

2009

Inaugural Recognition Dinner

Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

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Governors State University is committed to offering an exceptional and accessible education that imbues students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to succeed in a global society. GSU is dedicated to creating an intellectually stimulating public square, serving as an economic catalyst for the region, and being a model of diversity and responsible citizenship.

Set within the prairie landscape of Governors State University, the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park serves its constituency with distinctive educational outreach and original programming - encouraging an interdisciplinary understanding and appreciation of sculpture and art in contemporary life.

Inaugural Recognition Dinner
Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park
Governors State University
Tuesday, October 13, 2009
6 – 8:30 p.m.



GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
NATHAN
MANILOW
SCULPTURE PARK





**Inaugural Recognition Dinner
Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park
Governors State University**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2009
6 – 8:30 p.m.**

Welcome to the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

Thank you for attending our inaugural Recognition Dinner and presentation. As part of the expanding educational and programmatic outreach of the park, we plan to make this an annual event. We are proud to celebrate the art, ideas, and people who have built on past accomplishments as they give life to a unique vision for the exhibition and experiencing of exceptional sculptural works placed in a dramatic setting – a museum in the prairie.

We hope you will return many times to enjoy all that Governors State University has to offer, walk our paths in solitude or with a friend, spend a moment with challenging artwork, and experience this park that is for everyone.

Sincerely,



Susan Ormsby, President
Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park Board



Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator
Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park



President's Message

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Governors State University, I want to thank all of those who support the university by sustaining and promoting the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

World-class sculpture inspires our students and contributes to their educational experience. A public university is an appropriate setting for world-class public art, and Governors State University is pleased to welcome the community to our very special public square.

Many thanks to those who have devoted time and effort to enhancing our beautiful sculpture park. Your hard work has revived interest in one of the Midwest's artistic treasures. Because of you, the future is bright for Governors State University's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elaine P. Maimon". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Elaine P. Maimon, Ph.D.
President





M E N U

Wine

Pinot Grigio 2008, Vignetti (Italy)

Salad

Spring Mix, Strawberry Garni
Dressed with Raspberry Vinagrette

Entree

Grilled Fiesta Lime Chicken with Mango Salsa
Long Grain and Wild Rice
Haricots Vert Amandine

Dessert

Key Lime Pie, Whipped Cream
with Raspberry Drizzle
Coffee, Tea

Evening Program

6 p.m. Wine

6:30 Dinner

7:15 Program

Greeting

Susan Ormsby, President

Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park Board

Recognition

Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator

Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

Partnership: College College of Arts and Sciences and the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

Elaine P. Maimon, President

Governors State University

Remarks

Steinunn Thóraninsdóttir

Q & A

State of the Park

Geoffrey Bates

Evening concludes





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Thank you.

An evening such as this does not occur without the careful planning and hard work of a variety of individuals and organizations. Many thanks are due to Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park board members Leona Calvin, Jacqueline Lewis, and Debra Hooks, who, through their embrace of this idea and their generous sponsorship, have made this evening possible. Thanks also go to Susan Ormsby, who worked closely with these members of the Recognition Dinner Committee, as well as park staff, to shape the character of the evening.

Dr. Eric Martin, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. James Howley, Director of Liberal Studies, and Sheree Sanderson responded enthusiastically to the proposal that Steinunn Thorarinsdottir travel to University Park and address the university. To them we extend our sincere appreciation.

Our friends at Harris Bank and the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau have initiated what we hope will be long and fruitful relationships as we continue to broaden our plans for exhibition and outreach. Thank you for believing in our vision.

We appreciate President Elaine Maimon's unwavering support as the park has energetically reached out to students and surrounding communities. To the many people in GSU's Institutional Advancement area who have helped realize not only this evening's vision but, every day work hard to further the academic and cultural success of Governors State University — thank you.

And finally, many thanks to you, our guests, who have truly made our Inaugural Recognition Dinner possible with your attendance and congenial support. We hope to see you in the future as we continue to build on our success.

Geoffrey Bates
Director and Curator

Docents

Docents for the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park are required to complete an eight week course of study which provides an introduction to sculpture's role in the development of western art history, public speaking, and the history of Governors State University's park. They assist with scheduled and appointment tours and special events throughout the year.

Docents 2008 – 2009

Nick Battaglia	Patty McWilliams
Peggy Brown	Pat Muehring
Susan Calabrese	Colleen Newquist
Leona Calvin	John Ray
Jane Castle	Beve Sokol
Dennis Condon	Jill Stanley
Jacqueline Lewis	Mary White
Bernadette Maune	Claudia Zekas



Docents 2008 (l-r)

Nick Battaglia, Bernadette Maune, Beve Sokol, Blythe Black, Jill Stanley, Jacqueline Lewis, Claudia Zekas, Patty McWilliams, Mary Tuytschaevers, John Ray (missing – Mary White, Susie Mekarshie, Susan Ormsby)



Docents 2009 (l-r)

Jacqueline Lewis, Jane Castle, Peggy Brown, Dennis Condon, Leona Calvin, Susan Calabrese, Colleen Newquist (missing: Pat Muehring)

Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park Board

The mission of the board of Governors State University's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park is "to assist in the preservation, promotion, and expansion of the park and its programs." The board accomplishes these goals by acting in an advisory capacity to the park's director and through committee work that addresses membership growth, development and financial support, exhibition and acquisitions, implementation of tours to broaden aesthetic horizons of its constituency, and a nomination and governance committee which insures the dynamic diversity of the board's composition.

Board Members

Susan Ormsby, Olympia Fields, IL, President
Josephine Ferguson, Valparaiso, IN, Vice-President
Jacqueline Lewis, Olympia Fields, Secretary

Arthur Bourgeois, Richton Park, IL

Leona Calvin, Flossmoor, IL

Nina Corazzo, Chesterton, IN

Ruth Crnkovich, Nunnely, TN

Bob Emser, Eureka, IL

Debra Hooks, Flossmoor, IL

Bob Lukens, Lansing, IL

Susan Rakstang, Chicago, IL

Beve Sokol, Olympia Fields, IL

Al Sturges, Park Forest, IL

Paul Uzureau, Flossmoor, IL

Ex-Officio

Lewis Manilow, Chicago, IL

Elaine Maimon, President, Governors State University

Gebe Ejigu, Executive Vice-President

Joan Vaughan, Vice-President, Institutional Advancement



NMSP Board (l-r, f-b)

Beve Sokol, Josephine Ferguson, Vice-President, Susan Ormsby, President, Jacqueline Lewis, Secretary, Leona Calvin, Nina Corazzo, Susan Rakstang, Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator, Debra Hooks, Ruth Crnkovich, Paul Uzureau, Bob Lukens, Al Sturges, Bob Emser, Arthur Bourgeois



Steinunn Thórarinsdóttir

Steinunn Thórarinsdóttir is an Icelandic sculptor born in Reykjavik, Iceland in 1955.

The artist has studied at the Portsmouth Academy of Art and Design in England and the Accademia di Belle Arte in Bologna, Italy. She has completed commissions for the Icelandic and British governments and is currently working on an installation slated for the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, U.K.

Peter Osborne, Director of the Berkeley Square Gallery in London, England has said, "Steinunn's sculpture is elemental, extracted from raw material at its rawest; iron, glass, aluminum. It is not decorative nor can it be. The human figures are formed by the mass of the metal, taking shape as they emerge into the light from a molten swamp, rising up and stretching out, embracing our world but not of our world. There is solitude and pathos, but also strength and dignity. Great sculpture resonates with its environment, and Steinunn's work is at its most powerful and provocative when it re-defines its natural surroundings."

The artist currently lives and works in Reykjavik, Iceland.



Horizons 2007-08

cast iron, glass

On loan from the artist through September, 2010

Horizons is a major installation work by Steinunn Thórarinsdóttir currently on view at the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park on the campus of Governors State University. Made up of 12 life-sized cast-iron figures, the work has transformed a meadow across a lake from the campus buildings. The figures stand impervious to the weather, yet questioning their own presence.

Conceived and executed in a spare, yet dramatic Icelandic setting that combines an exhilarating combination of ocean, earth, and sky, the figures wring a new, psychological tension from their placement in the prairie landscape that is northeastern Illinois.

Each possesses a single, horizontal glass insert in their upper torso. The artist has said, "Glass as a material has a lot of different connotations. It can be fragile, yet dangerous. It can be translucent, or solid . . . It's like water, but also like air." She continues, addressing the base material with which she has forged the works, "The color of the iron signifies their primal quality – as if they are emerging from the earth."

Horizons was brought to the U.S. by the Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY for exhibition in 2007. The work has been exhibited in Memphis, TN and San Antonio, TX and will continue to travel after its stay in University Park.

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Lewis Manilow

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In Memory of Jean Barrows Bates

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Illinois Arts Council
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International Sculpture Center
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Grassroots Supporter of the Park \$100+

Patrons at this level will be recognized with their name printed in LandMarks, the newsletter of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, and will receive advance notice of upcoming events sponsored by the park.

Premier Partner \$500+

In addition to the above, Premier Partners will receive personal invitations to specially scheduled events, an invitation to our annual appreciation picnic for our many supporters; a private tour for the partner and 10 of their friends led by one of our well-versed docents, and an exclusive Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park baseball cap.

Sculptor's Forum \$1000+

Sculptor's Forum participants will receive personal invitations to unique VIP events such as intimate visits to private collections, an invitation to a special dinner with the Director, and the opportunity to schedule a private tour of the park led by the Director.

Collector's Circle \$5000+

Privileges for the Collector's Circle include all those listed above, plus the opportunity for a one-year renewable sponsorship of a sculpture chosen by the Director. The Collector's Circle member's name(s) will be placed on the object label for the artwork in the park and recognized in LandMarks.

Visionary \$10,000+

The Visionary supporter of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park will be entitled to name an artwork of their choice for a three-year renewable sponsorship, along with the many other benefits listed above.

Other sponsorships and recognition opportunities are available. Please contact Christine Radtke, Director of Development at 708.235.7494 or c-radtke@govst.edu to inquire.

Gifts at any level are greatly appreciated. Your tax deductible donation will be used to support events, in the conservation of artworks, and to develop public awareness of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, its collection, and its programming.

