

Where can we see more of your work?

My wife and I have spent the last three years collaborating on a children's book, *Alfa-Dino-Bet*. She is the poet and I am the illustrator. Our penname is L.C. Sugar, which is a combination of our names. That book uses poems and search and find drawings of dinosaurs to teach reading. That book can be found at our website:

www.alfadinobet.com and at www.amazon.com. I also have an art piece in Fruita, Colorado.

What drew you to Broomfield's Bench Project?

I had worked on a seating proposal using my reading dinosaurs for another project. Both Susan and I came down with West Nile Virus last year, and that project was not completed while we were working to recuperate. When this project came to the attention of Susan, she showed it to me because it could be a chance to use some of the ideas I have already developed. She tells me now that she was concerned about introducing a large project into our lives, since we both still experience symptoms from the West Nile. However, she knows me well enough to understand that creating art is energizing for me. We put together our artist qualifications and slides and submitted them, using our past bench proposal as the center piece.

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

As semi-finalists for this project, we were invited to come tour the proposed sites. My initial proposal was a dinosaur for another site, but someone from the PAC asked me to review the "Sunset Ridge" and Josh's Pond sites while I was here. I was inspired by my meeting with the Broomfield staff and committee members. They were a group of people excited about this community. I was impressed by the willingness of this community to invest in the preservation of the land, like in these open spaces.

When I saw the Josh's Pond site, I knew what I wanted to do right away. The suggestion by the committee was that this piece have creativity and whimsy. Fortunately, that is where I feel my attitude and my art are right now. I love a sense of fun, and I want to convey life and positive energy. I was a swim coach for many years, and have worked with the theme of fish and water for a long time. As an art teacher, the play on words, "No Hooky" and the "school" of fish meant something to me. I have recently written a kid's book and like kids very much. Josh's story was very moving to me. I can picture Josh enjoying this place.

The bench design itself has much in common with an earlier dinosaur bench I had created. It uses whimsical bronze figures reading a book and sitting on top of a bench made of sandstone. I knew I wanted to do a teacher fish and little fish, and took awhile to determine how many little fish I would use.