NORTH CAROLINA ZOO

Art
IN THE PARK

North Carolina Zoo
Making Connections to Nature

The North Carolina Zoo’s art collection magnifies nature: its beauty and complexity. Zoo art evokes emotions: It inspires people to care about and preserve the natural world.

The Zoo’s collection calls out to everyone. It incorporates diverse media and broadcasts layered messages that break through cultural barriers and reach across generations. Different styles, different artists and different forms invite visitors to embark on unique journeys of personal discovery and exploration.

These artists’ works tantalize visitors’ senses—moving them with colors, shapes, sounds, movements and textures. Works spring up around the Park, all aligned to awaken curiosity, challenge perceptions and evoke new ideas about nature’s unyielding beauty and unending variety.

The works emulate nature’s diversity. They emerge as smooth bronzes, recorded stories, textured ceramics, colorful paintings, lighthearted sketches, complex murals and lively music. Together they complement one another, revealing nature’s secrets to gently expose and explain the bonds that link human survival to the living organisms that clean and sustain the air, the water and the earth we all need to survive.
The Elephant Group (1998)
Peter Woytuk
Bronze
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

The Zoo’s largest sculpture greets visitors at the main entrance. Designed to signify arrival and generate feelings of excitement and anticipation, this arrangement of life-sized elephant sculptures creates an environment where the negative space and the relationship between pieces is as important as the individual sculptures themselves. Distilled into stylized forms, the sculpture results in a rhythmic interplay of concave and convex masses.

Spalanzani’s Generator (2006)
Pete Beeman
Painted Steel, Solar Panel and Bicycles
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

The artist was able to marry a strong visual aesthetic, a participatory, kinetic function and two alternative power sources in Spalanzani’s Generator. The theme of alternative energy is expressed through the motion of two giant “arms,” powered by a solar panel and people peddling three bicycles. The sculpture’s link to “green” technology and the sustainable use of resources supports the Zoo’s conservation mission. The name of the sculpture comes from a 19th century opera, the Tales of Hoffman, in which a mad scientist named Spalanzani dupes the hero into falling in love with a robot woman.

The Green Dragonfly (2011)
Mike Durham
Recycled Materials
Made possible through a gift to the NC Zoo Society by Pamela Potter and De Potter

Set in a pond designed to filter oil and water run-off from the parking lots, The Green Dragonfly reflects the Zoo’s commitment to protect its green spaces.

Sum of the Parts (1998)
Dempsey Calhoun
Painted Steel and Fiberglass
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

Sum of the Parts celebrates the diversity of life on earth. Most of the 20 cubes in Sum are reminiscent of a child’s colorful alphabet blocks, but three are slightly removed from the rest. Two represent endangered species and the third symbolizes species that are already extinct.
LOCATION: North America: Cypress Swamp through Marsh

5  Catamount  (2002)
Bart Walter
Bronze
Sponsored by the James C. Raulston Estate
Catamount is another name for a puma or cougar — a large, long-tailed, unspotted, tawny colored cat. The eastern cougar was known to have lived in North Carolina and 20 other eastern states from Maine to South Carolina and from Tennessee to Michigan.

6  Stalking Little Blue Heron  (2005)
David H. Turner
Bronze
Sponsored by Watsco, Inc. in honor of Jeff Files
This sculpture is an accurate depiction of the way the little blue heron moves while hunting for food in a watery habitat. This small bird is found mostly in the southeastern United States in swamps, estuaries, rivers, ponds and lakes. Habitat loss and changes in local water systems are the most serious threats to this animal.

7  Preening Heron  (2005)
David H. Turner
Bronze
Sponsored by Watsco, Inc. in honor of Jeff Files

8  Billy Goats Gruff  (2012)
Bob Coffee
Bronze
Made possible through the NC Zoo Society
Three Billy Goats Gruff is inspired by a Norwegian fairy tale. Look closely and you’ll find the troll under the bridge.

9  Cattail Gate  (1998)
Jim Gallucci
Steel and Brass
Sponsored by Donald Morrison as a living memorial to his wife, Cynthia D. Morrison

“We must save the poetry that swims in creeks and nests on mountain cliffs and leaps from jungle vines. Our greatest legacy will be to pass along that living, breathing poetry to future generations.”
—Michael Beadle
10 **Zoological Egg Rest (1995)**

Horace L. Farlowe  
Georgia Marble  
Made possible through the NC “Art Works for State Buildings” Program

The egg, the essential symbol for life, is the form on which this graceful marble sculpture is based. The large smooth, elegant eggs have a strong visual impact and tactile quality. Children often sit on them or lay across them. After all, it’s not often one can hug a turtle egg.

11 **Murmuration (2013)**

Mike Roig  
Stainless Steel & Recycled Steel  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

*Murmuration* is a kinetic sculpture that suggests natural phenomena like the movement of wind and the flight of starlings.

12 **Lisa’s Dragonfly (2011)**

Mike Durham  
Recycled Materials  
Made possible through a gift to the NC Zoo Society by De Potter, in memory of Lisa Cassidy, a member of the Zoo Horticulture Staff.

**LOCATION: North America: Rocky Coast**

13 **Bald Eagle with Salmon (1998)**

David H. Turner  
Bronze  
Sponsored by the Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina

14 **Arctic Turns (2003)**

Rufus Seder  
Lenticular Glass Tiles  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

Made of glass tiles, *Arctic Turns* features nine murals with images that appear to move as the viewer walks by them. The murals depict a variety of animal life within marine environments. They also illustrate ways in which people have historically been connected to the world’s oceans and hint at how human activities have affected ocean health. Oil rigs, a fishing trawler and Eskimo hunters are placed in the various scenes of the murals.
15 Little Sea Dog (2015)  
Chris Gabriel  
Bronze  
This sculpture was made possible through a gift to the NC Zoo Society from Bob and Bonnie Meeker.

16 Polar Bear (2013)  
Chris Gabriel  
Bronze  
This sculpture was made possible through a gift to the NC Zoo Society in memory of Thomas W. Young by his loving wife, Frances.

17 Arctic Fox (1999)  
J. Tucker Bailey  
Bronze  
Sponsored by Muriel J. Fox in memory of her husband, William Howard Fox.

LOCATION: North America:  
Kidzone and Garden Friends Playground

18 Hummingbird Garden (1996)  
Jim Gallucci  
Painted Steel  
Sponsored by Emily B. Ettinger in memory of her husband, Richard E. Ettinger.

19 Follow the Pollen Path (2002)  
De Potter  
Glazed Ceramic Tiles  
Sponsored by First National Bank & Trust Company and Zoo Walk 2001

This tile mural, situated at the entrance to the Garden Friends playground, ties into the playground’s theme of beneficial insects in the garden. The “pollen path” is the route taken by honey bees when they fly out from their hive to forage for nectar and pollen. In their search for food, the bees pollinate the blooms that they visit. Orchards, farm crops, our home gardens, and most flowering plants depend upon honey bees and many other insects for pollination.
LOCATION: North America: Streamside through Black Bear

20 River Frolic (2001)
Carl Regutti
Bronze
Dedicated to Jefferson D. Bulla, II M.D. by Lisa and Billy Pennington, Jeff and Toni Bulla and Ross Bulla

North American otters are fast, agile swimmers propelling themselves through the water by kicking webbed rear feet and moving their bodies from side to side, like a snake. Even though they can see underwater they have whiskers that help them locate prey when the water is murky. Their diet consists mainly of non-game fish, crayfish, insects and small mammals. In this graceful sculpture the artist captures a “dance” of two otters as they go after a fish.

21 Streamlines (2004)
Stacy Levy
Asphalt, Paint, Glass, Incised Granite Discs
Made possible by a grant from the NC Arts Council to the Zoo’s Visiting Artist Program

As the flow of water is interrupted by the bends in a creek or rocks in a channel, it is twisted and curled into beautiful scrolling spirals called streamlines. This artwork diagrams the hydric flow which would be present if this path were a stream. The small medallions inset into the path represent the variety of micro-organisms found in a healthy stream.

Cynthia Mitchell
Story, Recording & Book
Made possible through the NC Zoo’s Visiting Artist Program

Travel to the ocean and the shores of Ocracoke Island. There Hallie and her father meet up with three singing sandpipers and a very unexpected visitor. Taking our cue from Hallie — there’s no telling what wonders, mysteries and surprises we can meet up with when we pay attention to the world around us!
LOCATION: North America: Prairie through Honey Bee

23  **Black Dog (2001)**

Donna Dobberfuhl  
Bronze  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

“When I start a sculpture such as this I always research my subject thoroughly, finding out about the essence of the species, the physiology and ... the folklore. When reviewing the history of the bison and the early attempts at conservation, I found the story of one most interesting animal, ‘Black Dog,’ from all descriptions one of the largest bulls documented. He became my focus. The bronze sculpture of Black Dog is the manifestation of my vision of a great historical figure. Conservation efforts have saved the bison and I hope that the image that I have captured in bronze brings a smile and a sense of ownership to this magnificent creature of the plains.”

24  **Uwharrie Vision (2003)**

Herb Parker  
Concrete, Steel, Soil and Plants  
Sponsored by the family and friends of Wescott Moser

A distant view of Harvey’s Ridge can be seen from the top of Uwharrie Vision, an earth works installation so well blended into the native landscape that it appears to be a natural outcropping.

25  **Bear and Shaman (2012)**

Jonathan Kingdon  
Bronze  
Gift of the Family of Stephen A. Wainwright in Memory of Ruth Palmer Wainwright

*Bear & Shaman* symbolizes the uneasy juxtaposition of wilderness and people. The bear represents America’s vast spaces and the shaman alludes to humanity. Her tambourine standing for the protective role of technology. The surprise on their faces hints at the uncertainties facing man and beast, nature and civilization, as they try to adapt to each other.
26 **Stone that Stands in an Empty Sky** (1997) Roger P. Halligan
Steel and Concrete
Made possible through the NC Zoo’s Visiting Artist Program

The standing stone is a monument to the flocks of thousands of Carolina parakeets that once swooped throughout North Carolina in the spring and festooned the tree tops with vibrant color. It is a memorial to a now extinct species.

27 **Sonoran Snake** (1993) Warren Mather & Nancy Selvage
Ceramic Tiles
Sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Anderson

Into the body of the rattlesnake is a continuously modeled terrain of rocks, plants and animals. From the tip of the tail to the distinctive triangular head of the western diamondback, desert animals roam by day and by night.

28 **Piedmont Totem** (2012)
Montgomery Community College Ceramics Class
Ceramics

Thrown and modeled to represent flora and fauna native to the Zoo site, the ceramic rings (each a complete artwork) embody the interdependence found in every aspect of nature. Organisms that promote decay (the centipedes, fungi, beetles) and things underwater (fish, tadpoles, water plants) are on the bottom. In the next layer the ground dwelling animals and plants can be seen (box turtle, beaver, trout lily, black snake, wild ginger, skunk and deer). Higher up on the totem are the butterflies, squirrels, oak leaves and acorns. A raccoon peeps out of a hole in a tree, bats hang among the sugar maple and muscadine vines. In the highest branches a woodpecker can be discovered along with a great horned owl, a red-tailed hawk, and finally at the top a bald eagle soars.

The Piedmont Totem sculpture engages visitors, especially children, by offering a variety of native animals and plants they might see in their own back yards. Children may hunt for animals and plants they already know, learn more about those they don’t and gain a better understanding of the subtle and layered web of life.
Linda Dixon & Drew Krouse
Ceramic Tiles
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker, Winn Dixie, the J. Richard & Sybel F. Hayworth Foundation, the NC Arts Council, the Ronald McDonald House Charities-International and N.C. Chapter, Acme-McCrary and Sapona Foundation

In *Junction Springs* the artists have woven a beautiful tapestry of diverse and interconnected living things, incorporating flora and fauna from the North Carolina mountains, piedmont and coast. The overarching theme is water, a natural resource and a basic requirement for life. The mural depicts the movement of water from a mountain spring towards a river basin and finally into the sea. Rain clouds in the distance remind us that water falls, is absorbed into the earth or flows in rivers and creeks, evaporates, forms clouds and falls again, in an endless cycle.

30 **Passages to the Continents (1999)**
Arlene Slavin
Powder-Coated Steel
Sponsored by the Carolinas Chapter of Safari Club International

Intended to function as “gateways” into the Zoo’s North America and Africa regions from either side of the Junction Plaza, these sculptures incorporate animal and plant imagery representative of the rich biodiversity of each continent.

31 **The Bird Garden (1996)**
Jim Hirschfield & Sonya Ishii
Painted Steel
Donated to the NC Zoo by the artists

The theme of this elegant and provocative suite of seven sculptures is species loss. They are subtle and somber reminders of the profound impact of human actions. The birds include the Huia of North Island, New Zealand, last seen in 1907, the Laughing Owl of New Zealand, the Spectacled Cormorant, last seen in 1850, Martha, the last Passenger Pigeon seen in the US in 1914, the Great Auk of the Isle of Puffin, the Dodo and the Pink Headed Duck, last seen in 1945.
LOCATION: Africa: Forest Edge

32 Lioness & Cubs (1997)  
William & David Turner  
Bronze  
Anonymous sponsorship

The Lioness and Cubs sculpture presents a simple lesson about animal behavior, the transfer of skills from mother to young. One cub is learning to hunt from its mother; the two in the background are learning about hunting and team work through play. The lioness is accessible, offering our young visitors a chance for a close encounter and their parents a photo op.

33 Chimpanzee Troupe (2002)  
Bart Walter  
Bronze  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

These sculptures represent a group of six male and female chimpanzees of various ages and illustrates individual behaviors and group interactions. The animal sculptures are not intended to take the place of the living animals but to provide children access to good representations of animals that show scale, anatomy and natural behaviors.

34 Bush Babies Series  
J. Tucker Bailey  
Bronze  
Sponsored by the J. Richard and Sybel F. Hayworth Foundation

36 Renewal (2001)  
J. Tucker Bailey  
Bronze  
Sponsored by Klaussner Furniture Industries, Inc. in memory of Michael Carlisle.

This family of giraffes is placed at view 1 of the Forest Edge overlook so that live giraffes may be seen simultaneously while viewing the sculpture. This piece serves as a memorial to a young boy whose favorite animal was the giraffe.
Several small animal art works function to help visitors with sight impairments. By touching these detailed, realistic sculptures a person might be able to “see” an animal’s overall form and texture, as well as details such as the shape of the head, the length of the legs and curve of the neck.

LOCATION: Africa: Watani Grasslands Reserve

The Zoo’s animal sculptures are not intended to take the place of living animals but to provide insight and to illustrate scale, anatomy, gestures, interactions or natural behaviors. White Rhino is one of the most popular animal sculptures in the Park because of its accessibility to children.

Predator, prey and scavenger maintain a close relationship on the African grasslands. Cheetahs often use rock outcrops to search vast expanses of land for prey. Scavenging birds like lappet-faced vultures are the “cleaning crew,” feeding on kills left behind by predators. On the grasslands, no resource is wasted.

Accessibility and interaction with a sculpture create paths to a greater appreciation of the form, feel and function.
39  **Mbashiri (2006)**

William Rankin  
Bronze  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

In this piece the artist depicts a cheetah, nature’s fastest land mammal, motionless on a rock overlooking an African savanna. He describes the sculpture as a metaphor for “the condition that we find ourselves in today—as the cheetah is endangered through habitat loss and over specialization—we too are at risk for these and other reasons of our own making. Mbashiri, in Swahili, means prophet or fortune teller.”

40  **Elephants (1999)**

J. Tucker Bailey  
Bronze  
Made possible by a gift to the North Carolina Zoological Society in memory of David Wayne Holt

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41  **Nature’s Recyclers (2007)**

Chris Gabriel  
Bronze  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

Dung beetles recycle the waste that larger grassland animals leave behind. Some species roll animal dung into balls that are placed into burrows as food for larvae. This scavenging activity adds nutrients to the soil and helps reduce the presence of other insects.

42  **Ant Bear (2007)**

Chris Gabriel  
Bronze  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

Sometimes called the African ant bear, aardvarks feed upon ants and termites. A keen sense of smell locates ground-dwelling insects, while powerful claws dig into ant and termite mounds. Long snouts and sticky tongues allow aardvarks to collect food from deep in the ground. Abandoned aardvark dens provide shelter for other grassland animals. The artist captured the gesture and the strength of the aardvark in this sculpture.
43 Ganesia (2007)
Donna Dobberfuhl
Bronze
Sponsored by Ross Bulla and Shad Spencer in honor of Caleb Ross Spencer

The nature of our surroundings can influence our attitudes, temperament and state of mind. The form and placement of a piece of sculpture can elicit a response of pleasure and confidence and bring out, especially within a child, a feeling of empathy and caring—creating those connections to the natural world so important to the development of future environmental stewards. A carefully modeled sculpture like this baby elephant can enable our visitors to investigate the scale, anatomy and characteristic gestures of animals to which they can’t get very close.

44 Agama Lizard (2007)
Chris Gabriel
Bronze
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

This is a life size sculpture of the red-headed, long-tailed agama lizard, adapted to live on cliffs and kopje’s in the grasslands of Africa. The agama lizard feeds on termites, beetles, ants and other insects. Low on the food chain itself, it is eaten by birds such as the bateleur eagle and other small predators like the ball python on the other side of this rock.

45 Ball Python (2007)
Chris Gabriel
Bronze
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker

Africa’s grasslands are home to many types of animals, including numerous reptile species. The ball python is a ground dwelling, non-venomous snake that curls into a tight “ball” when stressed.

LOCATION:
Africa: Entrance & Akiba Market

Chip Holton
Acrylic Mural
Made possible through the NC Zoo Society

The Zoo’s Akiba Market incorporates art and invites interactivity. All imagery is tied to the animals, the unique habitats and to the natural resources of Africa.
Hong Lee  
Steel  
Made possible through the State Repair and Renovation fund  
This set of gates at the entry point to the Zoo’s Africa Region represents African forests and grasslands. Animals and plants from both kinds of habitats can be found within the gates.

48 **Hippo Pod (2005)**  
Meg White  
Indiana Limestone  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker  
These limestone sculptures feature a family of four life-size hippopotamuses and depict behaviors associated with hippos, such as basking and infant care. Hippos are closely bonded with their young, females don’t let them wander far because of the danger of crocodiles. Sitting at the edge of the Africa bridge lake, these sculptures are a draw for kids who are amazed at their size and love to climb and sit on them.

49 **A Bridge to Africa (2001)**  
Jim Hirschfield & Sonya Ishii  
Mixed Media  
Sponsored by Bob and Bonnie Meeker  
Collectively, the bridge art elements are indicative of a journey to Africa, where the landscape is extraordinary. The canoes; water carrier, proverbs and pots; and *Ola, the Water Bearer* story, symbolize the importance of water to life in Africa.

50 **Ola the Water Bearer**  
Barbara Tazewell
Art in the Park  •  NCZoo.org

Zoo & North America Entrance
1. The Elephant Group  Peter Woytuk
2. Spalanzani’s Generator  Pete Beeman
3. The Green Dragonfly  Mike Durham
4. Sum of the Parts  Dempsey Calhoun

North America: Cypress Swamp through Marsh
5. Catamount  Bart Walter
6. Stalking Blue Heron  William H. Turner
7. Preening Heron  William H. Turner
8. Billy Goats Gruff  Bob Coffee
9. Cattail Gate  Jim Gallucci
10. Zoological Egg Rest  Horace Farlowe
11. Murmuration  Mike Roig
12. Lisa’s Dragonfly  Mike Durham

North America: Rocky Coast
13. Bald Eagle with Salmon  David H. Turner
14. Arctic Turms  Rufus Seder
15. Little Sea Dog  Chris Gabriel
16. Polar Bear  Chris Gabriel
17. Arctic Fox  J. Tucker Bailey

North America: Kidzone through Garden Friends Playground
18. Hummingbird Garden  Jim Gallucci
19. Follow the Pollen Path  De Potter, NC Zoo Graphic Designer

North America: Streamside through Black Bear
20. River Frolic  Carl Regutti
21. Streamlines  Stacy Levy

North America: Prairie to Honey Bee
23. Black Dog  Donna Dobberfuhl
24. Uwharrie Vision  Herb Parker
25. Bear and Shaman  Jonathan Kingdon
26. Stone that Stands in an Empty Sky
27. Sonoran Snake  Roger P. Halligan
28. Piedmont Totem  Warren Mather & Nancy Selvage

Junction Plaza:
29. Junction Springs  Montgomery Community College Ceramics Class
30. Passages to Continents  Linda Dixon & Drew Krouse

A  (at Zoo Entrance)
B  (located at Solar Pointe Picnic Shelter)

Art IN THE PARK
Self-Guided Tour
Africa: Forest Aviary through Forest Edge
31. The Bird Garden  Jim Hirschfield & Sonya Ishii
32. Lioness & Cubs  William & David Turner
33. Chimpanzee Troupe  Bart Walter
34. Bushbabies Series  J. Tucker Bailey
35. Renewal  J. Tucker Bailey
36. Giraffes  J. Tucker Bailey

Africa: Watani Grasslands Reserve
37. White Rhino  Johnpaul Harris
38. The Critics  Bart Walter
39. Mbahirí  William Rankin, NC Zoo Exhibit Designer
40. Elephants  J. Tucker Bailey
41. Nature’s Recyclers  Chris Gabriel
42. Ant Bear  Chris Gabriel
43. Ganesia  Donna Dobberfuhl
44. Agama Lizard  Chris Gabriel
45. Ball Python  Chris Gabriel

Africa: Entrance & Akiba Market
46. African Savannah  Chip Holton
47. African Gates  Hong Lee
48. Hippo Pod  Meg White
49. A Bridge to Africa  Jim Hirschfield and Sonya Ishii
50. Ola, The Water Bearer  Barbara Tazewell

Paintings:
Found in Stedman Education Center and Akiba Market Ranger Station
(See following page for descriptions)

A1 Ancestral Forest  Jonathan Kingdon
A2 Sonoran Desert  Jonathan Kingdon
B3 French Beans  Benjamin Offie-Nyako
B4 Morning Chores  Benjamin Offie-Nyako
Jonathan Kingdon
Acrylic on Board

The artist describes *Ancestral Forest* as symbolizing the forest as “Past and Parent” and as “Treasury for the Future.” The forest is provider of traditional resources, of history and legend and is a source of national pride. People, animals and plants were not just inhabitants of the forest, they were the forest. They were governed by the forest, found medicines and wild foods in the forest and their homes were cut from the forest. The ancestors sang their legends and found their symbols in forest animals. And today new knowledge about the forest will help contribute to the prosperity of their progeny.

A2 *Sonoran Desert* (1997)
Jonathan Kingdon
Acrylic on Board
On loan from artist

A companion piece to *Ancestral Forest*, *Sonoran Desert* features animals and plants whose unique adaptations allow them to thrive in a place where water is scarce.

B3 *French Beans* (2000)
Benjamin Offei-Nyako
Oil on Canvas
Made possible through the NC Zoo Society

B4 *Morning Chore* (1999)
Benjamin Offei-Nyako
Oil on Canvas
Made possible through the NC Zoo Society