

# UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

## ART COLLECTION

### PUBLIC SCULPTURE

#### Grade level:

High School Art and Art History

#### Introduction:

Public spaces are vital contributors to the physical design and the social fabric of urban areas. For centuries they have been platforms for public gatherings, both social and political, and for leisure activities. Sometimes artwork enhances or defines public space. Historically that art has typically commemorated events or people. More recently, public art has been used to humanize the built environment and invigorates public spaces. It provides an intersection between past, present and future, between disciplines, and between ideas in a freely accessible way.

#### Background:

In the late 1960s the National Endowment for the arts began a program titled *Art in Public Spaces*. As a part of this project many sculptures were commissioned to be created for plazas, gardens, or near and within public buildings. Around the same time arts institutioned worked to make their programming come to life as more interactive with the viewer. It is within this line of thought, that public art is now used widely to break down the barrier of the institution and bring sculpture to the viewer in order to enhance the space and communicate with the audience

#### Lesson Overview:

Students will begin by navigating their way through the University of Cincinnati virtual sculpture tour, dsicovering the importance of public sculpture and the significance of each placement. They will then use this knowledge to design their own public sculpture



#### MATERIALS YOU NEED

PRINTOUTS OF 1819 LAWN  
SCISSORS  
COLORED CARDSTOCK  
GLUE STICKS  
PAINT MARKERS OR  
TEMPORA STICKS

FOR DIGITAL ALTERNATIVE:  
DIGITAL DRAWING SOFTWARE  
SUCH AS  
PROCREATE OR  
AUTODESK SKETCHBOOK

## UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI SCULPTURE TOUR: VIEW VIRTUAL OR VISIT THE CAMPUS TO WALK IN PERSON

<https://view.ricohtours.com/db80c2a7-7afb-4c57-bc06-93e3c137898e/721c8854-3c0b-4b18-8961-8e8d96c1151e>

### High School Visual Arts Accelerated Standards:

- **1PE** Analyze interdisciplinary connections that influence social and cultural contexts of visual imagery.
- **3PR** Solve visual art problems that demonstrate skill, imagination and observation.
- **6RE** Explain how a response to a work of art is affected by the context in which it is viewed.

### Discussion Questions:

- What aspects draw you to a sculpture? Is it size, scale, color, or location?
- When you view a sculpture in the tour, how does it affect the way that you see the space around it?
- Read the descriptions of the artworks by hovering over the camera icon. What different ties do you see between sculptures and the buildings they are associated with on campus?
- How does location affect a sculpture? What differences do you see in the sculptures that are inside versus outside?

### Brainstorming

- Begin by researching the University of Cincinnati's 1819 Innovation Hub. Where was it located? Why was it created? Who has worked there?
- As you research, sketch visuals of any recurring themes or important facts





**Create:**

Once you have pulled out essential themes, design a sculpture for the 1819 Innovation hub lawn pictured below. This can be made using collage materials, paint markers, or tempera sticks on a printed image, or digitally drawn over the image in your choice of software

**Reflect:**

Write the wall text or artist statement that would be paired with your sculpture if it were to be added to the tour. What is essential to the view to know? Where did you draw inspiration? Does your choice of material have significance?

**RESOURCES:**

[HTTPS://WWW.GIVEAMINUTECINCINNATI.COM/GAMC/ART-IN-PUBLIC-SPACE-PT1](https://www.giveaminutecincinnati.com/gamc/art-in-public-space-pt1)

[HTTPS://DAAP.UC.EDU/ACADEMIC-PROGRAMS/SCHOOL-OF-PLANNING/PUBLIC-ART-AND-PLACEMAKING.HTML](https://daap.uc.edu/academic-programs/school-of-planning/public-art-and-placemaking.html)

[HTTPS://WWW.AMERICANSFORTHEARTS.ORG/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/PUBLICARTNETWORK\\_GREENPAPER.PDF](https://www.americansforthearts.org/sites/default/files/publicartnetwork_greenpaper.pdf)