SCULPTURE TRAIL

Trail History

The Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium (SISS) was founded by Jesse Salisbury of Steuben, a well traveled sculptor seeking to spark cultural activity in his home community. A group of supporters developed sponsorships with involved communities and stone suppliers, and created the first SISS in 2007 at the Schoodic Education and Research Center campus. Four symposia followed in 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2014. The mission of SISS was to hold international stone sculpture symposiums in Downeast Maine that engaged individuals and communities in public art and resulted in a large public art collection in Eastern Maine. The fifth and final event was held at Fisher Field in Prospect Harbor.

What is a Sculpture Symposium?

The first sculpture symposium originated in 1959 with sculptor Karl Prantl and others at the marble stone quarry of St. Margarethen, Austria. The motivation behind the event was to be able to work stone on a large scale, something which was outside the financial resources of the participating artists.

Maine Geology

The geologic story of the various types of stone used in the symposium’s sculptures is an interesting and complex one. It begins over 400 Million Years Ago during the Devonian Period when a micro-continent geologists refer to as Avalonia collided with the ancestral North American continent. This collision is referred to by geologists as the Acadian Orogeny, where the term orogeny is used to describe a tectonic event that gives rise to mountain chains. For example, the ongoing collision between India and Asia gives rise to the Himalayas to new heights.

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Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium PO Box 122 Steuben, Maine 04680 schoodicsculpture.org

34 LARGE GRANITE SCULPTURES CARVED BY INTERNATIONAL AND MAINE ARTISTS

For an interactive map and further artist details please visit schoodicsculpture.org

30 Orono

Dragon

by Teng Shan Chi from Taiwan

“I see the leaf as a connection to nature and a metaphor for mankind, hope and transformation. A sail on a vessel is not only functional but also a beautiful object that uses the powerful forces of nature to lift graceful shape.”

31 Old Town

All Along the Watchtower

by Ton Kalle from the Netherlands

“Stevie needs to talk. If you want to hear this you need simplicity, spirit and silence. This sculpture is a firehouse or a kind of watchtower.”

32 University of Maine, Orono

A New Dawn

by Johnny Turner from New Zealand

“The sculpture from the symbol, which is a powerful, planetary or celestial body. This granite features a colorful reflection of cosmic running through the granite.”

33 University of Maine, Orono

Metamorphosis

by Lee Zhi-Cing from Taiwan

“This sculpture expresses the idea of life through the metamorphosis of the butterfly.”

34 University of Maine, Orono

Malamute

by Songul Telek from Turkey

“The light and wind will pass through this beautiful object that uses the powerful force of rainbow, and create a sculpture with positive energy in the special environment.”

Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium is a cultural organization that brings together artists, vischers, and communities to create a public sculpture collection in Maine. This gathering of artists is a fun and educational way to see how large-scale sculpture is made from granite, one of Maine’s natural resources. Five six-symposia have been held, resulting in a trail of thirty-four large-scale stone sculptures placed at public sites throughout Eastern Maine communities for all to enjoy.