City of Sebastopol
Planning Department

Date: November 19, 2026
To: Public Arts Committee
Agenda Item: 6A
From: Tori Henkel, Permit Technician
Subject: Community Sculpture Garden Second 2026 Artist Call Selections

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Background:
The Community Sculpture Garden (CSG) is located in Ives Park and features twelve (12) cement platforms for local artists to display their sculptures for two-year terms. In early 2026, ten (10) of the twelve (12) pieces had surpassed their two-year terms, so the Public Arts Committee (PAC) put out a call for artist submissions. That call for artists closed on March 23, 2026. Ten (10) finalists were selected and went to the City Council for final approval.

Two (2) of the nominated sculptures were not available for display at the time of selection. Therefore, the Community Sculpture Garden has two (2) empty bases needing sculptures.

At their regular September 24, 2026 meeting, the PAC decided to open up another call for artists to fill the empty spots. That call was released on September 28, 2026, and closed on November 9, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

Project Timeline:
Call Released: September 28, 2026
Submissions Due: November 9, 2026
Sculptures Selected for Display by PAC: November 19, 2026
City Council Approval of PAC Selection Tentative Date: December 15, 2026
Installation of Sculptures Selected for Display: TBD

Notes About New Submissions:
Five (5) applications were received by the submission deadline date of November 9, 2026.

1. Deborah Manetta – "Standing Forward Bend – Uttanasana"
2. Richard Arata – "Black Flame/Fire"
3. Tom Ballard – "Leaning Into It"
4. Trinity Myers – "Cellular"
5. Jason Windsor – "Dwellers"

Recommendation:

1. Staff recommends the PAC select two (2) entries as submitted, per the criteria outlined in the artist call, and discuss a potential installation timeline.

Staff Next Steps:

1. Award is scheduled for City Council final approval tentatively on December 15, 2026.
2. Staff will confirm an installation date with Public Works.
3. Staff will inform finalists of the selection and the installation date.
4. Staff will inform the other artists that they were not chosen.

Attachments:

1. Artist Call
2. Submissions

Call for Sculptors

for Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden (CSG)

City of Sebastopol - Public Arts Committee

7120 Bodega Avenue Sebastopol, California 95472

Date: September 28, 2026

The City of Sebastopol Public Arts Committee is seeking proposals
from Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, and Marin County-based sculptors for the design, fabrication, and installation of
durable and low-maintenance original public art suitable for placement in the Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden (CSG), Ives Park, Sebastopol, CA.
https://www.cityofsebastopol.gov/public-art/community-sculpture-garden/

Submission Deadline: November 9, 2026, 4:00 pm
Project Contact: planning@cityofsebastopol.gov, (707) 823-6167

About Sebastopol

Sebastopol, located in Sonoma County, California, was incorporated in 1902. Sebastopol is a 'general law' Council-Manager City with five Council members elected at large. There are four Boards and Commissions, including the Public Arts Committee (PAC).

Sebastopol has a unique and highly valued small-town character. An incorporated City of 7,600 residents located in the San Francisco/North Bay region, Sebastopol is the hub of west Sonoma County, which is known as a creative center within the County. While the incorporated area is small, Sebastopol serves a much larger unincorporated area stretching to the Pacific Ocean and the Russian River. Persons with a Sebastopol mailing address number over 25,000. The City's market area comprises a population of approximately 40,000-50,000 people, who, to varying degrees, use Sebastopol as their hub for goods, services, and recreational and cultural activities. The town thus has far more economic activity, as well as recreational and cultural services, than would be apparent based simply on the incorporated area's population.

The City has an extraordinary geographic location, being surrounded by farmland, vineyards, orchards, and wetlands, located minutes from the Sonoma Coast and the Russian River area, just 60 miles north of San Francisco. Sebastopol is at the crossroads of two State Highways, Highways 116 and 12, and is eight miles from Sonoma County's largest city, Santa Rosa.





Project Description

Selected sculpture(s) will be installed in the Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden for a duration of two years from installation (Ending 2029).

There will be No Jurying Fee.

The City of Sebastopol provides the infrastructure for the work, including sculpture pads, site signage, site delineation, site improvements, and installation assistance.

The PAC will determine the selection and placement of the selected sculpture(s).

Artists will be responsible for installation, maintenance, and removal of artwork; installation and removal will be in coordination with the Sebastopol Public Works Department.

If a sculpture is sold, proceeds will be divided as follows: 25% to the City for project support and infrastructure, 75% to the artist. Artists have successfully sold works directly from their display in the Sculpture Garden, and the City will be adding QR codes to site signage in the future to easily connect visitors to artwork and artist details.

Artists will be responsible for the removal and transportation of the sculpture at the conclusion of the two-year term.

Project Objectives

Recognition, appreciation, and encouragement of the creativity of the communities aforementioned

Opportunity for the display of sculpture not commissioned by the City, but juried and selected by the PAC for the sculpture garden

To provide a specific context and location for residents and visitors to enjoy the efforts of area sculptors, and for those artists to have a specific location to display non-commissioned artwork

Foster a sense of beauty, multi-layered meaning, or have other compelling attributes

Be appropriate for a public space

Help create attractive public places

Enhance the pedestrian environment

Foster cultural understanding





Project Requirements

Be durable, safe, and low-maintenance, appropriate for long-term installation outdoors in a location open to public traffic.

Sculpture, and base if included, designed to be bolted securely by the sculptor to a concrete platform provided by the City. Sculpture size to be appropriate to the setting and durability.

No logos, specific historic figures, mascots, or any expressions of hate are to be used.

Sculpture is already fabricated or confirmed to be ready for installation in early 2027.

Site

Area 2 in Ives Park Renovation Master Plan map: "#2: Install sculpture garden along entry walk from South High Street." The area is approximately 250 feet long by 20 to 35 feet wide.

See Attached Site Plan Map.*

Sculpture Pads are 3 feet 8 inches squared. There are currently two (2) pads available.

Eligibility

This competition is open to sculptors living in Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, and Marin Counties. While intended to foster regional artist promotion, the PAC will consider submissions from wider geographic areas on a case-by-case basis.

The PAC may choose to designate some of the sculpture sites for work from specific individual artists or arts organizations.

Selection Criteria

The art concept will be evaluated based on appropriateness to the site, aesthetic quality, durability, stability, maintenance requirements, and safety considerations.

The selected artists must, if necessary, be available to meet with City staff, Public Works, the Public Arts Committee, and, if needed, the City Council.

An agreement with the selected artists will establish a minimum number of such meetings.





Durability, Maintenance, and Safety: All applicants, please read this section carefully

The durability, maintenance requirements, and safety of the sculpture submitted for this project are essential elements in the selection process.

Selected sculpture(s) will be exposed to the area's physical elements and public traffic.

All applicants are expected to consider the issues of long-term durability, cleanability, resilience, and low or no maintenance. The project is located outside on the lawn of a popular public park adjacent to downtown Sebastopol. It will be exposed to weather, physical and environmental stresses, as well as potential vandalism. The project should be fabricated of highly durable, low-maintenance materials and be of sound construction, ensuring stability. Keep in mind that larger pieces may be more resistant to vandalism. Selected sculptors are strongly encouraged to apply an anti-graffiti coating to their finished artwork. The environmental effects of this project, during and after installation, should also be considered. The City will ensure conformity with city standards of maintenance, durability, and public safety considerations.

Selection Process

The City Council will confirm selections.

Selected artists will be required to sign a Liability Waiver before installation

(See Attached)

Project Timeline

Call Released: **September 28, 2026**

Submissions Due: **November 9, 2026, 4:00 pm**

Sculptures Selected for Display: **November 19, 2026**

Sculptures Approved for Display by City Council: **TBD**

Installation of Sculptures Selected for Display: **Early 2027**

Selected sculptors may be asked to attend a PAC meeting to discuss their proposed

sculpture.

Submission Requirements

Your submission can be sent electronically and should include the following, provided in the order listed.

1. A Letter of Interest. Not more than one typed page. Describe your interest in this project.
2. Art description/depiction. Please describe in text your concept for this project (250-word maximum) and provide a sketch or more specific visual image. If the sculpture is already assembled, please provide pictures from at least three (3) angles.
3. Indicate how your sculpture, and base if included, will be attached, secured, and stabilized on the pedestal.
4. The artist's name and title of sculpture should appear on all materials submitted.
5. Confirmation that your sculpture will be ready for installation in the CSG in early 2027.

Financial information

Artists are responsible for all expenses involved in their sculpture, including:

1. Proposal submission, communications, fabrication, transportation, installation, insurance, maintenance, and final removal from the site.
2. Sebastopol City and PAC will provide:
    a. One pedestal for each sculpture selected for the duration of the project's display period.
    b. Maintenance of the physical grounds of the CSG.
    c. General notification and publicity regarding the opening event.

Please note

Respondents to this call do so at their sole expense.

All submittals will become property of the City.

Do not submit materials you would want returned.

Incomplete or unresponsive submittals may be rejected.

Prospective sculptors shall not contact the Public Arts Committee or City Council members about this call without specific authorization from City staff. Doing so may be grounds for disqualification.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to cancel or alter the selection process at its sole discretion.

Questions

The Public Arts Committee is managing this project. Any questions about the call may be directed via email to: **planning@cityofsebastopol.gov**

Site Plan Map

Ives Park, High Street Entry



Liability Waiver

City of Sebastopol

General Agreement, Waiver, and Release

Activity description (describe in detail the type of event/activity and the tools that may be used to perform the activity:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

In consideration of the acceptance of my application as a volunteer for the City of Sebastopol, I hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all claims for damages for death, personal injury, or property damage which I may have, or which hereafter accrue to me, against the City of Sebastopol as a result of my participation as a volunteer for the City of Sebastopol. This release is intended to discharge the City of Sebastopol, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers, any other involved municipalities or public agencies from and against any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation as a volunteer for the City of Sebastopol, even though that liability may arise out of the negligence or carelessness on the part of persons or Entities mentioned above. I further understand that accidents and injuries can arise out of participation as a volunteer; knowing the risks, nevertheless, I hereby agree to assume those risks and to release and to hold harmless all of the persons or agencies mentioned above who (through negligence or carelessness) might otherwise be liable to me (or my heirs or assigns) for damages. It is further understood and agreed that this waiver, release, and assumption of risk is to be binding on my heirs and assigns.

I further agree to indemnify and to hold the above City of Sebastopol, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers free and harmless from any loss, liability, damage, cost or expense which they may incur as a result of any injury and/or property damage that I may sustain while participating in said activity.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, WAIVER, AND RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE ABOVE CITY, AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.
(Each participant must personally sign.)

_____ _____ _____
Signature Print Name of Signer/Participant Date

_____ _____
Street Address, City, Zip Code Phone Number

Parental Consent: (if applicable)
If applicant is under age 18, parent/guardian must complete the following: As parent/guardian of this minor, I have reviewed the General Agreement, Waiver, and Release form and give my consent for:

Name:_____ Age:_____

To participate in the said activity description listed above subject to the terms and conditions expressed herein and above.

_____ _____ _____
Signature of Parent/Guardian Print Name of Parent/Guardian Date

_____ _____
Street Address, City, Zip Code Phone Number

Sculpture Proposal for the Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden

Standing Forward Bend – Uttanasana

Deborah Manetta
20 Rose Lane, Bolinas, CA 94924
d@jsdeft.com | (415) 342-8607

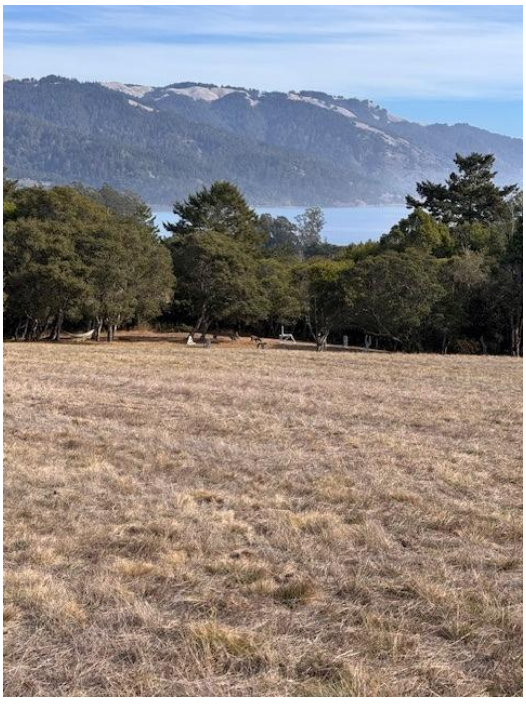
November 9, 2026

Letter of Interest

Dear Public Arts Committee,

I'd like to share my sculpture Standing Forward Bend – Uttanasana at Ives Park. What draws me to the Community Sculpture Garden is the chance for someone to come across the figure on an ordinary walk. I hope it gives them a moment to pause and maybe try the pose themselves.

I'm a sculptor in Bolinas. On my property overlooking Stinson Beach, I made a path through the trees and placed 16 life-size concrete figures along it, each in a different yoga posture. I wanted to give people a reason to slow down. They can stop beside a figure, try the pose, or take a quiet moment before moving on.



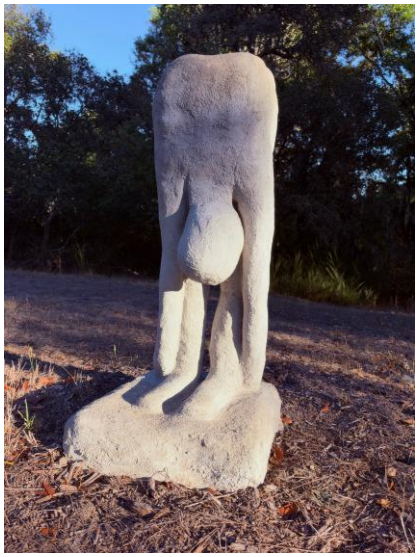
The Bolinas setting where 8 of the yoga figures are installed.

Artwork Description and Photographs

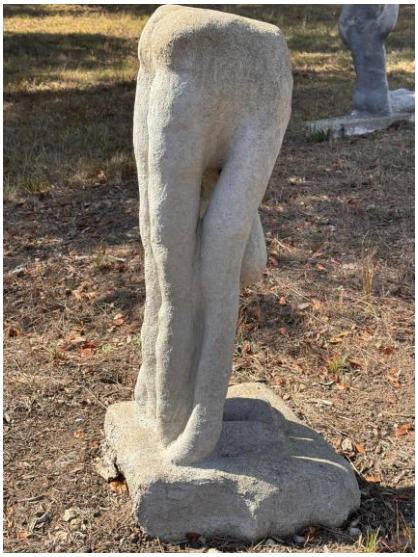
In Standing Forward Bend – Uttanasana, a life-size figure folds at the hips, bringing the torso toward the legs and letting the head hang. I wanted to capture the moment when the body settles into the bend and releases its weight. From the side, the curve of the back and the angle at the hips make the movement easy to see. I can picture the figure along the entry walk from South High Street, where visitors can see the posture as they approach and have room to pause.

Material Concrete
Overall dimensions 43″ H × 18″ D × 20″ W

Deborah Manetta | Standing Forward Bend – Uttanasana



Front view



Rear three-quarter view



Rear view

Attachment and Stabilization

I propose to thin-set the sculpture to one of the city's 44-inch-square concrete pads and will coordinate placement and installation with Sebastopol Public Works.

Installation Readiness

The sculpture is complete and currently installed outdoors in Bolinas. It will be ready for installation at Ives Park in early 2027.

My contractor recommends applying three small dabs of PourStone anchoring cement to the city's concrete pad, then setting the sculpture's existing concrete base on them. The target compressive strength for the cement is 10,000 psi.

Thank you for considering my work.

Deborah Manetta

Richard Arata Artist

Oct 2, 2026

Black Flame/Fire is Not an Ever since the nature of fireEnemy

Petaluma Ca.

707.338.2546

richarata@yahoo.com

richardarataart.com

City of Sebastopol - Public Arts Committee

7120 Bodega Avenue Sebastopol, California 95472

planning@cityofsebastopol.gov

(707) 823-6167

Dear Sebastopol Public Art Committee,

My name is Richard Arata and I live in Petaluma California. This letter is in regards to the call for public art in Ives Park Sebastopol. The sculpture I am submitting is carved of redwood and resembles a flame. It is blackened by fire and has a durable exterior finish. It stands 4ft 6", 14.5" wide at its base with a max depth of 10.5" also at the base. Mounting and securing this sculpture will likely be bolted to the pedestal and yet to be determined.

This piece, for me, represents the nature of fire. The intention was to represent both its destructive and beneficial qualities. It is dedicated to the fires of 2017 and beyond. I am interested in this project because I feel this piece serves as a reminder that not only is fire dangerous it is transformative. Fire can be beautiful and fire is necessary. I refer to this work as "Fire is not an enemy". Creating it was my attempt to somehow transform loss into beauty. I like the idea of sharing it in public space.

Thank you for bringing art to public spaces and thank you for the opportunity to participate.

Sincerely,

Richard Arata



Redwood Scupture by:
Richard Arata
Petaluma Ca.



4ft. 6”
Tall

10.5” in
Max depth
at base

14.5”in Wide





November 4, 2026

Tom Ballard Art - Steel Sculpture
7626 Lynch Road
Sebastopol, CA 95472

City of Sebastopol - Public Arts Committee (CSG)
7120 Bodega Avenue Sebastopol, CA

RE: Submittal of a welded steel sculpture for consideration; to be placed in the Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden for a period of two years.

As a Sebastopol community resident and a Sonoma County Art Trails steering committee member, I am particularly interested in participating in local programs that further awareness and appreciation of all art forms.

Welded steel sculpture has been my primary medium for many years while often exploring minimalist geometric shapes and a play of balance and line as well as contrasting textures, paint and rust.

The sculpture that is being submitted is fabricated of Corten steel and partially painted with automotive paint. The dimensions are: 66”H X 66”W X 12”D. The sculpture is mounted on a steel plate base with drilled holes for attachment.

Artist: Tom Ballard
Title: Leaning Into It

Thank you for your consideration,

Tom Ballard







Trinity Myers
717-331-1013
piecesoftrinity@gmail.com
piecesoftrinity.com
11/8/2026

To the Sebastopol City Council,

My name is Trinity Myers, and I am a student at Sonoma State University. I am graduating this Fall semester with my Bachelor's of Fine Arts with an emphasis in sculpture. I am very interested in this opportunity and am excited to submit my sculptures. I made my sculptures, named "Cellular", in the Spring 2026 semester in the Commence Public Artworks class taught by Alexander Hanson. I am especially excited for this opportunity because my sculptures are meant to exist outside and be seen in nature, as well as be interacted with and climbed on. Since they would be installed along the walkway with the backdrop of nature, the proposed spot is perfect for my intentions for the sculptures.

I am inspired by microscopic organisms and the shapes that they create under microscope, such as tubular mushrooms, bone tissue, a dragon fly's wing, and a fly's eye, as a few examples. I look at these microscopic forms and cells and create a larger scale version of them and imagine them belonging outside as though they had grown there in an alien landscape. My intention is to allow peoples' imaginations to run wild as they walk up to the pieces and even interact with them. I want people to reflect on their connections to nature and feel the scale of the sculpture as larger organisms than themselves. They are meant to be climbed on and used like a jungle gym and are made sturdy enough to be used in such a way.

"Cellular", are two pods at 6ftx5ft and 5ftx4ft, and the armatures are welded steel rods covered in lathe and then coated in concrete. Because of their scale, I have only a ballpark weight of roughly 400-500lbs per pod. They are able to stand on their own without being knocked over and were installed without hardware on Sonoma State University grounds. However, I am very open to discussing other ways to help secure them into the ground if the council determines there needs to be added measures. These sculptures are already ready for installation. Please see photos on the next two pages.







Call for Sculptors for Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden (CSG)
City of Sebastopol - Public Arts Committee
11/9/26

To whom it may concern,

For your consideration I would like to submit a proposal for Sebastopol's sculpture garden.

My name is Jason Windsor. I'm a local designer and animator as well as a maker/crafter/woodworker. I don't traditionally work in sculpture, but am excited by the opportunity to create something at a larger scale.

My proposal for the sculpture garden is a piece called *Dwellers.* While I have not yet created the final piece, I have explored this concept on a smaller scale. Please see the provided sketches and reference material for an idea of the look and feel.

As a young person I took a trip with a group to Anapra, a colonia or 'slum' of Juarez, Mexico to build several very basic houses for residents. Ever since I've always been fascinated by places in the world where large populations find spots to dwell, eventually forming a community. From sprawling suburban developments of cookie-cutter houses that stretch as far as the eye can see here in the US, to immense tower blocks in Hong Kong or the Kowloon Walled City (which was demolished in 1994) to favelas and shanty towns in Brazil and Mexico where homes are cobbled together with found materials — no matter the shape and condition, behind every door is a story, a history, a life. Every person needs a place to stop at the end of the day, to be with the ones they love, and to rest their head.

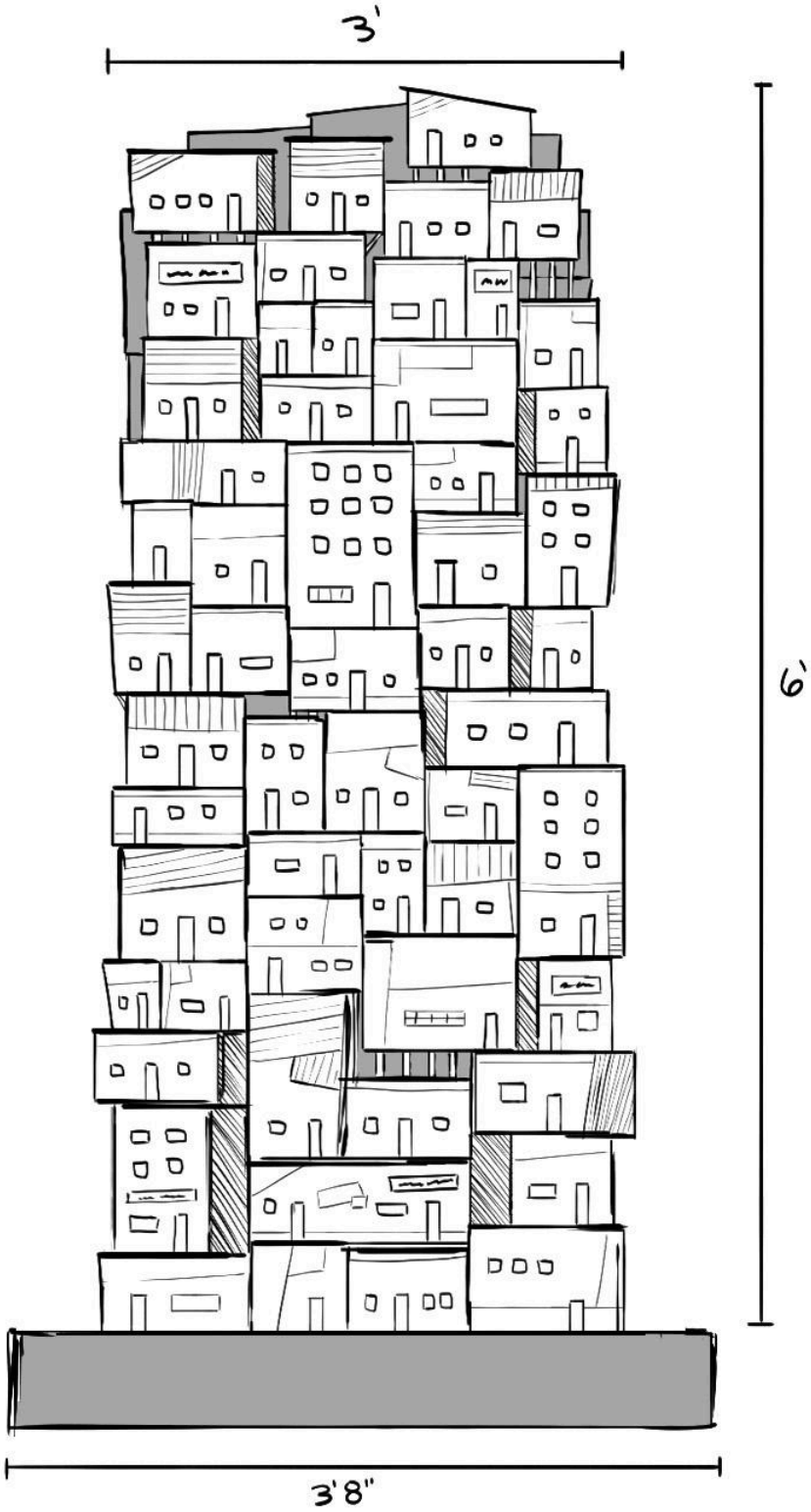
This piece will be mixed materials — mostly wood, metal, acrylic and oil-based paint, with the little dwellings secured to an inner frame structure. This structure can be secured to the pedestals in the sculpture garden via a cement anchor bolt. While the exterior will be sealed with a clear-coat for protection, I also like the idea of not fighting weathering over time — the same natural process all dwellers contend with.

Thank you for your consideration!

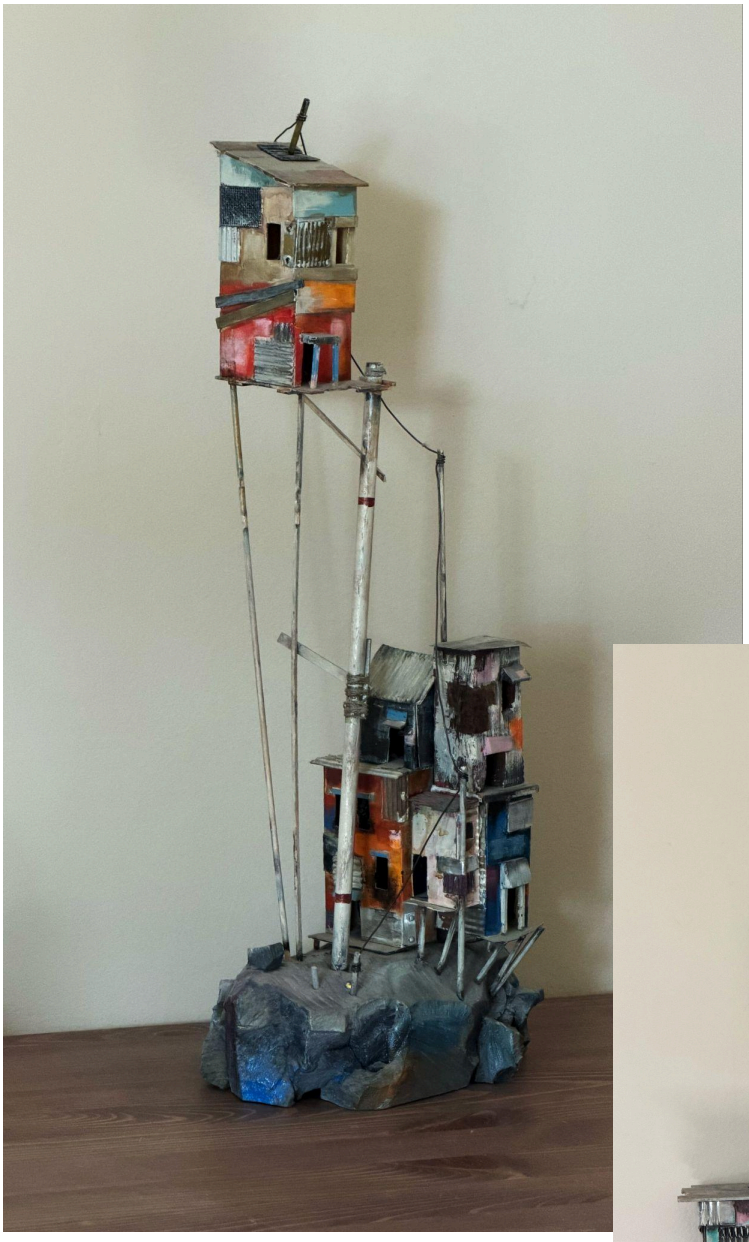


Jason Windsor
774 Litchfield Ave, Sebastopol
jasonbwindsor@gmail.com
209.642.2101

Proposal Diagram



Small scale works





Sketches/explorations





