

How did you come up with the idea for your piece?

This piece, Origami, was proposed for two sites: here at the Trails at Westlake, and at the Interlocken East Park site. Both sites were serene, quite, and meditative near water. I felt that in both those contexts, a low profile cluster would provide the subtle statement needed for the piece without detracting from the natural settings and the water. I thought of my travels to Japan, and the origami theme came to mind for this project. These pieces look like they have been cut and folded in on themselves in different ways. One is convex and two are concave.

As with all my art, I tried to par down the theme of origami art to as few details as possible to convey my idea. Lines and forms are simple and minimal.

Tell us about the creation of your piece.

The seating portions of the piece are made of dolomitic limestone that was quarried in Ontario, Canada. It has a beautiful blue-gray hue. I have used this material in projects before and have liked the outcome. It is a very hard stone and works well for outdoor pieces. It is actually harder than marble. It is a sedimentary stone, and if you look closely, you can see fossils within the stone. For example, check out the northeastern piece here at the Trails.

This is the same material I used in my other Broomfield piece, “Genesis” at Midway Park. Like with that piece, I used steel painted a subtle red to compliment the stone and set it off from the surroundings. This time, the red is in the bases, which are 12” steel pipes set deep into concrete. This works to subtly separate the stone from the green grass.

To create my pieces, I first make models to scale. I carve those models out of architectural modeling foam. Then I use that model’s measurements to transfer to the larger piece. The larger piece, then, turns out very similar to the original model, with only slight changes that come about during the creation process.

How do you think your piece reflects its site?

This site sits under majestic trees, overlooks this lovely pond and has a beautiful view of the mountains in the distance. In my mind, it called for serenity and simplicity. The piece allows for the introduction of art to enhance the experience of this space without deflecting from the natural experience. The placement of the cluster of pieces also gives the choice of interaction between the people who sit in the space. You can shift to have a conversation, or move to just look out and enjoy the view.