



Public Art Program Backgrounder

Denver's hippest, most exciting, new urbanism community is instituting an art program as a significant component in the vision and creation of RidgeGate. Recognizing that art adds to the quality of life for employees, residents and visitors of the RidgeGate community, Coventry Development Corporation is making art a priority from the very beginning by requiring each residential and commercial development project to include public art in its construction.

McGrath & Braun Art Consultants, the same group who is handling the art for the new Denver Convention Center Hotel, is overseeing this program for RidgeGate. "The art is reflective of the urbane and sophisticated people who will be living, working and playing at RidgeGate," said owner Maeve McGrath. "The goal will be to reflect the diversity of the residents in our art selections. The art will be unique, represent a range of styles and incorporate many different mediums. Some of the art will provide pleasant and intriguing diversions in the form of "follies," depicting humor and whimsy, while other pieces will offer a historical reference that elicits wonder, surprise and joy."

As each individual project and neighborhood within RidgeGate is conceived, McGrath & Braun will suggest options that are best suited to the specific project and site, yet fits with the overall planning concept for the community. Recommendations will include free-standing sculptures in a variety of media as well as architectural elements, such as a gazebo, or artistic embellishments to structural landscape elements like retaining walls.

RidgeGate's first piece of public art was the healing garden built on the Sky Ridge Medical Center campus, and the second was constructed in the center courtyard of Century Communities' Renaissance brownstone row homes, located in the residential portion of RidgeGate's West Village. Longtime Denver artist Andy Libertone, who created the gazebo at the intersection of Sixth Avenue, Lincoln and Speer, was commissioned to create a gazebo in the center area of Renaissance at RidgeGate. The gazebo complements the brownstones and is decorated in a European style with Gothic and Medieval architectural elements. Libertone worked on the project with the metal fabricator and was hands-on throughout construction and installation, acting as general contractor.



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Additional art has been added to the community including: a mosaic created by Jennifer Haley, located on a wall of the multi-tenant retail building across the parking lot from Target; An acrylic and metal sculpture located at one of the entrances in to the Bluffmont Neighborhood, located at Kornbrust Drive and Ridgegate Circle created by Barbara Baer; "The Illusion of Man" is a multi-segmented art piece created by Douglas County High School and is located immediately west of the Lone Tree Recreation Center; and the High Point Council Circle sculpture made of stones is a seating area designed to highlight mountain vistas, was commissioned by the Rampart Range Metropolitan District, located at the summit of the blufftop trail (at the southern bluffs) at elevation point 6280 was created by artist Andy Dufford.

RidgeGate's public art program is intended to complement and supplement a similar program being implemented throughout the rest of Lone Tree by the City of Lone Tree Arts Commission. The City commissioned a monumental bronze by Ric Sargent, located within RidgeGate at Ridgegate Parkway and Crooked Stick Trail; adjacent to the Lone Tree Golf Course and the Bluffmont neighborhood. "We are pleased that this major work is being placed where it is within RidgeGate – on a site that touches the original boundary of Lone Tree. It symbolically merges these two important parts of our city and shows our mutual commitment to the arts," said Lone Tree City Councilwoman Pat Braden.

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