

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC ART COLLECTION

APRIL 2025 SPOTLIGHT

Orange Memorial Park - Sculptures



AMERICAN DOG

Artist: Dale Rogers

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Dog Park)

This sculpture, a 10-foot tall corten steel dog with his own chew bone, was placed in conjunction with the completion of the 2nd & 3rd phase of the Centennial Way project which included the City's first canine recreational area. The engaging pup invites four legged visitors and their human companions to enjoy the dog park.

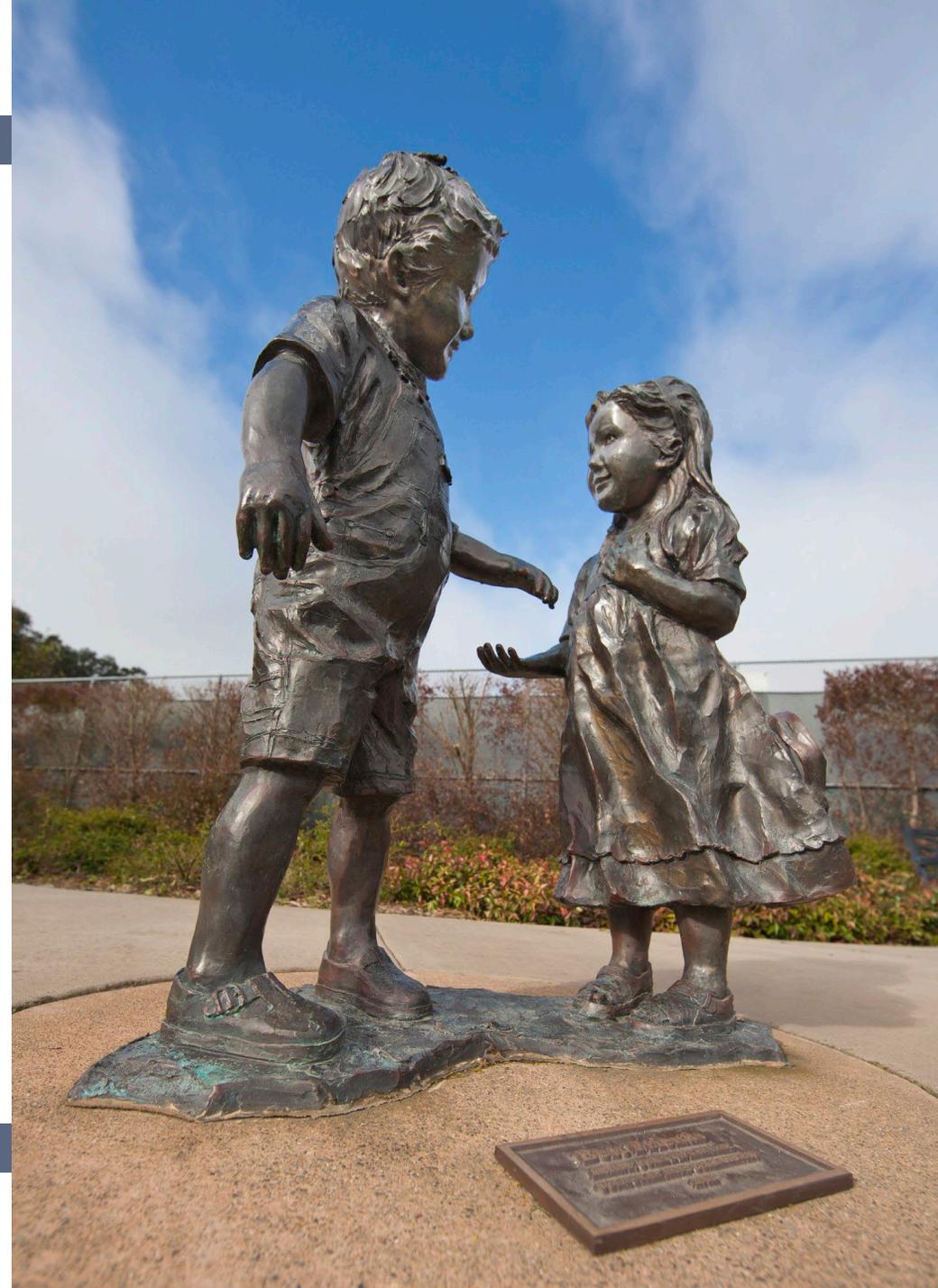
BEST FRIENDS

Artist: Corinne Hartley

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

Best Friends, a bronzed sculpture, portrays a girl and boy about to join hands. This sculpture by artist Corinne Hartley is one of two sculptures of children that highlight the universal theme of friendship.

The companion piece, "Heavy Load", depicts a boy carrying his puppy.





CENTENNIAL CASCADE

Designed & Created: Past SSF Parks and Public Works City Staff

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

Dedicated on April 19, 2008, in conjunction with the opening of the Centennial Way Trail, the Centennial Cascade captures the 21st century spirit of repurpose and renewal. It was made from window grilles that were removed from the old South San Francisco Orange Library. This striking sculpture was designed and constructed by the staff from South San Francisco Parks and Public Works departments in honor of the City's 100th birthday.

This sculpture is located near the bocce court at the westernmost point of the Orange Memorial Park Sculpture Garden.

CRUCIBLE OF LIGHT

Artist: Chapel

Location: Orange Memorial Park

Rising majestically, juxtaposed against the sweeping horizontal design of the Joseph A. Fernekas Recreation Building in Orange Memorial Park stands the Crucible of Light. The ever-shifting daylight is reflected by the white marble stone that embellishes the center and crowns the top of the piece.

A member of the National Sculptors' Guild, Chapel's inspiration for his "Crucible" series was the 18th century literary movement of "Sturm und Drang," which emphasized a revolution against contemporary standards. The artist discovered the depth of symbolism in the shape of the "crucible," which is defined as, "a place, time or situation in which concentrated forces converge and interact to cause, or influence change or development."



CRUCIBLE OF LIGHT

Continued

Viewers can enjoy the sculpture at various times of day and seasons, as the changing daylight creates a different viewing experience. Chapel recommends the observer notice how: "The composition concentrates light and concentrates attention. The dark silhouette accentuates the light streaming through. The contrasting colors of stone keep you in constant motion, working to make sense of what is happening. Light is even able to shine through the solid marble at the center of this piece, bringing luminescent hope to the other side."





ELECTRIC SLIDE

Artist: Pokey Park

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

“Electric Slide” is a joyful bronze sculpture by Arizona artist pokey park, located in the Orange Memorial Park sculpture garden. Part of park’s “Midnight Stomp” series, the piece features a gleeful bird lifting its wings and shaking its tail feathers, as if dancing. This whimsical creation reflects Park's intent to infuse her animal sculptures with expressive, human-like characteristics that bring a smile to viewers' faces.

HEAVY LOAD

Artist: Corinne Hartley

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

“Heavy Load”, a bronzed sculpture, depicts a boy carrying his puppy. This sculpture by artist Corinne Hartley is one of two sculptures of children that highlight the universal theme of friendship.

The companion piece, “Best Friends”, portrays a girl and boy about to join hands.





HELPING HANDS

Designers: Former Mayor Karyl Matsumoto, Former Public Works Director Terry White, Former Cultural Arts Commissioner Shane Looper

Fabricated: City Staff

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

“Helping Hands” stands as a testament to community collaboration and civic pride. The twelve-foot-tall sculpture was created to celebrate the fact that South San Francisco is a “City of Service.” Specifically, it acknowledges the indefatigable contributions of the South San Francisco Improving Public Places volunteers.

HUMAN GLYPH SERIES (A)

Artist: Bill Vielehr

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

The sculpture is one of a series of seven free-standing, abstract walls. With an elaborate texture on its aluminum surface, the sculpture stands over seven feet tall. According to the sculptor, the surface texture of numbers, letters, and symbols was created with drawing techniques. His work is influenced by the iconography of hieroglyphics, cave paintings, and petroglyphs. He formed the edges by a tracing of a clothed figure presented out of context (outside edges in, and upside down) to give a human relevance. The surface was polished to reflect and interact with the physical environment.





OBELISK

Artist: Bruce Gueswel

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

Formerly the centerpiece of the National Sculpture Guild's garden in Colorado, the obelisk was inspired by a trip the artist took to Egypt. This artwork features a four-sided column adorned with hieroglyphic-like designs and topped with a thick reflective glass pyramid, adding a modern touch to the traditional obelisk form.

PONDER (YIN & YANG)

Artist: Keith Bush

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

An interactive composition, the sculpture is composed of two figures - a seated figure, "Yang" and its standing alter ego, "Yin." Visitors are invited to sit in the positive figure, Yang's lap and reflect on their own feeling as Yang contemplates its origin, Yin, the vertical standing figure from which it was cut.



Ponder
Sculpted by the
City of South San Francisco
Cultural Arts Commission
for installation in the
Orange Park Sculpture Garden
Landscape Program
Description:
This is an interactive sculpture
composed of two figures. Yang
is the seated figure. Yin, from
which Yang was cut, is the
standing figure. Visitors are
encouraged to sit in Yang's lap,
look at Yin, and reflect.



POPSICLES

Artist: CR Gray

Location: Orange Memorial Park

“Popsicles”, a sculpture by Florida-based artist CR Gray, is located off Memorial Drive on the picnic shelter side of Orange Memorial Park. This sculpture depicts giant melting popsicles stacked vertically, an inspiration from Gray’s childhood memories and Americana themes.

SAFEHAVEN

Artist: Jane DeDecker

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

Selected as the central piece of the Orange Memorial Park sculpture garden, the beautifully rendered figurative sculpture, "Safehaven", attracts families and children. The sculpture, with flowing lines providing an attractive appearance from all angles, is of a mother and young child.





SALMON'S SHADOW

Artist: Wes Horn

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

This charmingly colorful sculpture also serves as a functional bench. The work was driven by the sculptor's goal of encouraging a physical interaction and connection with the viewer. The resulting bench is designed to be appreciated from a distance but also from an immediate perspective as the seated observer may interact with the sculpture directly. The dynamism of nature and the power and fragility of the environment also serve as an inspiration to this California artist. The acquisition of this work was made possible by a generous donation by HCP life science estates.

SLICES OF HEAVEN

Artist: CR Gray

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

“Slices of Heaven” is a vibrant public art sculpture located at the Tennis Drive entrance of the sculpture garden at Orange Memorial Park. The piece features four oversized orange slices stacked at playful angles. Crafted from steel and stucco, “Slices of Heaven” offers a whimsical and colorful presence keeping with the artist’s style of Americana inspired art.





STAINLESS SPHERE 84

Artist: Ivan McLean

Location: Orange Memorial Park (Sculpture Garden)

The latticed orb is the concept of Oregonian sculptor, Ivan McLean, a multi-skilled native of California. It is an open framework of 3/8" diameter tubular stainless-steel bars, cut and manipulated into a perfect spherical shape. The result is a sculptural element which occupies a large volume, but is light and airy, providing an interesting view through, at the surroundings. His eclectic "ball" sculptures are created from scrap, utilizing a variety of materials, including steel, glass marble, and wood. The acquisition of this work was made possible by a generous donation by HCP Life Science Estates.

STONE HORIZON

Artist: Bruce Beasley

Location: Orange Memorial Park
(Sculpture Garden)

Carved from one solid slab of granite, “Stone Horizon” is also a functional bench. Located at the entrance to the Orange Memorial Park Sculpture Garden, it invites visitors to relax and experience their surroundings. This interactive sculpture suggests fluidity of shape, spatial interaction and abstract concepts.



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QUESTIONS / COMMENTS