



March 13, 2024

Mark Smith
Hemphill Smith Art Foundation
1202 W Wayne St
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Dear Mark:

On behalf of the West Central Neighborhood Association (WCNA) and our Board of Directors, I would like to extend our enthusiastic support for your proposed public sculpture honoring the history of the arts and artists in West Central. As you know, a big part of our existence is for the preservation of our neighborhood's historic assets and we agree that our art history is indeed a treasure that is worthy of commemorating.

While we understand that the details of this project are still preliminary, we also support the proposed gateway location (within the triangle bordered by West Jefferson, Garden and Swinney Park Place) and the artist's current design concept and scale. We are also supportive of the addition of a West Central sign that could also serve functionally to hide the lights for the sculpture. Please understand that we are generally supportive of this entire project and not necessarily wedded to any of these specific details, recognizing they may need to change. This said we would appreciate being reapproached if any material changes are required.

Thank you for taking on this significant and transformative project and please let me/us know if there are additional ways we can be helpful in making it a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Sauer".

Joel Sauer
President, Board of Directors
(260) 433-3672