

4-2010

LandMarks, Spring 2010

Geoffrey Bates
Governors State University

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Dan Peterman to install **The Granary Project**

Internationally recognized sculptor Dan Peterman will install **The Granary Project** at the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park on Governors State University's campus this spring. The work, commissioned by the State of Illinois Capital Development Board's Percent for Art program and the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, touches on themes Peterman has explored in both his art and his life for the past quarter century.

The Granary Project is based on a ceramic Han Dynasty funerary object held at the Art Institute of Chicago. The votive piece represents a storage shed and was used to indicate status as an individual passed into the afterlife. Peterman's sculpture will stand approximately seventeen feet tall along the southern edge of fields bordering Stuenkel Road. Carved, recycled plastic planking will be hung over a rigid steel frame. There will be an immediate connection made between the agricultural history of the land and this new work.

"I don't view the installation of the sculpture as the end of road for the piece," said Peterman recently. "My hope is that its placement within this space - which is actively organically farmed - will spur conversations about the importance of local food sources and even food security. The City of Chicago sits at the edge of some of the most fertile farmland on the face of the earth, but it's rapidly disappearing. **The Granary Project** brings our attention back to a focus on where we get our food."

"Also, by placing the work in proximity to the Metra train station, I hope to further the physical connection between the historical artifact at the Art Institute and this piece."

"Dan's sculpture and installation work have long provided a critique of contemporary culture's relationship to the earth," said Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. "His community activism in the creation of the **Experimental Station** not only focused attention on the adaptive re-use of urban architecture but how a variety of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations could thrive in a cooperative atmosphere. Hundreds of kids have earned bikes through an apprenticeship at Blackstone Bicycle Works, folks gather informally over a sandwich at the Backstory Café, and community outreach events such as the Federally-administered Census Counter test make this a vibrant center of activity in the Woodlawn neighborhood. We consider ourselves lucky to have the opportunity to work with Dan as he brings this latest work to fruition."

Dan Peterman is represented by the Andrea Rosen Gallery in New York. He has work in the collections of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago and The Art Institute of Chicago. His 100-foot-long **Running Table** (1997) is part of the collection of the city of Chicago and is currently on view in Millennium Park.



Photos top left to lower right: Dan Peterman explains how recycled plastic planking will be attached to the steel frame of **The Granary Project**. **The Experimental Station** serves its community as a site of rest as well as a center of activism. The frame for **The Granary Project** stands about 15 feet tall. The finished sculpture will be visible from Stuenkel Rd. An active participant in the urban farming movement, Peterman raises chickens and helps organize the 61st Street Farmer's Market. NMSP board member Bob Emser examined a block of recycled plastic building material while chatting with the artist during a meeting with the artist March 22. All photos: Geoff Bates



Governors State University's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park Board

Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator

Susan Ormsby Olympia Fields, IL President
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Elizabeth Kelley Chicago, IL
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Joan Vaughan, Ex-officio Tinley Park, IL

Website: www.govst.edu/sculpture
General Email Address: sculpture@govst.edu
Phone: 708.534.4486 Fax: 708.534.8399
Hours: Dawn until dusk every day
Admission: Free admission to park, some activities have fees.
LandMarks is published three times a year.
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Please direct questions or comments to Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator

On cover: Aerial view, summer 2009: (clockwise from top)

Phoenix, Frame, Paul, Flying Saucer

Photo credit: Bruce Crooks

Top of Page: **IL Landscape No. 5** 1976 John Henry

Bottom of Page: **Passage** 1998 James Brenner

Photos listed above: Geoff Bates

Photo credit above right: Susan Bates

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contact sculpture@govst.edu and you will be placed on the E-list.



ReMarks

Be a Pathfinder!

How often do we have the chance to enter uncharted territory? Our world has been thoroughly mapped. Most of us experience derring-do from the comfort of our easy chair with the TV remote in hand. It can be exciting, sure, but it's a far cry from the exhilaration that Sir Edmund Hilary, Christina Dodwell or other, notable adventurers experienced as they contributed to our knowledge of the planet.

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park is offering you the opportunity to become a Pathfinder. If you've been receiving LandMarks for awhile, you've seen the growth in the park and the flowering of its programs over the past three years. We're leading the way in the south suburbs with our outreach and activities. Come and help blaze a new trail in the way art is experienced.

Join us as we explore new ways to think about and present art, sculpture, the prairie and the unique synergy that takes place at the confluence of the three. Join other families who are seeking a different sort of activity for their kids – one that integrates enjoyment and appreciation of the outdoors with the challenge of making sense of another's way of looking at the world.

Join others who have become PathFinders in their own right:

Harris Bank and the Bimba Manufacturing Company are showing the way that corporations and businesses can promote visual culture in the South Suburbs. Through their partnership with the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, Harris has provided support for our changing exhibition program. Bimba has generously added the NMSP to a list of cultural endeavors it works with throughout the southland region.

Bob Emser, an internationally recognized sculptor and member of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park Board, was recently recognized with a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant in support of his artwork. Bob's sculpture enlarges personal and aesthetic boundaries. His work on behalf of the park has proven invaluable over the past three years.

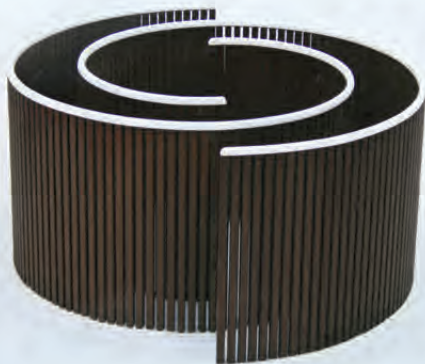
Ann Needham's design for this and every issue of LandMarks has been recognized as an award-winning graphic path – an innovative way of seeing and communicating that is clear, concise, and lively.

Dan Peterman's **The Granary Project** enters the collection this spring not only as a discrete object, but as a call to responsible stewardship of our dwindling farmlands and an echo of one of the world's oldest civilizations. This is sculpture that looks back while it charts a new course in concept and material.

These are just a few of the Pathfinders who have found a home in our organization. Won't you join them? Be a Pathfinder at the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park!

See you in the park –

Geoffrey Bates
Director and Curator



Be a Pathfinder! *Grow our present, secure our future*

PATHFINDER



NATHAN
MANILOW
SCULPTURE PARK

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

You understand that art helps define what it means to be human. And while prairie grass grows in wild abundance across our landscape, it takes people to grow the events which are bringing recognition and new audiences to the park. Pathfinders roll up their sleeves and bring their imagination to bear as they help create distinctive educational outreach and original programming. Join us in realizing the ambitious agenda of cultural, educational, conservation, and social activities we have planned – and have fun doing it! Be a **Pathfinder**.

How Pathfinders support the park

Pathfinders become part of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park by participating in diverse activities. As a Pathfinder, you can:

Organize and Expand Programming

We're looking to our neighbors, both near and far, to help organize and expand upon our programming: more presentations that offer alternative interpretations of our artworks to students and visitors, events surrounding our revolving schedule of visiting sculpture; the Autumn Art Odyssey, an extended, overnight tour to regional sculpture destinations, and much more.

Serve the Community by broadening educational opportunity for children and adults

As a Pathfinder you'll be serving the community. The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park is a unique recreational resource open dawn until dusk. It is a cultural resource providing aesthetic respite from the everyday world. It serves as an educational resource expanding the horizons of schoolchildren and adults, and as a locus for social and intellectual interaction for GSU's student population.

Assist in Conservation and Preservation

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park stands alone in northern Illinois as a museum in the prairie. Many of our artworks have endured more than 25 winters with quiet dignity. They are in need of attention. Your support will assist in our efforts to maintain our collection.

Attract persons like yourself to join our ranks

If the idea of building a permanent link to the future excites you, we want you and your friends to work with our board. Call **708.534.4486** or write sculpture@govst.edu. We'll respond!

Visionary

Lewis Manilow

Collectors' Circle

In Memory of Jean Barrows Bates

Sculptor's Forum

Binba Manufacturing Co.
Deborah Borucki
Leona Calvin
The Coca-Cola Foundation
Josephine L. Ferguson
Illinois Arts Council
International Sculpture Center
Michael and Jacqueline Lewis
Patrick and Susan Ormsby
Robert and Susan Rakstang
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Premier Partners

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Debra Hooks
Elizabeth Kelley-Karpowicz

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In honor of Terrance Karpowicz
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William and Susan Schoelwer
Paul M. Spencer
Jeff Stevenson
Karen K. Stuenkel
Audrey A. Ushenko
Linda Uzureau
Uzureau Design Company
MaryKay Peter Witlock

Become a Docent

Engage our public as a teacher and create opportunities for young people and adults to share in the wonder that comes with aesthetic discovery.

To become a Pathfinder

Place your tax deductible donation in the enclosed envelope, check the appropriate category and return to the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. Or, visit our website at www.govst.edu/sculpture, select **Support the Park** and click on **Donate**. Remember, many employers will match their employees contributions to educational foundations – this is a great way to increase your giving painlessly.

BENEFITS	Prairie Associate \$35	Grassroots Supporter \$100+	Premier Partner \$500+	Sculptor's Forum \$1,000+	Collector's Circle \$5,000+	Visionary \$10,000+
LandMarks recognition, invitations to events	●	●	●	●	●	●
Personalized, early invitations to special events		●	●	●	●	●
Docent tour with 9 friends.			●		●	●
Invitations to exclusive, unique opportunities to interact with artists and collectors.			●	●	●	●
Tour and luncheon with Director for 6 guests. Priority seating at performance events.				●	●	●
Opportunity for one-year renewable sponsorship of sculpture, chosen by the Director.					●	●
3-year renewable sponsorship of sculpture chosen by Visionary Pathfinder. Free admission for the Visionary and friend to exclusive, unique opportunities to interact with artists and collectors.						●

Contributions in any amount are greatly appreciated. Your tax deductible support helps provide for the conservation of artworks and to develop public awareness of the park, its collection, and its programming. Other sponsorships and recognition opportunities are available. Please contact **Christine Radtke**, Director of Development at **708.235.7494** or c-radtke@govst.edu with inquiries.



News from the Park

LandMarks wins award
LandMarks, the newsletter for the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, was awarded a bronze medal in February by the Twenty-Fifth Annual Educational Advertising Awards. This year, over two-thousand entries were received from more than one-thousand colleges, universities, and secondary schools from all fifty states and several foreign countries. Judges for the Educational Advertising Awards consisted of national panel of higher education marketers, advertising creative directors, marketing and advertising professionals, and the editorial board of Higher Education Marketing Report.



Conservation Assessment Grant from Heritage Preservation Agency

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park has been granted \$3,590 by the Heritage Preservation Agency to conduct a conservation assessment. This will enable the organization to contract with a certified expert in sculptural restoration to review holdings and recommend strategies for renewing and repair. The assessment will be the second time this decade that the collection has been evaluated – former park director Dr. Ora Simca-Fagan worked with the agency in 2002 to determine the needs for repair and administered several important projects, including the re-siting and painting of Mark diSuvero's **Yes! For Lady Day** and the repair and painting of the site specific work **House Divided**
by Bruce Nauman.

"This re-evaluation will be an important step for the park in its quest for Federal conservation assistance and museum accreditation," said Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator.

"We are pleased that the Heritage Preservation Agency recognizes the importance of the NMSP collection."

Cross-country skiing a part of the winter scene in the NMSP

Flossmoor resident Tom Houlihan pauses for a moment during a visit to the park in mid-February. The number of cross-country enthusiasts visiting the park grows each year – parallel tracks throughout the grounds serve as ample evidence of their presence. "This is a great place for skiing! You've got a few nice hills, lots of level ground, and the paths are plenty wide enough for a group of people . . . I'll be back!" Flossmoor resident Tom Houlihan said as he pushed off in the direction of Jene Highstein's **Flying Saucer**.

Annual Winter Walk wows guests

The third Annual Winter Walk of the park took place on a strikingly clear January Sunday with nearly 20 visitors warming to the experience of walking the snow-covered paths. A dramatically air-brushed sky competed with the artwork for the group's attention.

NMSP board member receives Pollock-Krasner grant

Bob Emser, NMSP board member and internationally recognized sculptor, recently received a \$5 award from the Pollock Krasner Foundation for support of his work. The Pollock-Krasner Foundation's dual criteria for grants are recognizable artistic merit and demonstrable financial need, whether professional, personal or both. The Foundation's mission is to aid, internationally, those individuals who have worked as professional artists over a significant period of time.

Peter Schjeldahl to deliver talk, receive honorary degree

Peter Schjeldahl, art critic for the New Yorker Magazine, will deliver a talk at Governors State University June 11 and receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters at the spring commencement on June 12. Schjeldahl's essay *A Park for the Prairie God* graced a 1987 catalog published by Lewis Manilow. GSU President Elaine Maimon used elements of the essay in her inaugural address to the university. "We're proud to honor Peter Schjeldahl with an honorary doctorate. He intuitively understands something essential about Governors State's unique integration of art, education, and nature."

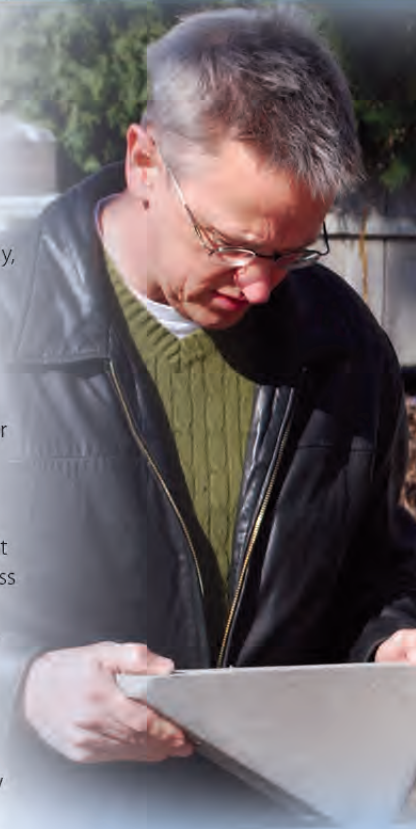


Schjeldahl was born in Fargo, North Dakota in 1942. He attended Carleton College and the New School and worked as a newspaper reporter in Minnesota, Iowa, and New Jersey. After a year in Paris, 1964-1965, he settled in New York and began writing art criticism for ArtNews. Between 1967 and 1981, he published five books of poetry. He was a regular art critic for The Sunday New York Times (1969-1975), The Village Voice (1966, 1980-1982, 1990-1998), and 7 Days (1988-1990). He joined The New Yorker in 1998. His four books of criticism include *The Hydrogen Jukebox: Selected Writings*, 1991, University of California Press, and *Let's See: Writings on Art from The New Yorker*, 2008, Thames & Hudson. For four years, until 2001, he taught a seminar for studio seniors in the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University. He has received the Clark Prize for Excellence in Arts Writing from the Clark Art Institute, the Frank Jewett Mather Award for excellence in art criticism from the College Art Association, and a Guggenheim Fellowship.

3rd Annual ArtChicago Road Trip

Hundreds of galleries. Artwork from the 18th to the 21st century. Painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, photography, installation, and more. All on two floors of the Merchandise Mart in Chicago.

Expand your horizons and join other folks interested in learning more about contemporary sculpture, art, and the people who exhibit it! NMSP Director Geoffrey Bates will lead this informal group to the Merchandise Mart where several gallery representatives will discuss their artists and answer questions about looking at and collecting art. ArtChicago showcases established artists and galleries; NEXT Fair promotes the avant garde. Your entry ticket will also include admission to the Merchandise Mart International Antiques Fair. For details of the trip, see Events and Activities (page 7).



Photos top left to lower right:

Tom Houlihan, a resident of nearby Flossmoor, pauses a moment on the path near Mark diSuvero's **Yes! For Lady Day**.

LandMarks, Winter 2009 issue was the submission which garnered the HEMR Bronze Medal for Excellence in the Newsletter Category.

Bob Emser studies a block of recycled plastic material during a recent visit to Dan Peterman's studio at the Experimental Station.

Four of twenty guests stroll the path near **Phoenix** during the Annual Winter Walk. Open vistas and a shroud of snow produce new relationships between land and art.

Cloud photo: Debbie Goldstein
All other photos (except Peter Schjeldahl): Geoff Bates

Summer Sol-a-bration

Wear your play clothes! June 19, 2010

Bring the entire family out for the Summer Sol-a-Bration 2010! We'll have numerous activities for children and adults to enjoy on this year's summer solstice, June 19, from 2 to 5 p.m. Fly a kite! Build a sculpture! Compete in our Body Roll Derby! The day has been designed to celebrate the outdoors and our collection. Music will be provided by the **Illinois**

Philharmonic Orchestra's Brass Quintet, the **Prairie State College Faculty Jazz Combo**, and the **South Suburban Dulcimer and Folk Music Society**.

Parking and admission is free. Some activities will have nominal fees.

Mark your calendar and join the fun!



At the nexus of art and architecture

Autumn Art Odyssey 2010 Save the date! September 10 – 11

Last year's trip to South Bend, Grand Rapids, and St. Joseph was outstanding and the Travel Committee is planning an equally enlightening tour for this coming September. We'll leave early Friday, September 10. On the itinerary for the weekend:

Wingspread, Frank Lloyd Wright's masterpiece created for Herbert F. Johnson in 1937. With interiors and furnishings essentially as designed by Wright, this stop will offer both the art and architecture enthusiast a unique opportunity to experience this Illinois master's approach to sculpting space and form. The group will also visit the **Johnson Wax Building** (1936-39), an effort which resulted in an interior space decades ahead of its time.

On Saturday, the odyssey will continue with a stop at the **Milwaukee Art Museum**. **MAM** holds sculpture dating from the Roman period to important works by David Smith and Martin Puryear. The museum itself is a notable piece of architecture with contributions from Finnish Modernist Eero Saarinen and its sculptural Quadracci Pavillion, designed by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava.

MAM administers the **Leyden Sculpture Park**, another destination of the day. Discussions are being held about a stop at the **Vanguard Sculpture Services, Ltd**, a commercial bronze foundry. Of course, there will be all the little extras that made the Grand Rapids trip so memorable for its participants.

The two-day, one night itinerary and fees will be finalized sometime in early summer. If you think you're interested and want detailed information when it becomes available, visit our website, click on Events and Programs and select Autumn Art Odyssey. There will be a hotlink for you to send us your e-mail address and we'll forward information as soon as it comes available.



LandMarks



Calendar of Events – May through September 2010

Join us for just one or for a series of events at the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park! For events that require pre-payment or registration, please contact the park office at **708.534.4486** or email **sculpture@govst.edu**.

Docent Scheduled Tours

Learn more about our museum in the prairie with our docent-led tours. Tours alternate between north and south sections and last about 1 1/2 hours. Tours will go rain or shine, but thunderstorms cancel.

2 p.m. **Sundays**

Pre-registration not required

FREE

Tours begin on the patio behind the Hall of Governors in Building D

May 2 North Section

August 15 South

May 16 South Section

September 5 North

June 6 North

September 19 South

July 18 South

October 3 North

August 1 North

October 17 South

Road Trip!

ArtChicago and NEXT Art Fairs

Chicago's Merchandise Mart

Saturday, May 1

9:10 a.m. to 5:46 p.m.

\$20 admission plus rail fare and meals

NEW —Travelers meet at Flossmoor **Metra** Station

Pre-Registration not required

ART CHICAGO

The NMSP annual road trip to the ArtChicago and NEXT art fairs is becoming a tradition, so why not join us for an informal day full of exceptional art, artists, and gallery commentary? Park Director Geoffrey Bates will escort the group through the fair during the morning with pre-arranged stops at several galleries and commentary by their staff. The afternoon is spent exploring the two full floors of this massive presentation on your own.

Our itinerary for the day will be:

9:10 a.m. Depart Flossmoor

9:57 Arrive Randolph/Water Street Station

Travel via the El to the Merchandise Mart

4:30 p.m. Depart Merchandise Mart

5:05 Depart Randolph/Water Street Station

5:46 Arrive Flossmoor Station

Bicycle Tour

Saturday, May 22

2 p.m.

FREE

Tour begins behind the Hall of Governors

All riders must wear helmets. Some riding

will be on public roads.



"This is the only way to see the sculpture park!" exclaimed one rider last year.

Spend two hours and see the entire collection of work – north and south.

Park Director and Curator Geoffrey Bates will lead this popular tour.

Road Trip!

Alexander Calder and

Contemporary Art:

Form, Balance, Joy

Saturday, July 17

\$12 (\$7 senior) museum admission plus rail fares and meals

9:10 a.m. to 5:12 p.m.

Pre-Registration not required

Museum of Contemporary Art

Alexander Calder was a revolutionary 20th Century sculptor whose breakthrough mobiles changed art and design forever. This exhibition examines Calder's art in the context of a group of young sculptors who create work unabashedly influenced by this New England master.

Our itinerary will include the Calder show at the MCA, lunch at The Elephant and Castle, a London style pub nearby, and a walk to Calder's monumental **Flamingo** at the Federal Plaza.

Our itinerary:

9:10 Depart Flossmoor Metra Station

9:57 Arrive Randolph/Water St. Station

Travel via Red Line subway to the MCA

View Calder exhibition and permanent collection

Lunch at Elephant and Castle

Red Line to Monroe

View Flamingo

4:11 Depart Metra VanBuren Station

5:12 Arrive Flossmoor



Vocal Volunteers

by Colleen Newquist

Two things that bring me great joy are art and nature, and the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park brings them together spectacularly. The gently rolling prairie gives each artwork room to breathe, to be considered on its own. At the same time, the vast open space provides unique visuals of several sculptures at once.

In between each sculpture is the delight of the prairie, with its wildflowers and deer paths, birds and animal tracks, and sometimes, the animals themselves. But nature is the background here; the star is the art.

Learning more about the sculptures through docent training increased my appreciation of the park immensely. I love that the park holds several early pieces of artists who went on to become world-renowned. How cool that this unassuming prairie, surrounding this unpretentious university, in the often overlooked south suburbs, became the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, keeper of significant art history—and showcase for the best new monumental sculpture. Part gallery, part nature park, it is literally a living museum—and one of my favorite places on earth.

Photo credit: Michael Weiss

... the nature of sculpture

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E-mail us at sculpture@govst.edu
www.govst.edu/sculpture

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Open to visitors dawn until dusk every day



LandMarks

The newsletter for the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park