



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAUMEIER ANNOUNCES 2022 INITIATIVES, INCLUDING A YEAR-LONG EXPLORATION OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

At a Glance

WHAT: Throughout 2022, Laumeier Sculpture Park will explore the important role that art and nature play in an individual's and the community's overall health and wellness. This theme will be explored through public programs, classes, workshops, special guests, and the spring exhibition.

WHO: Perspectives on health and wellness will come from local scholars and experts, as well as artists from around the globe.

WHEN: The thematic exploration will run throughout 2022. It will launch on January 22 with a talk by Dr. Shelly Goebel-Parker. The spring exhibition *Salutary Sculpture* will be on view from February 12 - May 15, 2022. Laumeier Sculpture Park is free and open daily from 8 a.m. until 30 minutes past sunset.

WHERE: Laumeier Sculpture Park, 12580 Rott Road, St. Louis, MO 63127. Select programs will be held off-site or online.

WHY: Now two years into a global pandemic, human beings arguably are experiencing heightened need for coping and recovery. Recent studies continue to show that time spent outdoors and time spent making art can reduce stress and anxiety, improve mood, and have positive impacts on healing.

Detailed Press Release Follows



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Laumeier Sculpture Park Announces Overview of 2022 Exhibitions and In Residence Artists

(ST. LOUIS, MO) - Laumeier Sculpture Park is proud to present a full-slate of exhibitions, public programs, classes, workshops, summer camps, and events in 2022. Many of these initiatives will support the Park's year-long commitment to promoting health and wellness through art and nature. Recent studies have shown that time spent outdoors and time spent making art can reduce stress and anxiety, improve mood, and have positive impacts on healing and cognitive function. Now two years into a global pandemic, human beings arguably are experiencing heightened need for coping and recovery. This timely and urgent topic will be examined in a myriad of ways and through multiple perspectives.

2022 Exhibitions

The exploration of Laumeier's annual theme will be featured in its spring 2022 exhibition, ***Salutary Sculpture***, on view February 12 - May 15 in the Aronson Fine Arts Center. This group exhibition presents a selection of eight artists who explore art's capacity as a therapeutic tool for adaptation, recovery, and rehabilitation. Many of the artists gathered came to their current work through a process of their own physical and/or psychic recovery. The exhibition will feature sculpture, photography, video, drawings, and performance. [See a full list of artists.](#)

Laumeier's fall 2022 exhibition is titled ***Forest Through the Trees***, on view August 27 - December 11. In art and in poetry, the beauty and power of trees is an alluring subject matter with infinite possibilities. This exhibition will pull together a group of artists whose observations range from representation through landscape to conceptual experimentation where the tree is treated as both subject and object. The state of trees and our environment has direct impacts on human health and well-being.

2022 In Residence Artists & Thinkers



Laumeier's **Visiting Artist In Residence** program is designed to create opportunities for accomplished artists from outside the region to get to know the St. Louis community and make responsive artwork. The residency allows artists to conduct research, meet community members, and explore issues of importance to the region. It culminates in an exhibition or special project. Laumeier's 2022 Visiting Artist In Residence is **Jean Shin**, who describes her work as "giving new form to life's leftovers." Her sculptures and large scale installations transform familiar objects into compelling meditations on collective memory, desire, and failure. Shin will

source dead trees from Laumeier's grounds to create a new, site-responsive piece addressing the fragility of Ash trees. Its display will be in direct dialogue with the fall exhibition, *Forest Through the Trees*.



Each year since 2012, Laumeier has designated a **Cultural Thinker In Residence** to develop programs that encourage interdisciplinary learning. Laumeier's 2022 Cultural Thinker In Residence is **Shelly Goebel-Parker**, an artist, social worker, art therapist, and professor teaching in the Art Therapy Counseling Program at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. Her research and teaching involves the therapeutic intersections of art, social work, and community arts collaborations, with an eye towards increasing multicultural competence. During her career, Goebel-Parker has worked in child, youth, and family behavioral and mental health in the St. Louis area, and therefore, she will play an instrumental role in supporting Laumeier's 2022 health and wellness theme.

Laumeier also has two **Community Artists In Residence** this year, a program that provides opportunities for local artists to expand their practice and engage with the community through workshops, events, and discussions.



Tamara Eberle is an artist and art therapist living, working, and exhibiting in St. Louis. Tamara has been practicing art therapy for 10 years and has been exhibiting art work for 20 years. Her early experiences teaching art began through Laumeier's Art Camp. Her art work ranges from fibers, photography, drawing, and sculpture, and she has been featured in a diverse range of group and juried exhibitions. Tamara's work was also published in 2019 on the cover of *Art Therapy: the professional journal of the American Art Therapy Association*. Eberle is a professional member of the Missouri Art

Therapy Association and Art Saint Louis. She will participate in Discover Laumeier and the summer Teen Art Program, and she will lead an all-ages Maker's Night workshop.



Mee Jey's artmaking process relies on being resourceful and repurposing a variety of materials into intricate sculpture installations. In 2013, Mee Jey and her husband embarked on a traveling project, "Artologue: Art for All," which focused on reintroducing artmaking to people's daily lives through murals and installations using only local materials. After working with about eighty families and visiting seventeen states in India, Mee Jey immigrated to the United States to pursue her Masters in Fine Arts at Washington University in St. Louis. Mee Jey recently began working with larger communities through "Artologue: Art for All" across several U.S.

states. She will participate in Discover Laumeier and the summer Teen Art Program, and she will lead a Conversation Series program.

Programs

Programs throughout 2022 will be developed to support the health and wellness of Laumeier's visitors and the greater St. Louis community. Here are two examples:



DISCOVER LAUMEIER

Sunday, June 12 / All Ages / FREE

Discover Laumeier invites visitors of all ages to explore Laumeier's 105 acres of open fields and woodland trails, discover unique artworks by renowned sculptors, and create art that encourages connections between art and the natural environment. The 2022 Discover Laumeier will feature a variety of health and wellness themed activities, including a new mindfulness hike created in collaboration with the Park's Cultural Thinker In Residence.

OPENING MINDS THROUGH ART

Opening Minds Through Art (OMA) is an evidence based, intergenerational art-making program for people living with dementia that was developed at Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University. OMA promotes social engagement, autonomy, and dignity among people living with dementia by providing opportunities for creative self-expression. In 2021, Laumeier became a certified OMA site with three employees trained to serve as OMA facilitators. Laumeier is the first sculpture park in the country to earn the certification and will be working with St. Louis area assisted living and memory care facilities to implement the program throughout 2022.

Additional programs will be released as they are finalized. Please visit www.laumeier.org for the most up-to-date information.

About Laumeier Sculpture Park

Founded in 1976, Laumeier Sculpture Park is one of the first and largest sculpture parks in the country. Laumeier presents more than 70 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture throughout its 105-acre campus. It serves 300,000 visitors of all ages each year, with a world-class art collection, indoor and outdoor temporary exhibitions, education programs and public events. Laumeier is an internationally recognized museum, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The 501(c)3 nonprofit organization operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks.

Laumeier Sculpture Park's ongoing operations and programs are generously supported by St. Louis County Parks; Regional Arts Commission; Missouri Arts Council; Arts and Education Council; among other corporations, foundations, individual donors and members.

Additional funding related to COVID-19 relief has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Windgate Foundation, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the St. Louis County Small Business Relief Program.

2022 Exhibitions are supported by Ken and Nancy Kranzberg, Joan and Mitchell Markow and Two Sister's Foundation, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Mary Ann and Andy Srenco.

Salutary Sculpture is supported by the Whitaker Foundation. Basil Kincaid is one of two 2022 Kranzberg Artists. This fund, generously provided by Ken and Nancy Kranzberg, supports the presentation of new work by one or more St. Louis area artists per year.

Jean Shin and the Visiting Artist In Residence Program are supported by the Whitaker Foundation, Windgate Foundation, and the Vilcek Foundation.



Forest Through the Trees is supported by the Whitaker Foundation. Rachel Youn is one of two 2022 Kranzberg Artists. This fund, generously provided by Ken and Nancy Kranzberg, supports the presentation of new work by one or more St. Louis area artists per year.

Discover Laumeier is supported by the Windgate Foundation.

Opening Minds Through Art is supported by The Ann and Hank Bauer Fund for Senior Arts Programs.

For more about Laumeier Sculpture Park, please visit www.laumeier.org

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