Plumbing Inc. 17316 S. Oak Park Avenue

This bench plays off of Shakespeare's famous line, "If music be the food of love, play on". Music, like food and love, is essential to life and the well-being of the human race. This is Lisa's third year as a bench artist. Her work can be seen throughout the Chicagoland area. Her 2010 bench "To Be in Art" currently resides at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.



Les Miserables

11

12

Artist: Nick Schulien Sponsor: Pronger Smith Medical Care 17322 S. Oak Park Avenue

The artist depicts the musical, Les Miserables, based on the French novel by author Victor Hugo. This historical musical, set in nineteenth-century France, follows many characters as they struggle for redemption and revolution. Nick has created 23 benches over the course of eight years. He is a lifetime Tinley Park resident and retired high school art teacher.



"Know When to Hold 'Em, Know When to Fold 'Em"

Artist: Garrett Gray & Phillip Gerk Sponsor: James B. Carroll & Associates 17332 S. Oak Park Avenue

Move over Lady Gaga! Kenny Rogers' "The Gambler" is the original "Poker Face". Musician Kenny Rogers is one of the most recognizable legends in country music. His signature song "The Gambler" is a cross-over hit with broad appeal to both country and rock fans alike. Garrett and his father-in-law Phillip are second year bench artists. Garrett is an engineer who always has time for art. Phillip is a retired electrician and talented woodworker who once built a canoe from scratch and raced it down the river.





Ode to Elfman Artist: Jennifer Lilly Sponsor: Odyssey Fun World Oak Park Avenue & Hickory Street

The music for the movies and television shows depicted on this bench were all created by Danny Elfman. His music has a very unique sound and ranges from dark and mysterious to light and whimsical. He is best known for creating *The Simpsons* main title theme as well as the 1989 *Batman* movie theme. Jennifer holds a degree in art. She works in Tinley Park, is a seventh year bench artist and thoroughly enjoys the challenges of the Benches on the Avenue project.

The Barbershop Quartet

Artist: Nick Schulien Sponsor: NuMark Credit Union

17424 S. Oak Park Avenue

This bench is a tribute to the barbershop quartet – a group of (usually) male singers harmonizing simple songs in a four-part a cappella style. Still well-liked today, these groups promote fellowship and friendship. Nick enjoys the challenge of building new and exciting creations. He is a 60year resident of Tinley Park and a retired art teacher who utilizes unique materials to make his benches come to life.

Broadway

Artist: 5th & 6th Grade Hilda Walker School Artists Sponsor: Robinson Engineering / Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins

17432 S. Oak Park Avenue

Broadway has always been a magical place especially for young performers aspiring to be on the stage acting out their favorite scene. This colorful bench portrays the artwork of several Broadway musicals. The 5th & 6th Grade Walker Artists is a group of 10, 11 and 12 year old students from Hilda Walker Intermediate School in Tinley Park. They meet once per week to expand their knowledge and appreciation for art. This is their second year participating.

The American Music Experience

Artist: *Marty Rose* Sponsor: *Gatto's Restaurant and Bar* 17500 S. Oak Park Avenue

This lively bench portrays various musical legends and a selection of devices used to listen to music. The back is a reflection of the American artists who influenced the birth of rock & roll – one of the greatest contributions to music worldwide. Marty is one of the original Benches on the Avenue artists who works primarily with acrylic paint. He is a full-time respiratory therapist and also a muralist and writer of fiction.





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17 KISS

Artist: Babeth Kopf Sponsor: Bettenhausen Automotive 17514 S. Oak Park Avenue

The artist depicts a fun look back at Rock & Roll with this colorful rendition of one of the top bands of the 70's and 80's. Regarded as one of the most prominent Rock & Roll bands of all time, KISS has recorded over 100 million albums worldwide. Beth is a second year bench artist and an art instructor for adults with disabilities. Their new Garden Gallery & Studio is now open in downtown Tinley Park.





19

All That Jazz

Artist: Brielle Visser Sponsor: Sleep Inn – Tinley Park 6779 W. 174th Place

Primary colors were used to enhance the carved wood cut-out's on this bench. The jazz musicians come alive on stage with their instruments - the saxophone, trumpet and double bass. Brielle is eighteen years old and a Graphic Design major. She has taken many art classes over the years, but this is her first attempt at public art.



The Magic of Michael

Artist: Raye Ann Saunoris Sponsor: Eggheadz Café 17401 S. Oak Park Avenue

This bench displays the musical gifts of Michael Jackson as the "King of Pop" from his childhood to the Jackson Five and on up to his later years as an explosive choreographer. The artist captures the essence of Michael with his silver sequined jacket and glove and distinctive hat. Raye Ann is a local, professional artist and owns her own wall mural, painting and interior design company. This is her fifth year as a bench artist.



20 The Rat Pack Trio Artist: Marty Rose & Don Zak Sponsor: Heat & Frost Insulators-Local 17 Oak Park Avenue & South Street

One of the greatest musical shows of the 50's and 60's, the Rat Pack Trio are represented here. Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and Dean Martin frequently performed in Las Vegas during that era. Their music still lives on today, both as a group and individually. Marty and Don are neighbors who have been combining their talents to contribute benches each year since the project was conceived.

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 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.



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.

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!



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.







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







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.

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.



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Cover Photo by: Photos by Rick

Tinley Park Volunteer Fire Department