

Arts Alpharetta

is a volunteer driven 501(c)3 organization dedicated to developing a dynamic arts community in Alpharetta. The City of Alpharetta has joined in that commitment by fostering an arts-friendly atmosphere with the following projects:

- **Alpharetta Arts Center** – classes, gallery, lectures, workshops and art events like Jazz Night, Movie Monday, Let's Talk Art! Thursdays, and more
- **Public Art** – a commitment to building the City's permanent collection including recent installations of new works in Downtown Alpharetta by Georgia artists Michael Dillon, Gregory Johnson, Marc Moulton/Duke Oursler and Deanna Sirlin
- **Cultural Happenings** – including Black Box music concerts and theatre, gallery exhibits and receptions, Holiday Artist Market, Sidewalk Chalk event

Arts Alpharetta DOWNTOWN ALPHARETTA ARTS WALKING TOUR

VISUAL ART

PERMANENT PUBLIC ART

The redevelopment of Alpharetta's downtown has spawned a growing public arts program. In 2018, the city added a series of works themed "Instruments of Inspiration" to its permanent collection. The works celebrate the Alpharetta Music Scene, which includes the Ameris Bank Amphitheater, Wire & Wood Alpharetta Music Festival, more than 40 Music Match concerts every year, and multiple intimate music venues throughout the city.

OMNIUM GATHERUM an open-air gallery

Omniun Gatherum is Alpharetta's second temporary exhibit (Fall 2019-Summer 2021) displayed in Downtown Alpharetta. A call for artists generated an impressive response and seven artists were selected from around the country. In keeping with the theme, the sculptures are a gathering of multiple artistic styles and unique messages.

Susan Wright, curator of the former Cashin Sculpture Garden at Chukkar Farms in Alpharetta, served as jurist. Susan now resides in Arizona.



The Visitor Geemon Xin Meng

Fiberglass, acrylic paint

"The Visitor" is a slight departure for the artist, a sought after portrait sculptor, who has created commissioned works for well-known figures such as Neil Young and Pierre Trudeau. With the tilt of the bear's head, the placement of the paws on his belly and the words scrawled across his body, one can, almost hear him say "Hello. Come talk to me." The endearing qualities are enhanced by the deliberate misshapen form that suggests furry heft. "The Visitor" personifies the welcoming nature of Alpharetta.

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BRD

Michael Dillon Iron

Built in 2011, BRD was inspired by Michael's daughter and her initials. He juxtaposes the playful gesture with an intensity shared by her. A recurrent theme in Michael's work, this avian represents the strength, timelessness and independence that he strives to capture in steel. Three of his pieces are on display in Alpharetta. His forge and home are in Milton, Georgia.



3 The Lion and The Mouse

David Landis
Stainless steel, cast aluminum

In the Aesop fable, the humble mouse comes to the rescue of the king of the beasts. In this work at the Alpharetta Library, the lion is trapped in a book as the mouse gnaws through the rope to free him.

Jovial

Kevin Duval

Medium steel, stainless steel, aluminum

Jovial is a whimsical, wind-driven kinetic sculpture that is rarely motionless. Kevin's work is composed of varying shapes, colors, textures and object placements. This makes each piece unique in its static state, while select pivot placement, careful counter-balancing, and human interaction allow them to react differently each time they are set in motion. Each piece has a personality all its own and interprets the personality of the interacting subject.



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Nucleus Greg Johnson

Stainless steel

This work focuses on simple, elegant geometric shapes. The artist depicted a central focus point where energy emanates, much like a nucleus. Inspired by curves depicted in life and nature, Johnson had the lines of the work meander and cross over each other while reaching upward and outward.



The Defenders Kevin Chambers

Bronze

This work honoring veterans and soldiers in the field was made possible through donations from the community. The intensity of two soldiers in full combat gear is evidence of Chambers's ability to express emotions, gestures and personal stories through art.



Blue Heron

Lee Bell

Recycled media, steel, compounded cement, lath

Lee Bell is a sculptor from Sarasota, Florida. Bell works in mixed media and uses recycled materials, steel and compounded cement. Blue Heron is mixed media, recycled media, steel, compounded cement and lath. It is painted with exterior concrete dyes, stains and a sealant.



Laborer Mike Wsol

Steel

Wsol's "Laborer" shows a worker in the act of a difficult task, a figure in mid-stride carrying a large load of boxes from one place to another. The boxes are pricked with small holes to create a planetarium that can be entered via the worker's front leg, providing a space to reflect, think, or meditate on intersections between work and dreams.



Hanging Eileen Blyth

Powder coated steel

"Hanging" provides a place to meet, rest and play. Each bench connects to a steel handmade hang drum. The brightly colored benches contrast with the surrounding landscape thereby drawing attention. Children intuitively know how to engage with the work, though all ages are invited to create a moment of self-expression. The work calls to be examined and inspires all sorts of playful possibilities.

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Modern Saxophone

Gregory Johnson

Stainless steel, gold powder

Pictured on the cover

The saxophone was invented in 1840 to be the most powerful and vocal of the woodwinds, and the most adaptive of the brass instruments. In creating this work for the "Instruments of Inspiration," Johnson uses gold powdered keys and highly polished stainless steel notes that seem to float in the air for a contemporary take on this classic instrument.

Scorpion Rob Lorensen

Stainless steel

Scorpions are adaptable, at home in a wide range of environmental conditions. Lorensen captures the characteristic forward curving tail over the back emphasizing its sinewy form to suggest a body in motion. View the work from different angles and note how the polished stainless steel reflects the light, further adding to the sense of movement.

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Idiophone

Michael Dillon

Steel, stainless steel

This interactive piece functions as a sort of reverse gong. The vertical element or pendulum remains static while the circular element is rotated to strike against the pendulum to create a deep resonate percussive sound.



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Twist and Shout*Marc Moulton, Duke Oursler* Aluminum, steel

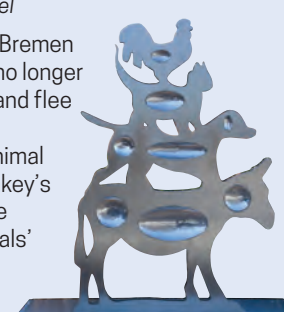
This work pays homage to the 1961 song "Twist and Shout," written by Phil Medley and Bert Berns, and recorded by numerous artists, including The Beatles. The sculpture includes stylized musical notes and a palette of bright colors that establishes a visual rhythm and movement.



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Bremen Town Musicians*Deanna Sirlin* Stainless steel

In the Grimm's fairy tale of the Bremen Town Musicians, farm animals no longer useful to their masters are fearful of being killed and flee together to Bremen, where they find purpose as musicians. Bremen has its own sculpture of the animal musicians, and tradition says that rubbing the donkey's feet brings luck. Sirlin incorporated this idea, in the form of touchstones, particular areas on the animals' bodies designed to be touched by viewers.

**The Feather** *Kirk Seese*

Steel, Baltic birch plywood, UV ink, epoxy resin

The abstract nature of The Feather is a conscious response to the years of representational work the artist has completed. Seese wanted to create something with no reference point that seemed to come from a different planet. It's something unique. It's something that came from internal rather than external. The organic motions of the blended hues contained by the stark, black, geometric framework should be visually unnerving – they complement one another instead.

**Friendship Ring** *Martin Dawe* Bronze

A group of children play Ring Around the Rosie, drawing attention to the sculptural form of this 100-year-old tree.

Coming Together*Jerome Harris Parmet* Painted metal

Each of us may have a different perspective from one another but we are all "cut from the same cloth." These three pieces were conceived and finished to be rough-hewn – glossy in some areas while dull or brushed in others. This is not machined work. Its perfection is in its imperfections. Coming Together was inspired by the "mission statement" and high ideals of an ecclesiastical group.

**PERFORMING ARTS**

From songwriter performances, culture-infused theatre acts and concerts by the city's musical ensembles, to a new modern arts center featuring demonstrations, exhibits, and lectures, Downtown Alpharetta's arts landscape is simply waiting to be discovered with exciting events every week. For more details about cultural happenings at the Alpharetta Arts Center, Alpharetta Music City concerts, or other performing arts events happening in the city, visit awesomealpharetta.com/culture-in-alpharetta.

THANK YOU

Arts Alpharetta would like to thank the **Alpharetta City Council, Alpharetta Convention & Visitors Bureau, City of Alpharetta** and the **Art Leader Groups** for their generous support.

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SUPPORT THE ARTS & BUY IT!

All sculptures featured in *Omnium Gatherum* are for sale. For more information regarding purchasing or sponsorship opportunities, please send an inquiry to artsalpharetta@gmail.com

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Hyatt Place Atlanta/Alpharetta/Windward Parkway | 770-343-9566
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Residence Inn Atlanta Alpharetta/North Point Mall | 770-587-1151
Residence Inn Atlanta Alpharetta/Windward | 770-664-0664
The Hamilton Hotel | Arriving Spring 2021
Staybridge Suites Alpharetta-North Point | 770-569-7200
The Hotel at Avalon & Alpharetta Conference Center | 678-722-3600
TownePlace Suites Atlanta Alpharetta | 770-664-1300
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