



CANOPY

Billy Lee

DATE

Artist commissioned September 2011
Installation completed Summer 2012

LOCATION

227 Westinghouse Blvd., Charlotte, NC

DESCRIPTION

The artist met with CMPD and construction project staff to gather ideas and project background. For the first time, ASC Public Art used an online system to gather community comments in an attempt to allow broader resident input. The artist also attended and took citizen ideas during a meeting of the Steele Creek Genealogical Society.

The concept for this sculpture is meant to reflect both the police department and the community it serves. The concept is based on the synthesis of two forms, the circle and the tree. The circle symbolizes enclosure, coming together, and embracing; an apt symbol for the police department which exists to protect and serve. The tree is one of the oldest symbols, representing the center of a community, growth, protection, and stability. It has its roots planted firmly in the ground and is thought of as a place for gathering, creating a canopy for protection and shelter. The artwork is painted aluminum on concrete base, approximately 11' tall x 9' wide. The sculpture is a centerpiece of the station's entry plaza and a highlight of this busy intersection.

SELECTION PANEL

Sabrina Brown, Dawn Blobaum, David Furman, Arthur Oudmayer, Katrina Streiner and Susan Tompkins, Public Art Commissioners; Jim Metze, Little Architecture; Capt. Allen Rutledge, CMPD; Kathleen Drake, City project manager; Dave Willis, Steele Creek neighborhood representative

FUNDING PARTNER

This project is funded through Mecklenburg County's 1% for the Arts Ordinance. The ASC administers the public art program for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Artist Selection and designs are approved by the appointed Public Art Commission.

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

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