

City of Portland

Remote Temporary Art Review Panel

Temporary Art Review Panel

"Winged Kelp"

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 2:00 PM via Zoom
at: <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/84752171263>



1. Presentation by Applicant
 - a. Winged Kelp - Gillian Christy Studio, LLC.
2. Review of Application
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion/Approval

Application for Temporary Public Art
City of Portland ~ Planning & Urban Development Department, Public Art Committee
(Allow up to 3 months prior to installation date)

Today's Date: <u>1/15/25</u>		Name(s): <u>Gillian Christy</u>		(Alternate Designee):	
Artist Name: <i>(if different from above)</i>		(Alternate Designee Cell):			
Company (if applicable) <u>Gillian Christy Studio, LLC</u>					
Address: <u>11 Humphreys St</u>					
City: <u>Boston</u>		State: <u>MA</u>		Zip: <u>02125</u>	
Telephone: <u>401-862-9426</u>		Work: <u>N/A</u>		Fax: <u>N/A</u>	
Email Address: <u>gillianchristy@gmail.com</u>		Cell: <u>401-862-9426</u>			

Title

"Winged Kelp"

Summary

Location	<u>Please See Attached</u>
Materials (please be specific)	
Dimensions, Height, Weight, Title	

Technical Requirements and Description

Please See Attached

Maintenance and Safety

Please See Attached

Proposed Schedule

Installation Date(s): <u>June 11, 2025</u>	Display Dates: <u>June 11 - June 11, 2026</u>	Removal Date: <u>June 2026</u>
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Required Supporting Materials

- ☒ Resume
- ☒ Structural Sketches of the proposed work
- ☒ Detailed photo, map, or maquette of proposed piece on site
- ☒ Up to 10 images of relevant work with slide sheet
- ☒ Optional statement of intention (limited to one page)
- ☒ Signage Listings

(Please read all attachments included with this application.)

FOR CITY USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Photo Sketch Attached: _____ Resume Attached: _____ Certificate of Insurance: _____

DIG SAFE (1-888-344-7233): _____ Security Deposit: _____ Signed Agreement Attached: _____

Reviewed By: _____ Date: _____ Approved: _____

Denied (reason): _____

Comments/Conditions: _____

Summary Title- "Winged Kelp"

Location- City Hall Plaza, Portland, ME

Materials- Steel with powder-coat or painted finish

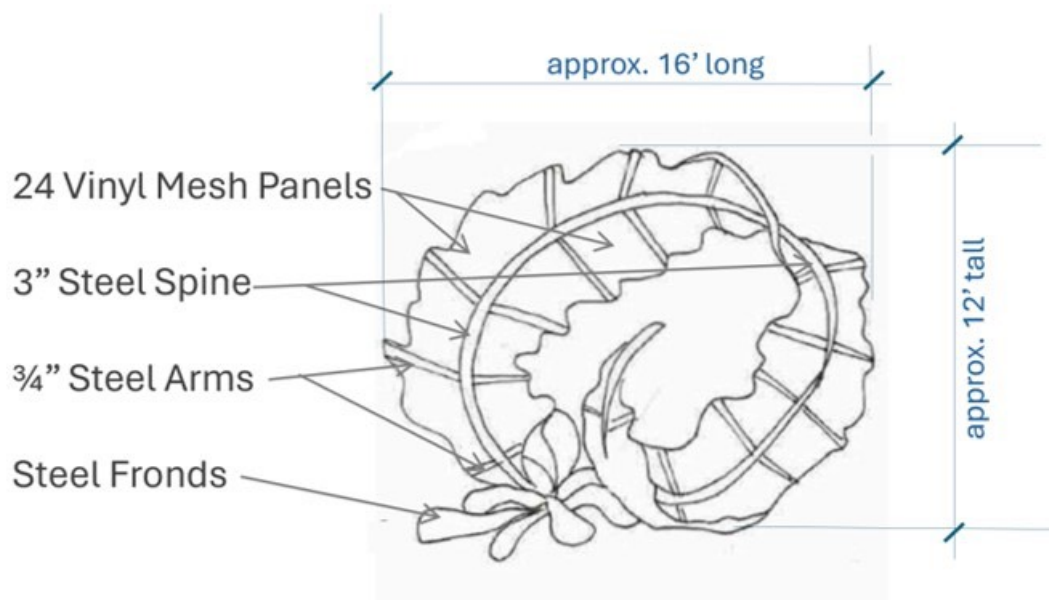
Dimensions- 12' h x 16' w x 4' d

Weight - 500 lbs.

Technical Requirements and Description-

The sculpture's central spine will be fabricated from a 3" diameter steel tube, which will be rolled into three or four sections with hidden attachment mechanisms, giving the appearance of a single seamless piece. Steel rods will be fully welded to the central spine, and eye bolts will be strategically screwed into both the rods and the spine to create a wavy effect with the attached vinyl mesh, mimicking the look of winged kelp. The vinyl mesh will feature grommets, secured with binding posts, for attachment to the eye bolts. The entire steel structure will be powder-coated in Royal Blue. Please see details below.

During installation, the four sections of the sculpture will be attached together. The central spine will be assembled and mounted, with sculpted steel seaweed fronds at the base. The sculpture will be securely anchored at ten points using 1/2" x 4" Strong Tie Screw Anchors. These anchors screw in for installation and screw out for deinstallation of the sculpture. All holes that I made in the concrete will be filled by me with Quikrete after the piece is removed. The concrete in front of City Hall is slightly uneven, so I will bring a variety of steel leveling plates to ensure proper support between the concrete and steel. During installation I will work with City staff to determine the final location of the sculpture within 10" - 12" of our proposed location to accommodate for uneven concrete. The vinyl mesh sections will then be attached to the structure. Approved lighting fixtures and brackets will be mounted to the existing light pole to illuminate the sculpture from the top and back.



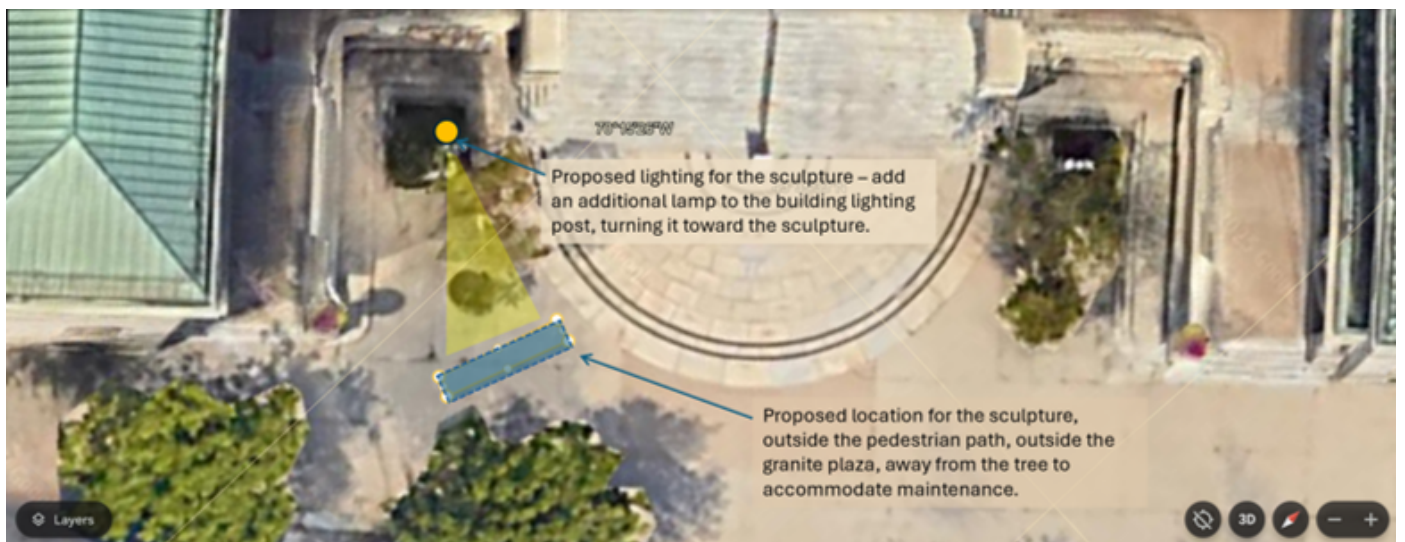
GILLIAN CHRISTY

SCULPTOR

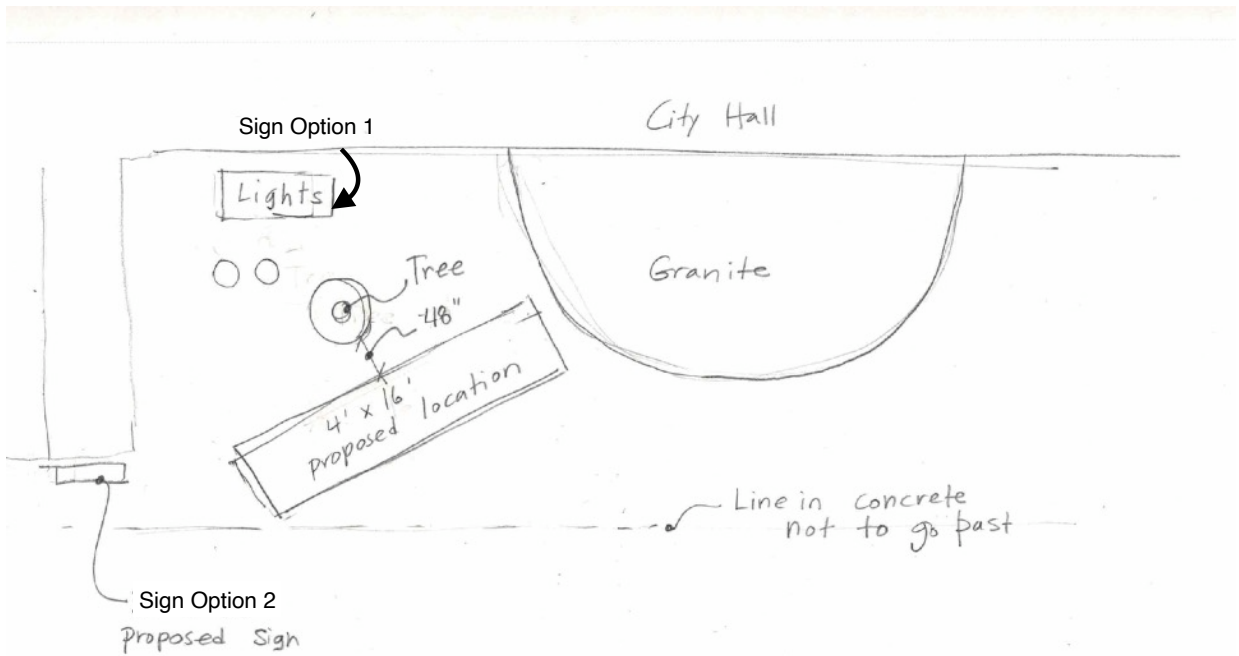
Installation View



Installation and Lighting Plan

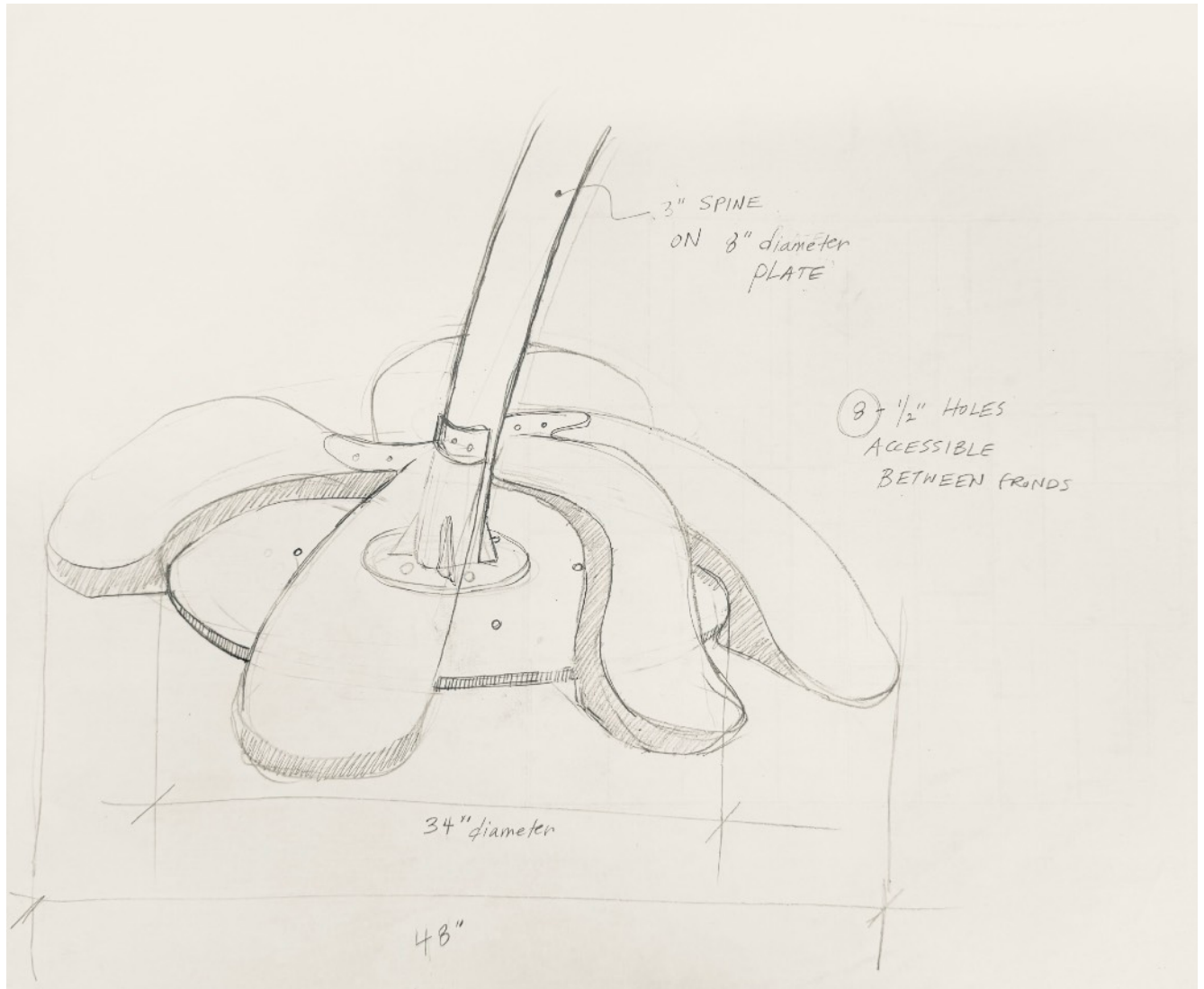


Proposed Location of "Winged Kelp"

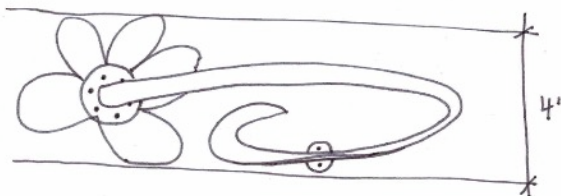


Line in concrete not to go past

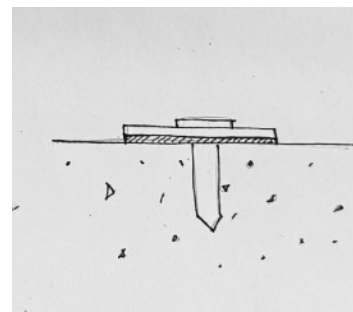
Attachment method



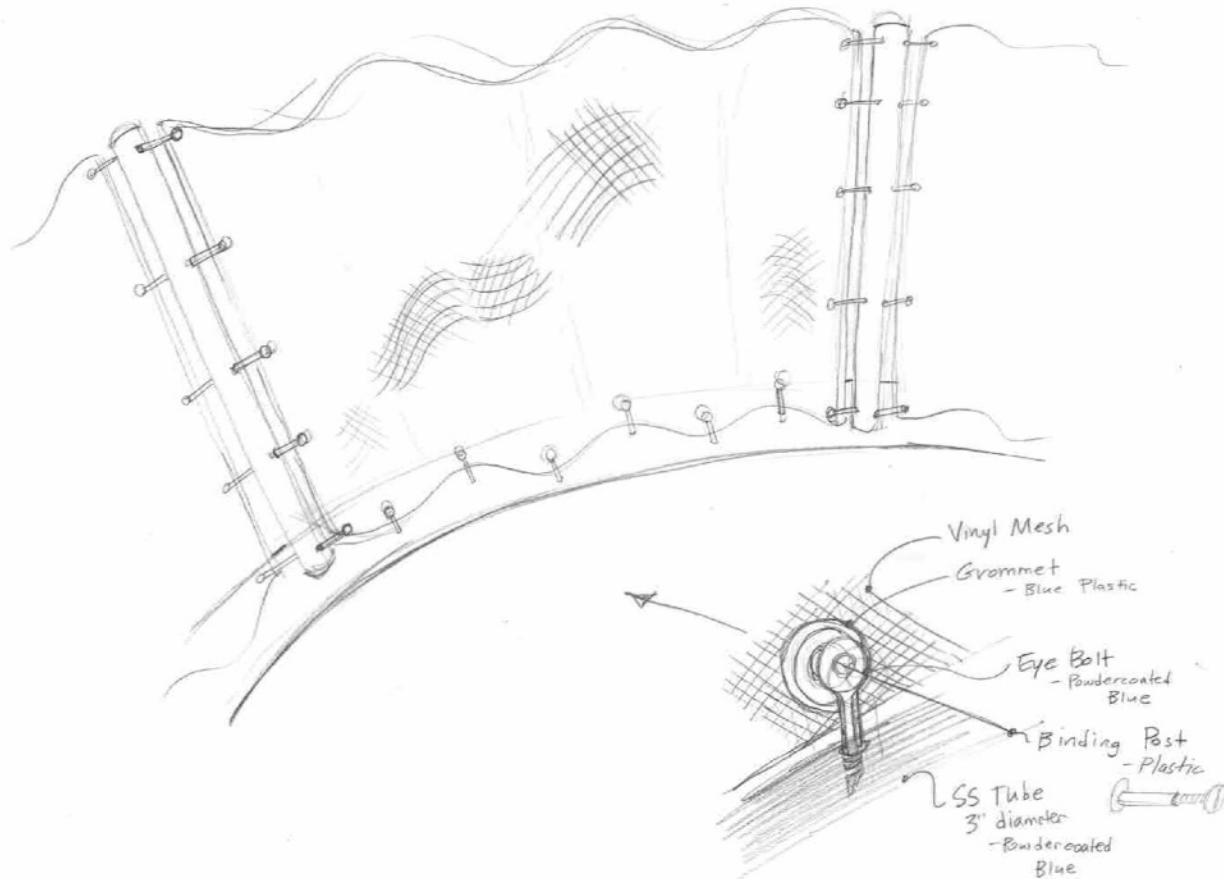
Top View with 10 anchor points total



Side View Detail of Anchor points with leveling plate

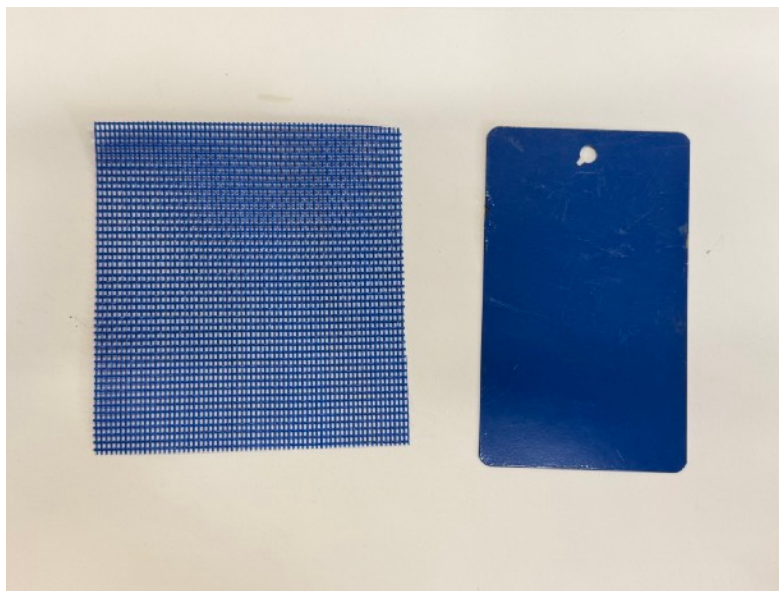


Vinyl Mesh Attachment Method



Material Samples and Color

Vinyl Mesh
Sample



Blue Color to be
applied to steel
(RAL 5010)

Lights

I propose using two solar lights. The solar lights use an LED light source that emits a Warm White (3000 Kelvin). The solar light allows for two settings; High Brightness which is 200LM or Low Brightness which is 100LM. The Solar panels charge during the day, and will automatically light at night for 10-12 hours.



Solar Light to attach to existing light pole.

Maintenance and Safety-

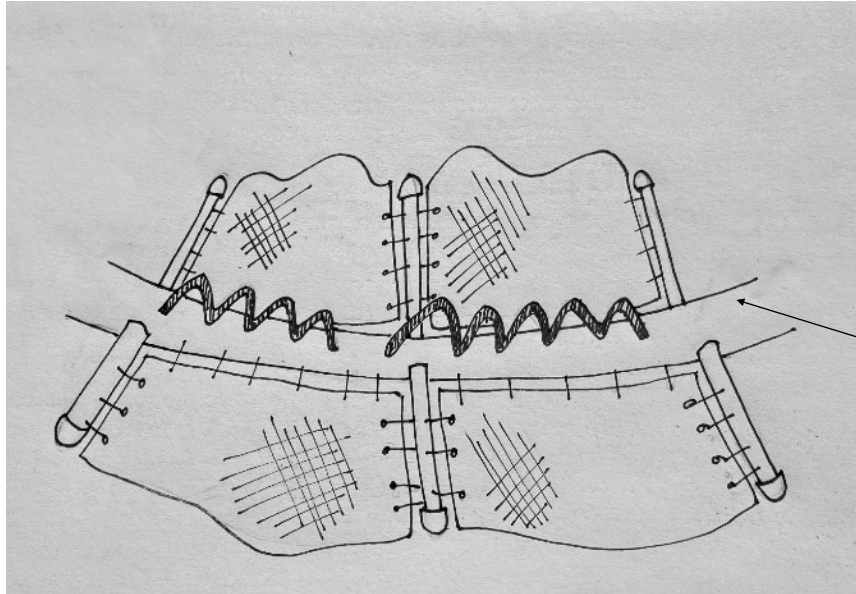
Maintenance Plan

The sculpture is fabricated out of durable metal materials, therefore during the one year loan the piece will look like the day it was installed. I will conduct periodic inspections to review that the vinyl mesh pieces have not been torn due to either natural elements or vandals and will be prepared to repair or address any issues that may arise within 72 hours.

If the loan is secured for an additional year, I will visit the sculpture in June 2026 and check that all hardware is securely fastened. I will confirm that the blue vinyl mesh pieces have maintained full coverage. After this check, the sculpture will be ready to be exhibited for another year if accepted.

Safety

Prior to installation I will apply for a Sidewalk Occupancy permit for a safe installation. The sculpture does not invite climbing on or around the piece due to the amount of eye bolts and hardware that will be on the round rods in order to hold the large swaths of vinyl mesh fabric in place. Any lower points of the sculpture will have a design element added onto the steel spine or steel arms to deter sitting, laying, standing or skateboarding on the piece. The 3/4" Steel arms will be capped for safety.



6' low spine section
with sculptural design
element

Statement of Engagement

The "Winged Kelp" project is designed to engage the community through a variety of interactive and educational activities. In Spring 2025, during Seaweed Week Festival, I will introduce the public to the ongoing artwork at a dedicated booth, where visitors can participate by adding grommets to the fabric component of the sculpture.

In Summer and Fall 2025, the project will collaborate with The University of Maine's Sea Grant Extension program to offer a marine science workshop, educating participants of all ages on the ecological significance of seaweed. The sculpture will also be illuminated at night, transforming City Hall Plaza into a vibrant, engaging space that invites ongoing community interaction with the project's message.

Project Timeline

December: Upon project award, work will commence. All design details for “Winged Kelp” will be finalized, including tube rolling plans, fabric selection, hardware orders, and powder-coat or paint color. The submission for City Review will also be prepared.

February: The permitting and approval process begins, along with the Dig Safe Inspection. At the studio, materials will be ordered, and fabrication will start. The central spine tube will be rolled in sections and sculpted to appear tapered. The fronds will be crafted from sheet metal, and the steel arms will be fully welded with eye bolts attached.

March: Completed parts will be delivered to the powder-coating or painting facility.

April: Participate as a visiting artist at Seaweed Week Festival.

May: Submit Sidewalk Occupancy permit to the City of Portland.

June: The sculpture will be delivered and assembled at City Hall Plaza by my team on June 11, between the hours of 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

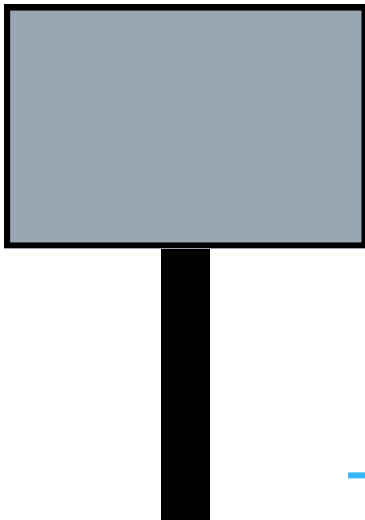
Post-Installation: An Opening Celebration will follow the installation. In partnership with The University of Maine's Sea Grant Extension program, a marine science workshop will be held in summer or fall, educating participants on the ecological significance of seaweed. This may be two events; one for children and one for adults.

June 2026: De-installation will occur. If a loan extension is possible, the sculpture will be inspected and any necessary repairs will be made. Extra vinyl mesh material, and other materials will be on hand to expedite any repairs.

Proposed location of Freestanding Sign

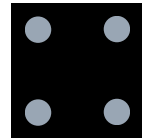
Option 1 (preferred):

- 11 x 17 stainless steel signage, aluminum post (frame 12x18)
- Staked into the ground (pictured), sign post 60 inches long
- Bottom of sign 30 inches from ground, 45 degree angle, optimal height for inclusive viewing standards



Option 2:

- Same sign, freestanding, bolted to ground (screw in, screw out), as seen below:



Can be sited closer to artwork, in a spot determined by City



GILLIAN CHRISTY

SCULPTOR

Signage

TITLE **Winged Kelp**
Somali: Qansax Baalasha Leh
Arabic: عشب البحر المجنح
Lingala: Mwamba ya Mapapu
Khmer: គ្រាប់សាវមានស្លាប
Portuguese: Alga Asas
Spanish: Alga Alada
French: Algue Ailée
Vietnamese: Tảo Có Cánh
Kinyarwanda: Urwatsi rw'amazi rufite amababa



ARTIST **Gillian Christy**

ARTIST STATEMENT

With *Winged Kelp*, I aim to celebrate the vibrant abundance of seaweed found along Maine's coastline—a natural resource as beautiful as it is vital. This sculpture seeks to highlight the essential role seaweed plays in maintaining a healthy ecosystem while evoking our deep connection to ocean life.

MATERIALS Powder coated steel, vinyl mesh
DATES June 2025 - June 2026
INFO gillianchristy.com
SHARE #WingedKelp



portlandpublicart.org #portlandmainepublicart



This installation is presented and funded by TEMPOart.

TEMPOart commissions temporary public art that sparks dialogue, builds community, and inspires our collective imagination.

Each year new projects from TEMPOart enliven Portland's public spaces. We present art that doesn't need a ticket or an instruction manual to make the power and possibility of art free, open, and inclusive.

We partner with other educational and cultural institutions, building upon each project to offer inspiring learning opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds.

TEMPOart is funded through public and private support. It is thanks to our generous donors that we are able to serve Portland.

tempoartmaine.org

Statement of Intention

Project Narrative

In my work, I often incorporate a leaf motif to symbolize personal growth and a connection to nature. With my sculpture proposal, "Winged Kelp," I envision creating a specific type of seaweed that captures the natural grace of kelp floating among the waves. This piece also aims to highlight community growth, sustainability and activism. "Winged Kelp" will bring a vibrant Royal Blue pop of color to City Hall Plaza, featuring a central rolled tube as the spine, with steel rods holding vinyl mesh fabric to create ripples and curls, illuminated at night with outdoor lighting. Through this sculpture, I hope to raise awareness of Maine's unique natural resource.

Inspired by my home on the cove of Lake Christopher in Western Maine, I have become enamored with the with the plant life found in the water. Recently when considering pond life, I created a temporary public art project featuring lily pads with the second graders at Blackstone Elementary School as a Visiting Artist. This fascination has extended further as I have become involved with identifying the invasive milfoil species with the Community Lakes Association. While work to eradicate milfoil has been underway for years, I have become a recent but active volunteer to help mark and remove milfoil.

With my proximity to this lake's ecosystem and the advocacy it requires to protect one small part of a lake in Maine, I have become passionate about raising awareness of the environmental challenges we face on a warming planet. With "Winged Kelp," I turn towards advocacy for marking Maine as the "Seaweed State" and hope to draw attention to the benefits of seaweed in a healthy ecosystem. "Maine's coastal region is home to hundreds of species of seaweeds, ancient marine macro algae that provide essential primary production, nutrient cycling, habitat, and food to healthy ecosystems."

Quote from The University of Maine Website -

Artist Statement

I am inspired to create artwork based on the familiar objects that one may view on a daily basis. I use the term "Connectors" to describe prevailing themes that I explore, where I consider elements in our built or natural environment that connect home with one's everyday surroundings. With this project, I am most interested in capturing our connection to ocean life and drawing attention to the natural elements surrounding Maine's coast. With my proposal, "Winged Kelp," my goal is to draw attention to the abundant natural resource of various seaweeds found in Maine.



GILLCHR-02

LDWYER

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

1/6/2025

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER License # 2060346 Hub International Mid Atlantic 888 17th Street NW Suite 850 Washington, DC 20006	CONTACT NAME:		
	PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): (202) 466-8888	FAX (A/C, No): (202) 296-8807	
	E-MAIL ADDRESS:		
	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE	NAIC #	
	INSURER A : Hartford Fire Insurance Company	19682	
INSURED Gillian Christy Studio LLC 11 Humphreys Street Dorchester, MA 02125	INSURER B :		
	INSURER C :		
	INSURER D :		
	INSURER E :		
	INSURER F :		

COVERAGES

CERTIFICATE NUMBER:

REVISION NUMBER:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	☒ COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY ☐ CLAIMS-MADE ☒ OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: ☒ POLICY ☐ PROJECT ☐ LOC ☐ OTHER:			42SBMRU6255	3/5/2024	3/5/2025	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 2,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 300,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 10,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 2,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 4,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$ 4,000,000
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY ☐ ANY AUTO OWNED AUTOS ONLY ☐ SCHEDULED AUTOS ☐ HIRED AUTOS ONLY ☐ NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY						COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
	UMBRELLA LIAB ☐ OCCUR EXCESS LIAB ☐ CLAIMS-MADE ☐ DED ☐ RETENTION \$						EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$
	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) ☐ Y / N If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below		N / A				PER STATUTE ☐ OTH-ER ☐ E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

CANCELLATION

TEMPOart
PO Box 4101
Portland, ME 04101

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Education:

- BFA, 2002, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA.
- 2000, Studio Arts Center International, Florence, Italy.

Awards:

- 2024: Stars Residency, Mass Cultural Council, Boston, MA.
- 2021: Artist Fellowship Award, Craft, Mass Cultural Council, Boston, MA.
- 2009: Public Art Award, Caldwell Council for the Arts, Lenoir, NC.
- 2007: Citizen's Citation from Mayor David N. Cicilline, Providence, RI.
- 2007: Best Reviewed Public Art, *Embrace*, Public Art Network, Year in Review.

Public Artwork:

- 2024- 2019 *Home*, **Pittsburgh International Airport**. Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2023 *Tall Grasses*, **The Art Complex Museum**. Duxbury, MA.
- 2022 *Winding Walk*, **Great North Woods Center for the Arts**. Columbia, NH.
- 2021 *Fence Roadway*, **Cedar Falls City Hall**. Cedar Falls, IA.
- 2021 *The Space Within, Leaves*, **Abbie Greenleaf Library**. Franconia, NH.
- 2016 *The Space Within*, **Somerby's Landing Sculpture Park**. Newburyport, MA.
- 2016 *Strand*, **AC Hotel Cambridge**. Cambridge, MA.
- 2011 *Winding Walk*, **Genesis Health Services and Illini Foundation**. Bettendorf, IA.
- 2010 *Pathways*, **Fitchburg Cultural Alliance and Fitchburg State University**.
Funding grant from New England Foundation for the Arts. Fitchburg, MA.
- 2009 *Wave Traveler*, **Waterplace Luxury Residences**. Providence, RI.
- 2008 *Day to Day*, **TF Green Airport**. Warwick, RI.
- 2008 *The Return Home*, **Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council**. Funding grant
from Rhode Island State Council for the Arts. Providence, RI.
- 2007 *Embrace*, **The Plant**. Funding grants from Rhode Island Foundation, *New Works*
2006, RISCA and Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. Providence, RI

Solo Exhibitions:

- 2022: *Tabernacle Tableau*. Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA.
- 2014: *Course*. Boston Sculptors Gallery, Boston, MA.
- 2012: *Waves of Grain*. Boston Sculptors Gallery, Boston, MA.
- 2011: *Day to Day*. As220 Project Space, Providence, RI.

- 2009: *Inside, Outside*. Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, MA.
- 2009: *Inside, Outside*. Appalachian State University, Boone, NC.

Selected Exhibitions:

- 2024 Dual Exhibition. *Two Paths, Two Identities*. Piano Craft Gallery. Boston, MA.
- 2019 Public Art Exhibition. *Roanoke Rising*. Roanoke, VA.
- 2019 Public Art Exhibition. *Meredith Sculpture Walk*. Meredith, NH.
- 2016 Public Art Exhibition. *BIG Art*. Umbrella Arts Center. Concord, MA.
- 2015 Public Art Exhibition. *Influx*. Providence, RI.
- 2013 Group Exhibition. *Sculpture Park*. Southern New Hampshire University. Manchester, NH.
- 2013 Group Exhibition. *Art in Nature*. Fruitlands Museum. Harvard, MA.
- 2013 Group Exhibition. *Convergence at Christian Science Center Plaza*. Boston, MA.
- 2012 Group Exhibition. *Somerby's Landing Sculpture Park*. Newburyport, MA.
- 2011 Invitational Group Exhibition. *What You Will*. University of Northern Iowa. Cedar Falls, IA.
- 2010 Dual Exhibition. *Home and Harbor*. RSM McGladery. Charlestown, MA.
- 2009 Invitational Public Art Exhibition. *Sculpture Celebration*. Lenoir, NC.

Guest Lecturer:

- 2022: The Art Complex Museum, *Making the Tabernacle Series*, Duxbury, MA.
- 2017: The Umbrella Community Arts Center, *Making BIG Art*, Concord, MA.
- 2013: Boston Society of Architects, *Architect, Artist and Developer Panel*, Boston, MA.
- 2013: New England Foundation for the Arts, *Building for the Outdoors*, Boston, MA.
- 2012: University of Massachusetts, *Creative Placemaking Conference*, Lowell, MA.
- 2011: MASS MoCA, *Creative Communities Exchange Conference*, North Adams, MA.
- 2009: Fitchburg State University, *Inside: Outside Exhibition*, Fitchburg, MA.
- 2009: Appalachian State University, *Inside: Outside Exhibition*, Boone, NC.
- 2005: The University of Northern Iowa, *Visiting Alumni Artist*, Cedar Falls, IA.

Selected Articles:

- 2024: Artscope Magazine (September/October), Interplay of Metal & Stone by C. Filks.
- 2024: New England Home (November/December), Blowing in the Wind by N. Reade.
- 2017: Design New England (September/October), Heavy Metal by Jon Hattaway.
- 2012: Artscope Magazine (September/October), Waves of Grain by R. Chandler.
- 2010: Telegram and Gazette (November), 'Pathways' Sculpture Symbolizes Fitchburg's Roots.
- 2010: Artscope Magazine (March/April), A Pathway to Revitalization by Brian Goslow.

1. Fence Roadway
9' h x 8' w x 3' 9" d
Stainless Steel, Powder-coat
2021

2. Home
Stainless Steel
9' h x 5' 6" w x 5' 6" d
2019

3. Winged Victory
Stainless Steel
9' 2" h x 3' w x 5' 4" d
2018

4. Strand
Stainless Steel
7' 6" h x 3' w x 2' 6" d
2016

5. The Space Within, Leaves
Stainless Steel, Powder Coat
8' h x 4' w x 20" d
2013

6. Flourish
Stainless Steel
8' h x 36" w x 36" d
2012

7. Pathways
Stainless Steel, Brick
10' h x 25' w x 5' d
2010

8. Return Home
Stainless Steel
84" h x 84" w x 24" d
2008

9. Wave Traveler
Stainless Steel
18' h x 12' w x 5' d
2009

10. Embrace
Stainless Steel, Bronze
70' h x 20' w x 20' d
2007















