

Public Art for the Lewisville Public Library



Background and Budget for this project

- The evaluation committee was looking for a work of art to add indoors at the Library. The area identified for this commission was the brick column near the stairway leading up to level 2. The evaluation committee wanted this work to be an installation piece, sculptural in nature, that would wrap around or climb the tall brick column.
- Also, they were looking a work that would provide a visually striking component to the library that will inspire wonder, draw the eye upward, and excite engagement.
- Materials were not specified other than we would require ones proven to have high-durability and low-maintenance, especially if installed at a touchable height, while being safely and securely installed on the brick façade of the column. The incorporation of lighted elements with the artwork was desired, but not required.
- This project meets the goal of the Public Art Master Plan to put art into more municipal facilities, and the library was highlighted as a strong candidate for an installation.
- **Funding Sources**
 - **Total Budget: \$85,000**
 - Public Art CIP: \$80,000, as presented by the Arts Advisory Board FY23 Public Art Workplan and funded in the FY23 budget.
 - Gift from the Friends of the Lewisville Public Library: \$5,000
 - The Friends of the Library generously offered to contribute \$5,000 toward this project to help extend the budget. The Friends have donated all the other works of art that can be seen at the Library including “Alphabet Chair”, “Pages of Knowledge” and “Togetherness”.
- **Budget Breakdown**
 - **Artist budget: \$75,000**
 - **Administrative and site modification needs contingency: \$10,000**



Details about the Evaluation Committee and RFQ Results

- An evaluation committee of 11 people was formed to review artist submissions
 - Arts Advisory Board members: Sarah Hicks, Michael Gortz, Christi Martin
 - Library Board members: Jennifer Marvel, Kay Stephenson, Raquel Maloney
 - City Staff: Carolyn Booker, Kelly Brouillard, Renee Kirchner, Shannon Fernandez, Denise Helbing
 - Additional Staff: Chris Presley also joined the committee for the artist interviews to ask questions from a facilities standpoint.
- Call for Artists
 - A call was published on the highly used website CaFE.org (Call for Entry)
 - A record 241 applications were received for this call
- Finalist selection
 - Based on their experience and application materials, three finalists were selected and invited to create a proposal for this project.
 - Peter Hite (Houston, Texas)
 - Area C Projects, Erik Carlson and Erica Carpenter (Providence, Rhode Island)
 - Michele Gutlove (Natick, Massachusetts)
 - The evaluation committee's choice of artist was brought to the Arts Advisory Board at its Feb. 20 meeting. **The Arts Advisory Board reviewed the proposals and voted to recommend that the City Council move forward to contract with the artist selected by the evaluation committee.**

Recommend Finalist

The evaluation committee and the Arts Advisory Board are recommending the proposal from **Michele Gutlove** be approved for this commission.

About Michele:

Michele Gutlove is a glass artist and architect. She has been working with glass for over twenty years. In her own words: “I discovered glass fusing and my watercolor painting morphed into three-dimensional transparent sculptures... Molten glass, fluidly dynamic then solidly permanent, allows layering of textures with a full spectrum palette, as opaque as obsidian, as transparent as air, or as reflective as a lake.”

Michele also has a personal belief that libraries are fundamental for a free society. She has stated, “in the age of ubiquitous digital information, the physical library is most relevant as a compelling destination in the community.”

Michele has over 50 public art commissions installed across the United States and abroad in Canada and Finland and on in progress in Iceland.

Notable Works:



“Internal Energy”
Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado



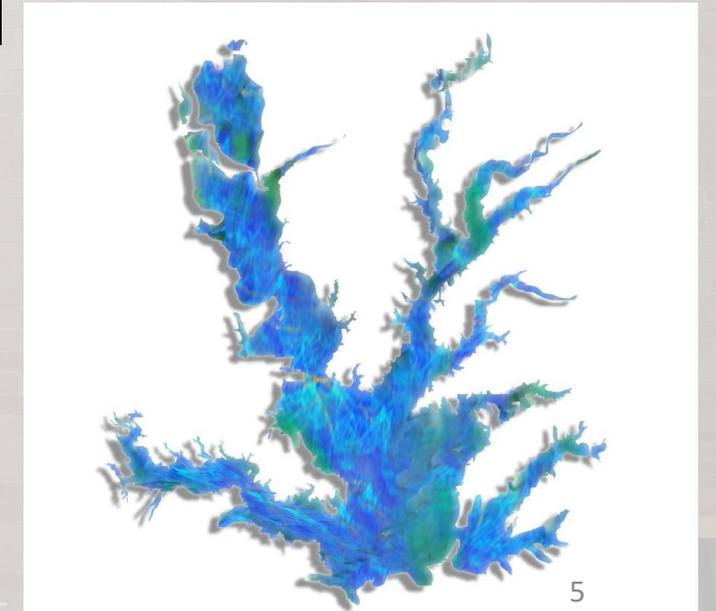
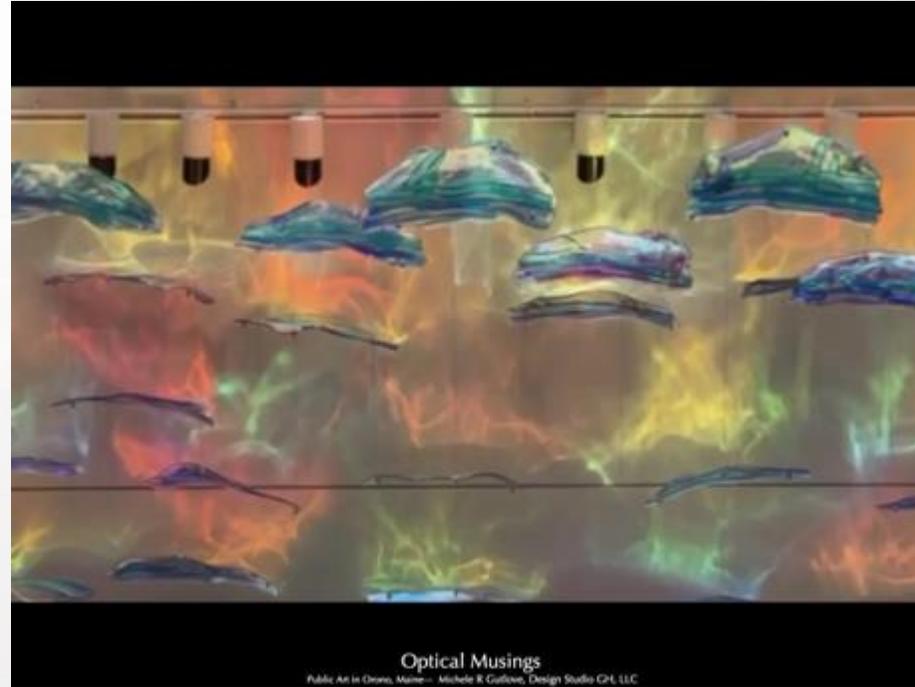
“Water of Life”
Maker's Mark Distillery, Loretto, KY



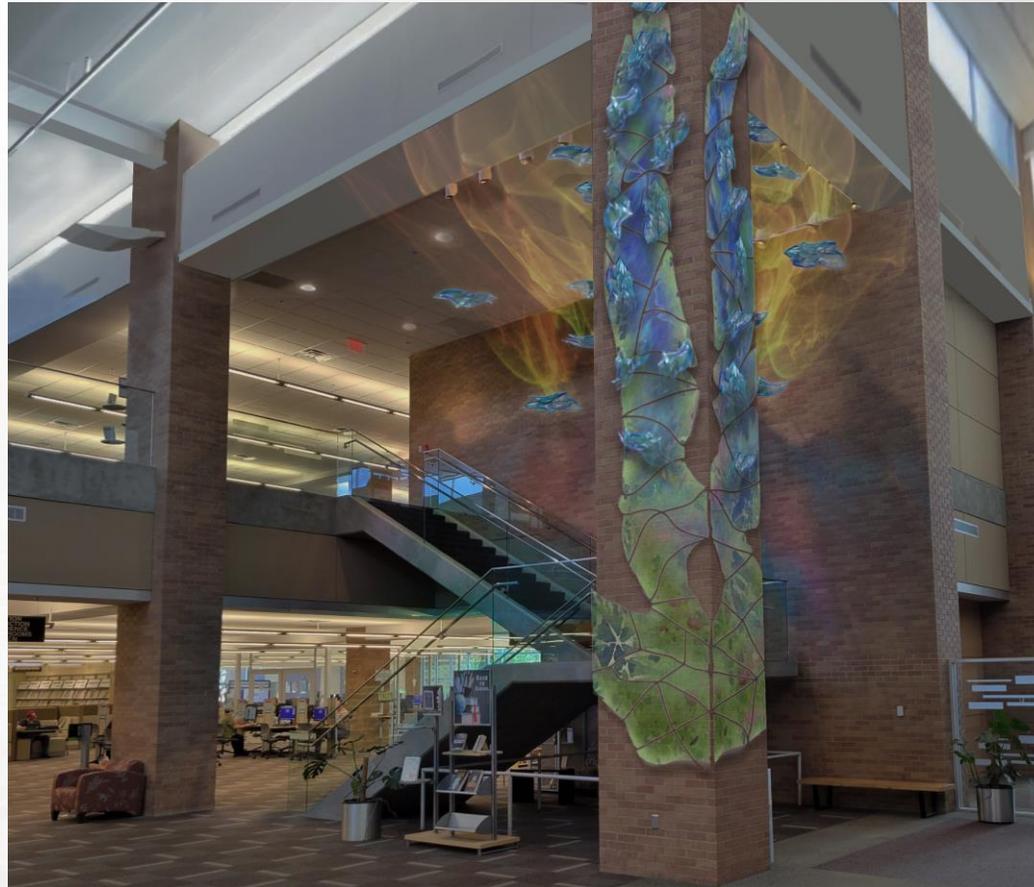
“Full Bloom”
Ennis Welcome Center, Ennis, TX

Specialty Glass and Inspiration

- Michele has developed a specialty glaze for glass that has unique reflective properties.
- Michele's proposal is greatly inspired by Lewisville Lake and the native prairies and flora of the region.
- The proposed work will be an impressionistic interpretation of the shape of the lake, grounded by the prairie lands.
- The installation will also include suspended pieces of glass that represent water flowing off the column, but could also be interpreted as air.



Images from Michele's proposal our project.



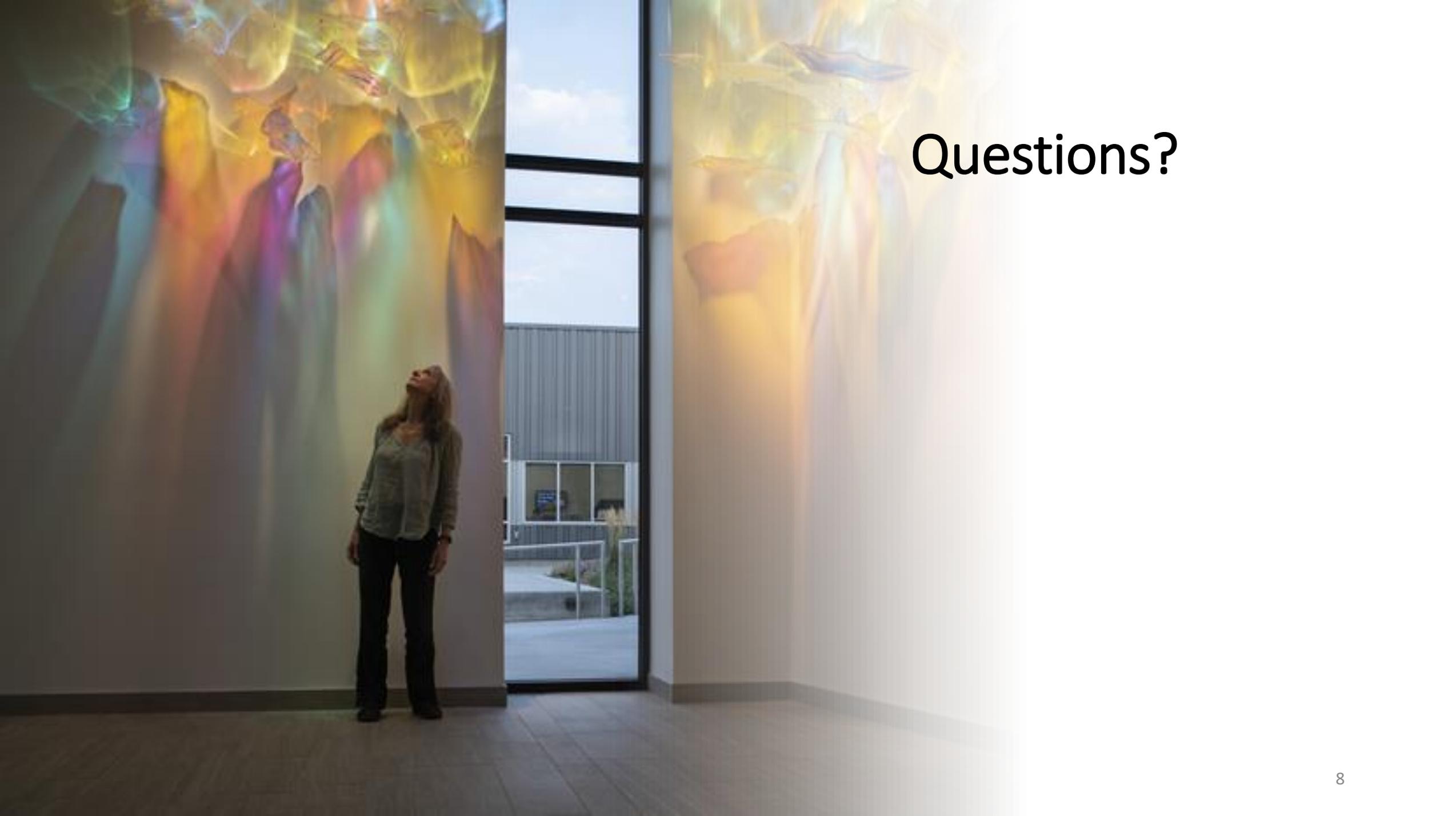
Satellite Installation

Michele often includes a small satellite installation with her larger commissions to extend the experience with the art and offer something unexpected elsewhere in the facility.

She is considering this wall on level 2 of the Library for ours.

She will also provide one extra piece of glass to keep at the reference desk for Library patrons to be able to touch and hold.



A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a grey cardigan and dark pants, stands in a modern interior space, looking up at a large, vibrant, abstract digital projection on the wall. The projection features colorful, flowing, organic shapes in shades of yellow, orange, purple, and blue. The room has a light-colored wooden floor and a large window in the background that looks out onto a building and a sky with clouds. The overall atmosphere is one of awe and contemplation.

Questions?