

LandMarks

DIGITAL
Newsletter 2019 Issue #1

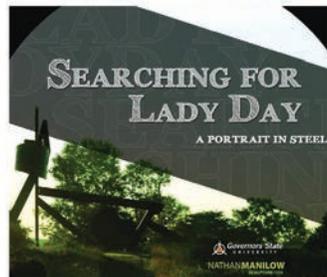


Volunteer Docent Al Sturges inspires a group of young visitors during an "Outdoors@theNATE" day - find out how to become a docent!

Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

DECEMBER BROUGHT FUN WITH A PURPOSE

December signaled a time of giving, reflection and preparation for a new year of opportunities. The Nathan Manilow Sculpture kicked off the month on December 1st with fun and meaningful events that included a winter walk, a movie screening and an opportunity to warm others' hearts while warming up with homemade soup served in hand-made decorative bowls. The Nate supporters purchased hand-crafted bowls at a range of reasonable prices (\$15 and up), just in time for holiday gift giving, and filled them with hot soup after touring the collection in newly fallen snow. All proceeds went to the GSU Student Food Pantry. Afterwards, guests were given an opportunity to preview "In Search of Lady Day: a portrait in steel," a documentary on the life and work of prolific sculptor Mark di Suvero, whose creations can be found across the globe. His seminal work titled *Yes! For Lady Day* sits on a hilltop in the Park. This documentary team decided to find out what inspired di Suvero to make such a monumental work of art. Utilizing exclusive documentary footage of the artist creating this heroic work in 1968 in juxtaposition with a recent conversation with di Suvero held at his sprawling studio space, "Searching for Lady Day" immerses its audience in di Suvero's storied career, the angst of his generation, and his exhilarating world of kinetic sculpture. These events are made possible by an Intellectual Life Grant, the Art program at GSU and The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park #theNate.



Inside

- News from the Park
- Focus on Conservation
- Education Updates

Save the Date for the Party of the Year

Sculpture, Wine, and Dine is the premiere cultural event of the Chicago Southland. Featuring sustainable farm-to-table cuisine, it is the signature fundraising event benefiting the park's public and educational programs. Please save the upcoming date, September 14, 2019 for this important event, which will be chaired by Susan Manilow, (wife of The Nate's founder, the late Lewis Manilow). It will be the cornerstone event celebrating Governors State University's 50th anniversary. Sculpture, Wine, and Dine guests and the event's generous sponsors—lead sponsor BMO Harris Bank, Bimba Manufacturing, Susanin's Auctioneers, EBTH (Everything But The House), Mesirow Financial, AT & T, Shall We Wine, and others—are investing in the future growth of the park and its community education programs. This past September, the event hosted special guests Terrence Karpowicz and Christine Tarkowski, two of the artists represented in the collection.



The extremely popular "Sweet Ride," a personalized cart tour of the park, sold out quickly at the 2018 event because it was limited to 15 guests who rushed to purchase a seat. For the 2019 event, it has been reimagined and made a centerpiece of the evening as the "Joy Ride!" All guests will begin the evening with a "Joy Ride" and it will be included in the ticket price. Save-the-date cards will be mailed in the New Year, and you'll notice a sleek new design, thanks to the creativity and generosity of esteemed designer Jason Pickleman of JNL Design. We are grateful for his donated time.

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ReMarks

This issue of LandMarks is loaded with news and updates from the time we last published. Our Sculpture, Wine & Dine event was a success and the plans for next year are already underway: the “Sweet Ride” becomes a “Joy Ride” so that every guest will experience a personalized tour of the park, Susan Manilow joins us as our Honorary Chair, and Jason Pickleman is donating the design of our invitations. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 14, 2019 and read more about it below.

Governors State University's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park Board

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12/12/2017), *Founder*
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Division of Arts and Letters Chair
Jim Zumerchik, *GSU Facilities*

Website: www.govst.edu/sculpture

General Email Address: jstevenson@govst.edu

Phone: 708-534-4021

Hours: Dawn until dusk every day

Admission: Free admission to park, some activities have fees.

Send a message with “LandMarks Address” in the subject heading to sculpture@govst.edu

© 2019 Governors State University's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

Please direct questions or comments to **Jeff Stevenson**, *Director & Curator, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Visual Arts Gallery, Governors State University.*

The question about the relationship between GSU's students and The Nate that was raised in our last edition was answered in a big way this Fall – we are grateful for GSU faculty Divya Sood and DeLawnia Comer-Hagans who made the connection with our Occupational Therapy students and The Nate. Read more about the MOT/SPEED program that sets the standard for connecting the classroom, the park, and the community.

In the last issue, I mentioned the American Alliance of Museums Conference I attended in May that was loaded with valuable information and resources. We continue to return to what we learned as we enhance our visitor experience, board development, and fundraising efforts. And the quest for knowledge continued through October when I attended a Symposium hosted by the National Art Educators Association at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The title “NAEA-AAMD Research Study: Impact of Art Museum Programs on K–12 Students” gives you an idea of how much I was able to satisfy my “art nerd” needs. The study gives us a framework to continue our relationship with regional schools in a meaningful way. The 5 capacities emphasized by the study are Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking, Sensorial and Affective Responses, Human Connections and Academic Connections. You will read more about our Outdoors@theNate program below and see how we are providing these capacities to our student visitors. We are excited about reinforcing what we do well, and improving our program along with our partners at area schools. Read more about the study here <https://www.arteducators.org/research/articles/377-naea-aamd-research-study-impact-of-art-museum-programs-on-k-12-students>.

Our two GSU student members of The Nate's advisory board have now become full members! Both Mike Perrott and Victoria Strole completed their MA in Art with an emphasis on Art History, but we weren't ready to let them and their valuable contributions go. We are so pleased that they both accepted the invitation from the Nominating and Governance Committee to stay with us as full board members. Now we will be looking for new student representatives to keep the student perspective present in all we do. We also welcomed Lawrence Collins who joined the board this Fall. Lawrence is the Business Office Director for Anthem Memory Care and has leadership responsibility for Human Resources and Finance, so he will be bringing valuable insight and skills to The Nate. Welcome Lawrence!

I am filled with gratitude for all of YOU, our supporters and “Friends of Nate”. With you, we are able to bring Art to the Chicago and Chicago Southland area, conserve the artwork in the collection and the beautiful prairie landscape, and provide innovative educational programming to an ever-expanding audience. Thank you for joining us in saying, “I'm a Friend of Nate!”.

Sincerely,

Jeff Stevenson
Director & Curator, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Visual Arts Gallery

www.govst.edu/sculpture

NEWS FROM THE PARK

Your Donated Goods Support the Park

EBTH (Everything but the House) is the premier online estate sale marketplace where you can discover and bid on one-of-a-kind items from sources all across the country. This generous organization was our tent sponsor for Sculpture, Wine, and Dine 2018 so go to ebth.com, create a profile, browse and bid on the wonderful array of items. EBTH is continuing to support The Nate by organizing auctions of your donated goods. As we begin a new year, consider donating anything that "does not spark joy", items such as cars, art, luxury goods (watches, jewelry, etc.) to The Nate. We provide you with an acknowledgment letter, EBTH sells the items for a modest fee, and The Nate gets the money! Contact Jeff Stevenson at jstevenson@govst.edu for details, and follow us on Instagram and Facebook for updates.

GSU Students Work with SPEED to Make Public Art Accessible

Did you know that children with disabilities have limited opportunities to participate in community activities like visiting museums and parks because of how they are designed? Sometimes the design of the building, uneven land terrain, and lack of social support within a community can act as barriers to these young students. On October 19th, GSU Masters of Occupational Therapy (MOT) Students collaborated with the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park staff to make it possible for 65 students from SPEED S.E.J.A # 802 (Special Education Joint Agreement) to visit the park. SPEED S.E.J.A is a Cooperative of fifteen school districts that was formed to provide specialized instruction and related services to students with disabilities along with service, support and information to parents, the community, and fellow educators. GSU MOT Students conducted an evaluation of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park to identify the enablers (supports) and barriers that exist within the environment. They then identified solutions such as creating an accessible map for children to follow, developing Sculpture Park related social stories, providing headphones and sun glasses for sensory processing related issues that might arise during the event. Want to lend your support? Help us continue to make each experience accessible by donating online at www.govst.edu/the-nate.

UPDATE! This work with SPEED led to an invitation by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), who asked Director Jeff Stevenson to participate in their AOTA Pediatric BlogTalks Podcast. The chat, led by content experts, reviews a specific topic that has relevance for pediatric occupational therapy. The recorded discussion will be posted in a repository found at the Children and Youth area of the AOTA website. To locate the repository, click on the blue tab titled "podcasts" at <http://www.aota.org/Practice/Children-Youth.aspx>.



An Art Inspired Winter Workout

All the experts agree—winter workouts work in your favor. Whether reading information from the Centers for Disease Control, The American Heart Association, or medical journals like the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, they all say outdoor workouts reap a host of benefits. Here are five reasons to make #thenate your destination for fitness this season:

1. You'll improve your mood with a daily dose of sunlight and natural vitamin D.
2. You'll ditch the cold and flu, as working out in the cold bolsters immunity.
3. Your body expends more energy in the cold, so you burn more calories, according to reports by Accuweather.com (2014). They call it "temperature training."
4. You will have more energy and might be able to exercise longer without humidity or heat.
5. Stand, walk or run, and be counted as a Nate visitor when you download the Otocast APP. Your workout will be narrated by the Park's actual artists, so you won't be bored and the time will fly by!

Become a Volunteer Docent

Docents give of their time to serve our community and students by leading educational tours and themed explorations of the park. If you'd like to be a docent, please let us know! Training will be provided, and docents may sign up for tours that are convenient for their schedule. Contact sdenault@govst.edu for details.

I'm a Friend of Nate!

For a donation of a dollar or more anyone can join our club. By increasing our roster of supporters, we can more easily demonstrate to our funders the impact of the work we are already doing. By saying "I'm a Friend of Nate" you can support our mission of Art, Conservation, and Education. Simply make a donation, and provide your basic information. We promise to only use it for updates about theNate. Go to: <http://www.govst.edu/nmspdonation/> and say: "I'm a Friend of Nate."



Board members, friends, and family enjoyed a sweet ride at Sculpture, Wine & Dine and said: "I'm a Friend of Nate!"

Take a Walk with OTOCAST



The free Otocast app is your personal tour guide. Explore the park with the voices of multiple renowned sculptors leading the way. Look for it in your app store on your phone, and use it at destination attractions all over the world.

CONSERVATION

theNate Participates in SAMBA/SSSBA Luncheon to Unite Arts and Business

Over 100 arts and business professionals gathered at Idlewild Country Club last September to nurture the connection and collaboration of arts and business in the Chicago Southland region. The Southland Arts Municipalities and Business Alliance (S.A.M.B.A.) has been working towards this goal for the past few years.

“Regional arts organizations, galleries, theaters and performing arts groups are united to promote arts in the south suburbs. By being united we’re all healthier as organizations,” said Chuck Sabey, president of S.A.M.B.A. “As we did our work to form S.A.M.B.A, we looked at 20 case studies on towns and neighborhoods that had collaborative events. Every one of them saw economic prosperity and enrichment of the community or town so not only is the collaboration for the arts organizations but it’s really for the community.”

The luncheon allowed professionals to connect by discussing how the arts impacted them and their communities, as well as how arts are good for regional business and economic development. Speakers included Jeff Stevenson (The Nate), Chuck Sabey (Freedom Hall in Park Forest), Lana Rogachevska (GSU, Center for Performing Arts), Anthony DeLuca, State Representative, Deborah Sims (County Board Commissioner, 5th District), Reggie Greenwood (Director of Economic Development at Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation / South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association) and SSSBA hosts Valicienne Arnold, Edgar Wright, Eugene Varnado, and Joyce Kelley.

Tina Zagone from The Drama Group stated, “There is still so much to be done! But, this was a huge step; we need to stop and savor the moment, regroup, re-energize and think about: what is our next priority (for collaboration). And grasp opportunities created by the luncheon.”

More than 20 regional organizations from S.A.M.B.A just finished a “Made in America” Festival from Sept. 27 through Nov. 13 which drew thousands of arts patrons to the region.

Donor Appreciation Event

Sean Susantin (pictured here with his team from Susantin's Inc.) will be honored by theNate's advisory board on March 14th for his donation of the Abbott Pattison sculpture (Untitled, “Firenze” – 1960)
Contact us for details! jstevenson@govst.edu



UPDATES

Booker Exhibit is a Wrap

This summer, we said our final farewell to our solo exhibition series *Don't Tread on Me*: Sculpture by Chakaia Booker. The Park displayed three pieces from this celebrated artist whose work also appeared in Millennium Park—*Serendipity* (1998); *Meeting Ends* (2005); and *What's Not* (2009). Initially a textile artist, Booker decided to make public art that would be hard-wearing outdoors. The durability and malleability of tires made them the perfect solution. Booker sees her use of tires as a personal statement on humanity's relationship to the environment and our responsibility for maintaining it.



Student GoFundMe Campaign a Success

The fundraising campaign started by Marie and Nathan, two first year students at Governors State University, to relocate the striking bronze sculpture *Lanleff-Demure No. 4* by French artist Henri Etienne-Martin, is a success!

The piece is being moved to the E Lounge patio where it will become one of the key stops during the most popular path of sculpture park tours. But first it will be taken away for cleaning, conserving, and sealing with a protective coating of wax. You can continue to help Marie and Nathan by donating to their GoFundMe “Home is Where the ART is” campaign. Although enough has been raised to restore and relocate the sculpture, their vision includes new landscaping and picnic tables to make the new art garden a destination for their fellow GSU students. Go to gofundme.com and search “Home is Where the Art is” to quickly and easily donate online. Or, make checks payable to: “GSU Foundation–NMSF” and mail to: Jeff Stevenson, Director & Curator, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Visual Arts Gallery, Governors State University, 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484.

Lighting “Working on the Failed Utopia” To Be Permanent

Those who attended Sculpture, Wine, and Dine 2018 had the pleasure of seeing *Working on the Failed Utopia*, by Christine Tarkowski, lit for the first time! Although the lighting for the event was installed to test color and intensity, new outdoor fixtures will be permanently installed so visitors will be able to experience this magnificent sight on a regular basis. Tarkowski, a Chicago-based artist, creates work that points toward the debris of western culture relative to systems of democracy, religion, and capitalism. “Working on the Failed Utopia” was commissioned by the Park in 2006, and in the artist’s own words, “it is a fragment of the idealized entropic city transported to the rural suburbs. The project is a simulation of idealism, and like all failed utopias of the past, and the yet-to-be conceived ones of the future, it is blind to its own delusion.”

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EDUCATION

Outdoors@theNate Education Tours

Experience our outdoor laboratory of learning! Outdoors@theNate is an interactive hands-on learning experience that engages students in activities touching on S.T.E.A.M. principles; Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Students collaborate with one another to come up with solutions to problems, think critically, and be active. The Nate presents a rich alternative learning space and offers lessons on things like proportion, scale, creativity, and more. Students receive activity sheets, and teachers receive a Natebook to accompany this innovative program designed to attract elementary through early high school classes. *Tours may be customized to meet individual group needs.*

One recent tour was made up of 85 4th grade students from Millennium Elementary School in Tinley Park who embarked on a 2 ½ hour tour on October 24th. Education and Outreach Coordinator for The Nate, Sherri Denault, and 3 docents each took a group of 20+ from sculpture to sculpture stopping at *Illinois Landscape No. 5, House Divided, Yes! for Lady Day, Bodarc Arc, Pheonix, Flying Saucer, Paul, Frame, Falling Meteor, Untitled by Joel Shapiro, and Oscar's Inclination*, sharing information about the artists and materials. The students raced from sculpture to sculpture, observing native wildflowers, frogs, birds and bugs along the way. After the tour, the students were engaged in an art activity to exercise their creativity. Outdoors@theNate worksheets helped the students to reflect on what they had seen in the park.



Conservation of House Divided

Everyone who is familiar with the Illinois weather—the polar vortex winters, blazing hot summers, and everything in between—will understand that anything left out in that weather really takes a beating. The masterworks in our collection are made to last, but conservation, restoration, and maintenance is still an ongoing part of our role as stewards of the collection. **Help the Park repair the concrete and paint Bruce Nauman's *House Divided*. Donate online at www.govst.edu/the-nate.**



Prairie Restoration Underway for a New Butterfly Ranch

The progress is slow, but the vision remains strong! Those who have visited theNate this Fall will have noticed the fields around and near *Flying Saucer* by Jene Highstein have been mowed down to the ground. This was step one in the process of returning these fields to native species of flowers and grasses that will eventually attract butterflies and other pollinators. Once the invasive plant species are removed, native seeds will be planted, and next year a controlled burn will be conducted to help with the prairie restoration.

