



City of Florence Art Exposed Old Town Art Walk — April 19, 2025

The City of Florence **Art Exposed Rotating Outdoor Art Gallery Program** is a dynamic bi-annual rotation of public art that improves the livability of the Florence area, creates a unique sense of place, and enhances community identity, while also providing an increased economic impact for visitors and residents. Art Exposed offers the community a chance to view interesting, “fresh” artwork every two years at a low cost, while providing artists with an opportunity to display and sell their work to a wide audience.

The City of Florence has eight **Art Exposed Old Town** locations: Veterans Memorial Park, River Roasters, Rain Garden, Interpretive Center East, Gazebo Park Plaza, Secret Garden, Maple Street Park, and the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Lawn. In 2024, the Public Arts Committee worked with the Florence Urban Renewal Agency to create **Art Exposed ReVision Florence**, which added six locations on Highway 101 between the Siuslaw River Bridge and the intersection with Highway 126. Both art galleries can be accessed from the City of Florence website, [ci.florence.or.us](https://www.ci.florence.or.us), or through the shortlink <https://bit.ly/FlorenceArtExposed>.

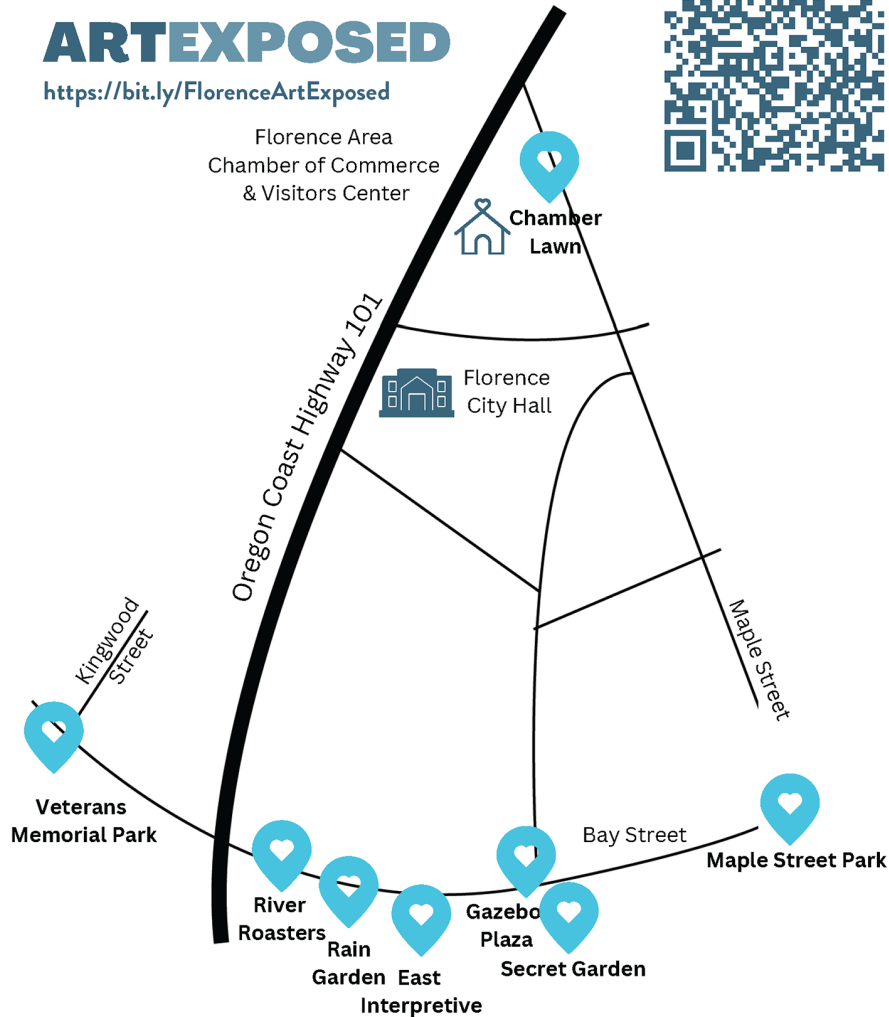
Art Exposed is part of the **Florence Public Art Program**, which is managed by the Economic Development Department in the City Manager’s Office and the Public Arts Committee, with installation and maintenance from the Florence Public Works Department. Learn more about the Public Arts Committee and its projects at <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/bc-pac>.



Locations of Art Exposed in Historic Old Town Florence

LOCATIONS OF ARTEXPOSED

<https://bit.ly/FlorenceArtExposed>



Location	Artist	Title
#1 Veterans Park	Jenny Ellsworth	Resonance
#2 River Roasters	Mark Twain Stevenson	The Old Rooster
#3 Rain Garden	Sharon Agnor	Genesis
#4 East Interpretive	Charles Fitzgerald	Sky Protector
#5 Gazebo Plaza	Jud Turner	Titus - Dungeness Crab
#6 Secret Garden	Paul Reimer	Carried by the Breeze
#7 Maple Street Park	Dale Compton	Move Along
#8 Chamber Lawn	Diego Harris	Steel Sprig



Location #1: Vets Memorial Park

About this placement: Location #1 – Vets Memorial Park

This location is at the City of Florence’s Veterans Memorial Park alongside the Siuslaw River. The park provides an opportunity for the public to view the piece during special veteran and community events, as well as every day. The piece will be close to lodging and foot traffic in town and the location overlooks the picturesque Siuslaw River Bridge. The art chosen for this location will be given preference to an American military veteran, or art that honors American veterans.

About the selected art:

Title: “Resonance” by Jenny Ellsworth

Description: The pipe is cut open to reveal a bell nestled inside. The deep tone that resonates the air invites everyone to pause and listen.



Medium: The tippy top is from a motor housing that holds the oxygen tank bell. The pipe is from an hold horse gate. The base is to be determined along with a powder coat color for the bell. Or leave the bell shinny and have the outside powder coated. The bell is bolted from the top, everything else is fully welded.

Dimensions: 101 inches (8.4 feet) by 13 inches

Weight: 350 pounds

Listed Price (City takes 30% commission): \$8,800

Artist Website: www.fairyforge.com

Artist Statement:

Jenny Ellsworth has been working with reclaimed steel for 20 years. She got her experience in commercial metal fabrication.

She loves finding different ways to use scrap metal in her sculptures so that it can tell its first story of what it once was and then its new story of what it is. It’s giving scrap metal a second chance. Her goal is to inspire the community to create, interact and see the potential in “throw away” material.



Location #2: River Roasters

About this placement: Location #2 – River Roasters

This location is on the west end of Bay Street, the main street of Old Town commerce. The base for this location is located approximately 2 feet west of the end of the River Roasters coffee shop patio, near native landscaping and seasonal flowers. This is a high-traffic location in a busy part of Old Town, where people walk to restaurants and shops. This spot is a vista point for the Siuslaw River Bridge, visible from the installation spot at the local Rain Garden and Interpretive Site.

About the selected art:

Title: “The Old Rooster” by Mark Twain Stevenson

Description: “The Old Rooster” reminds the artist of an artwork his father hung in their home of Georges Roualt’s “The Old King.” The King/Rooster is worn and tired from his duties but still in charge. He sculpted this work out of plaster over a steel armature, using a cheese grater for the surface texture, before molding and casting it into bronze.

Medium: Sculpted in plaster over a steel armature. Then molded in parts, these cast by the lost wax method into bronze and the parts welded together. Finally a patina is applied using heat and chemicals.

Dimensions: 48 inches high by 60 inches long

Weight: 200 pounds

Listed Price (City takes 30% commission): \$21,000

Artist Website: www.carapacearts.net

Artist Statement:

Mark Stevenson was first inspired to make sculptures in metal when working in an enormous industrial iron foundry in Wisconsin. He learned the art of bronze casting working for a decade at the Riverdog Fine Art Foundry near his home and studio in Port Townsend, WA, casting works for numerous prominent artists, as well as his own art. He currently has art in Norway, Greenland, Seattle, Port Townsend, and California.

He was employed by the Walla Walla Foundry as part of a large crew making art works for some very well known artists, all the while continuing to make his own sculptures. He has had ten years employment casting bronze at Riverdog Fine Arts, 2 more years at Walla Walla Foundry, molding, making waxes and welding and chasing bronzes, plus fabricating in steel and stainless steel 34 years.





Location #3: Rain Garden

About this placement: Location #3 – Rain Garden

This show-stopping location is set in the middle of the Rain Garden between Bay Street and the Siuslaw River. The art pedestal has been built into the native landscaping to be the same height as the nearby walkway. This allows the selected art to frame the historic, art deco Siuslaw River Bridge in the background and work with the natural colors of the seasonal Rain Garden. This location is near both Location #2 and #4, and a walkway and sidewalk connects them all.

About the selected art:

Title: “Genesis” by Sharon Agnor

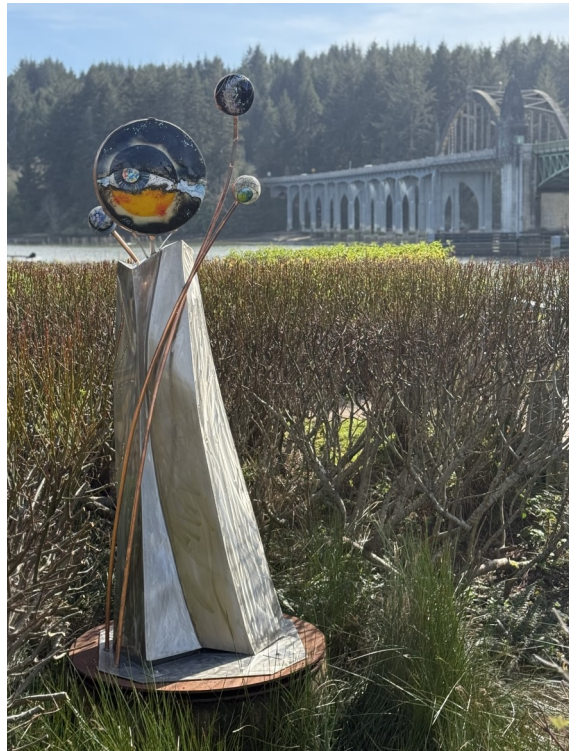
Description: “Genesis” links the ancient the creation story with our compulsion to create, explore, and look beyond the stars.

Medium: Stainless Steel, Hand-painted Cast Glass, Copper Leaf, Automotive Clear Coat

Dimensions: 96 inches (8 feet) by 30 inches, Base is 36x36 inches **Weight:** 150 pounds

Listed Price (City takes 30% commission): \$15,000

Artist Website: sharonagnor.com



Artist Statement:

As an artist, it’s important to Sharon Agnor to have her work be part of the visual conversation art creates in our public and private spaces. Her desire is to create meaningful, thoughtful work that tells a story. Exploring the effects of life’s unpredictable events, the healing impact of the natural beauty around her, and the resulting decision she makes moving forward motivates her work. What causes us to move from hardship toward optimism is a subject that she thinks about. These themes tend to find expression in her work.

Sharon has been working with Stainless Steel and glass for over 20 years. She has been participating in Rotating Outdoor Galleries for 15 years. Her sculptures employ stainless steel, copper, bronze, and kiln worked glass. She enjoys the undeniable parallel between real life and the process these materials undergo as they are subjected to extreme heat, to be transformed into something full of beauty.



Location #4: East Interpretive

About this placement: Location #4 – East Interp. Center

Location #4 is on the eastern side of the Siuslaw River Interpretive Center. This space is in front of pine trees and near the City of Florence’s holiday tree, which is decorated each December. Two walkways frame this installation area, which has nearly 360-degree visibility. Nearby trees are trimmed to expose art at this location. Many people walk past this location every day to view the Siuslaw River Bridge or visit popular neighboring restaurants and shops in the Old Town District.

About the selected art:

Title: “Sky Protector” by Charles Fitzgerald



Description: This piece was designed by me on a computer. The vector image was sent to a shop that is able to cut the aluminum with a waterjet process. After the pieces have been cut, I grind them with a 24 grit disk and fabricate them by doing “plug” welds. The welds are done so they can be ground off on the surface therefore are not visible. The 24 grit grinding grit offers a coarse line pattern that reflects light in a unique way. This piece is also extremely vandal resistant. Paint and other markings can be ground off with a 24 grit disk grinder.

Medium: Cut aluminum that is then welded together

Dimensions: 60 inches by 20 inches **Weight:** 50 pounds

Listed Price (City takes 30% commission): \$5,000

Artist Website: www.northwest-designs.com

Artist Statement:

Chuck Fitzgerald has a bachelor of fine arts degree and has created and installed art throughout the PNW for 25 years. After working as an illustrator at Boeing for 13 years, he taught high school art for 23 years. He has been creating large scale sculpture and public art for 30 years, and has concentrated on aluminum for about 10 years.

His work demonstrates a diversified approach in both materials and concepts. He creates sculptures using wood, synthetic concrete and stainless steel. He often observes small forms like insects, birds or berries and transform them into large scale sculptures. He has been feeding, studying and creating hummingbirds for over 10 years. He is amazed by the fact that they eat their weight daily, they are the only bird that can fly backwards, they migrate thousands of miles, and their wings move several hundred times a second. He creates/fabricates them out of aluminum and stainless steel, ranging from 10 inches to 50 inches.



Location #5: Gazebo Park Plaza

About this placement: Location #5 – Gazebo Park Plaza

Gazebo Park, also known as Old Town Park, offers views of both the City's vintage white gazebo and the Siuslaw River. This art location is at the entrance to Gazebo Park near brickwork and behind a railing in front of trees and native shrubbery. This work is mainly seen from the front of the shaded plaza area. Visitors often take time to sit on the benches located right under this piece. It is located in the middle of the highly trafficked main street in Old Town.

About the selected art:

Title: "Titus — Dungeness Crab"

Description: Welded steel and recycled chrome sculpture of a large Dungeness crab

Medium: Welded steel, recycled chrome, found objects including motorcycle parts. This piece is chrome and will be clear coated with transparent powder coating to prevent weathering during the time that it would be on display.

Dimensions: 48 inches by 72 inches (4x6 feet) on a steel mounting post

Weight: 200 pounds

Listed Price (City takes 30% commission): \$9,000

Artist Website: judturner.com

Artist Statement:

Jud Turner is a professional sculptor of 30 years, with a history of designing, fabricating and installing public art. These are loved by people who live, work and travel those areas. His artwork is in public and private collections around the world. The subject matter is stylized realism. He's a skilled fabricator with decades of experience welding steel and building sculptures of all sizes.

He creates artworks that unite people in appreciation of experience that emphasizes the things we share in common. Public art creates identity of the place it is sited, and enriches daily experience. It's important to Jud to create art that connects to a diverse spectrum of people, is accessible and helps people feel inspired.

Approaching a project, he begins with research to inform the design, consult local history, geography, and cultural identities of the region. This is invaluable in designing permanent public art that locals feel good about having in their community for decades. Community input helps to create the best public sculpture.





Location #6: Secret Garden



About this placement: Location

#6 – Secret Garden

Tucked into the native landscaping inside Gazebo Park, this location is in a raised planter bed along a brick pathway. This leads to the gazebo and a deck overlooking both the Siuslaw River Bridge and a historic ferry landing. The selected work will be framed by two different walkways that intersect, allowing views from both the front and the back of the art. The installation area is mostly shaded and contains shrubs and native rhododendrons alongside an open, grassy area and a slate paver pathway.

About the selected art:

Title: “Carried by the Breeze” by Paul Reimer

Description: For thousands of years and across innumerable cultures, feathers have represented a connection to the spiritual. They are not only a physical symbol of flight and freedom, but also symbolic of spiritual evolution. Universally, feathers are a positive and uplifting image, bringing to mind freedom, truth, courage, travel, spirituality and more. No matter your age or cultural background, this large-scale, interactive artwork is immediately recognizable as an uplifting symbol of freedom and happiness. It’s welcoming and engaging and invites viewers to get closer and explore the visual details, the finish and the varying textures.

Medium: Hand-forged iron

Dimensions: 72 inches (6 feet) by 24 inches

Weight: 100 pounds

Listed Price (City takes 30% commission): \$12,000

Artist Website: www.paulreimer.ca

Artist Statement:

Paul Reimer has 35 years of experience as an artist/blacksmith, and he takes pride in using the centuries-old techniques in blacksmithing to create quality hand-forged iron artwork that will last for generations. His sculptures are durable, extremely resistant to weather and vandalism and virtually maintenance-free.

When he creates a public artwork, he wants it to be an expression of that community. He wants people to see themselves and their community in that artwork — what they were, what they are and what they want for the future. When people see that sculpture they should have a feeling of, “That’s us, that’s who we are.”



Location #7: Maple Street Park

About this placement: Location #7 – Maple Street Park

This location is at the entrance of Old Town's Maple Street Park, which contains local restrooms and access to the Port of Siuslaw's crabbing and fishing docks. This high-traffic area, right along the sidewalk of Bay Street, is at a busy intersection where people access restaurants, shops, and the local Florence Farmers Market. This paved mini park has benches, a maple tree that branches over the park area, and trees and rhododendrons that provide a colorful, seasonal backdrop for the many visitors.

About the selected art:

Title: "Move Along" by Dale Compton



Description: This sculpture incorporates two types of movement. This first is the visual movement of the different sizes of rectangles leading the viewer to move visually from one section to the sculpture to the next. The second part is the actual movement of the center pieces within each rectangle. Feel free to give them a spin.

Medium: This piece uses reclaimed metal to create the form. He welded the 2"x2" steel tubes together as well as the 1/4" steel rods in the centers. The metal base, created with 1/8" sheets, is reinforced with angle iron running horizontally underneath to add stability to the sculpture. He has added metal tabs to the base with holes in the tabs for ease of installation (either by welding the tabs to the city provided base or by bolting down to the base). This piece has been coated with a clear protective coating to prepare it to withstand the elements.

Dimensions: 71 inches by 18 inches **Weight:** 110 pounds **Listed Price (City takes 30% commission):** \$5,800

Artist Statement:

Dale Compton has been creating artwork since the late '90s and creating public art since 2020. He has many years experience working with metal sculptures. Born and raised in Minnesota, he has always been drawn to art. He received his B.S. degree in Art Education from Minnesota State University and taught high school art for the past 20+ years before recently moving to the Pacific Northwest. He has been fortunate to have sculptures on display in cities throughout the Midwest over the past few years and is always excited to visit new cities and share his sculptures with the local communities.

As an avid outdoor enthusiast, he always has his camera with him. He looks to find interesting photos wherever he travels. It is his photos and scenes from nature that inspire his sculptures. From the geometric forms to the abstractions found outdoors, he looks to bring those into his artwork. With a focus on recycled materials and salvaged or reclaimed metal, he aims to help keep the natural environment a place of beauty.



Location #8: Chamber Lawn

About this placement: Location #8 – Chamber Lawn

In the grassy lawn of the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce's Visitor Center on Maple Street, this location welcomes visitors to the Old Town District. It is also near the City of Florence's recently completed multi-million-dollar streetscape project that expanded sidewalks, repaved the highway, and increased walkability. This location is near the entrance to a public parking lot and the busy Visitor Center. Just north of the placement of this work is the Maple Street Plaza, another Art Exposed location.

About the selected art:

Title: "Steel Sprig" by Diego Harris

Description: Large abstract Corten steel sculpture with an internal structure of steel rebar.

Medium: 16 gauge Corten steel sheeting and 8 gauge Corten steel plate as well as an internal structure of 3/8th inch steel rebar. I start by constructing an internal structure of steel rebar. I bend the rebar to form the outlines of the sculpture and then weld cross members to add strength. Once I have the structure done I trace the curves on Corten sheet steel. I cut out the sheet steel with a plasma cutter and then sand all the edges smooth. I bend all the sheets by hand and then clamp them onto the structure of the sculpture before seam welding all the edges. The last thing I do is sand it smooth for safety and aesthetics.

Dimensions: 106 inches (8.8 feet) by 48 inches

Weight: 150 pounds

Listed Price (City takes 30% commission): \$9,000

Artist Website: steelsculpturesbydiegotharris.com

Artist Statement:

Diego Harris is an artist living and working in Upper Lake California. His primary focus is on creating larger-than-life Corten steel sculptures with abstract shapes that almost border on figurative plant and animal themes.

Steel Sprig is a curvaceous but slender Corten steel sculpture with an internal structure of steel rebar. He wanted it to have a very alive feeling to it and also that it would seem to be growing out of the ground like a large tropical plant of some kind. Over time, it will develop a fine red rust patina.

Diego has made about 40 large scale Corten steel sculptures, as well as dozens more in mild steel and scrap metals, as well as gates, benches, and beyond. He has been welding large sculptures for about 15 years now and has sculptures in shows in several states as well as many on permanent display.

