

Charleston Takes Flight 25: Design Competition Details

Artist Compensation, Recognition and Design Selection

Artists will be provided:

- Steel sculptures, primed and ready to accept durable, water-based paint/adhesives
- Stipends: \$1000.00 for a large butterfly (44" wingspan)
\$150.00 for a small butterfly (17" wingspan), plus 20% of its auction sale price.
- Sculptures will be professionally clear coated and mounted by Arts CAN.

Artists will be recognized:

- On signage accompanying the installations
- On all printed materials
- Through a social media promotional campaign. Artists may be asked for photographic updates or interviews about their work.

Design Selection:

Designs will be chosen by a jury of 5 including arts professionals and at least one representative from each of Arts CAN, Charleston's City Government and Eastern Illinois University. Artists are asked to specify the size of sculpture for which their design should be considered. They may also choose to have a single design considered for both sizes.

Jurors will judge designs anonymously. Artists' identities will be revealed only after decisions have been made.

Winners will be notified between February 15 and 20, 2025 at which point contracts and transportation arrangements can be made.

About The Steel Sculptures

Both large and small butterflies will have wings cut from steel sheets (12 gauge and 14 gauge) that are attached to forged, three dimensional bodies at a 25-30 degree angle. Large butterflies will be 31" tall and have a wingspan of approximately 44" at the widest point. They are designed to be mounted on the front of steel posts to maximize the visibility of both sides of their wings. Small butterflies (height 12", wingspan 17") will be welded to

dark green garden stakes. Large butterflies will weigh approximately 50 pounds and smaller ones less than 10.

All butterflies will be welded, cleaned and powder coated white before artists receive them. After designs have been applied, Arts CAN will have them clear coated to extend their longevity outdoors. The large sculptures are intended to be semi-permanent (i.e. 3-10 year lifespan). Finished large sculptures will become the property of the City of Charleston and Eastern Illinois University who will be responsible for their maintenance. Finished small sculptures will belong to Arts CAN temporarily until they are sold at auction.

Locations for the Large Butterfly Sculptures

Two of the large butterflies will be mounted in butterfly habitat plantings at the Lake Charleston Trailhead and Charleston's Carnegie Public Library, 1 block south of the downtown square. The third sculpture will be placed along University Avenue in Charleston at the community entrance to the Panther Trail around Eastern Illinois University's athletic fields. Sculptures will be sited to rise above the usual summer height of plantings, but at a level accessible to the public.

Design Guidelines and Templates

1. Artists may paint or apply materials to the surface of their piece, but butterflies must remain structurally intact. If objects are attached to the butterfly, they must not be easily removable or present difficulties for clear coating. Please keep any additions low, smooth and close to the surface.
2. Large sculptures will be exposed to the elements in every season for a period between 3 and 10 years. Their designs should be executed with high quality, water-based materials intended for outdoor use.
3. Sculptures will be mounted at heights where members of the public may be able to touch them and should be designed with safety and durability in mind.

Using Provided Design Templates

1. Artists must submit their designs for both sides of the wings on the templates provided with the application form. Templates must not be enlarged or altered in any way. Designs should be rendered in color.

2. Once a design is selected the artist is bound to execute it as represented in their submission. If there are material deviations, artists will be asked to modify them.

Transportation of sculptures between artists and Arts CAN

1. Arts CAN will deliver and pick up sculptures within a 50-mile radius of Charleston. Beyond that, we'll negotiate.

Project Timeline

Design Submission Deadline:	January 22, 2025
Jury Decisions Communicated	February 18, 2025
Contracts and Deliveries	Late February 2025
Sculptures must be finished and ready for clear coating by	Small; May 15, 2025 Large June 15, 2025
Community Display of Small Butterflies	Early June to July 27
Mounting of Large Sculptures	Mid July 2025
Launch Celebration and Auction	July 29, 2025.