

# Memorandum



**Date:** September 10, 2024

**To:** Chair and Members  
Art in Public Places Trust

**From:** Marialaura Leslie, Director  
Department of Cultural Affairs

**Subject:** Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-52 / Philip Stewart / Professional Artist Services Agreement for Repair and Restoration Services

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## **Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-52**

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH FUTURE SCULPTURE, LLC (LEAD CONSULTANT PHILIP STEWART, KENNETH SNELSON'S ESTATE DESIGNEE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,000.00 FOR REPAIR AND RESTORATION SERVICES OF THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COLLECTION ARTWORK *DOUBLE CITY BOOTS* BY KENNETH SNELSON LOCATED AT THE MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE WOLFSON CAMPUS (FROM ART IN PUBLIC PLACES REPAIR AND RESTORATION FUNDS).

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve a Professional Artist Services Agreement Contract in substantially the form attached with Future Sculpture, LLC (lead consultant Philip Stewart, Kenneth Snelson's Estate Designee) in the amount of \$54,000.00 for repair and restoration services of the Art in Public Places Collection Artwork *Double City Boots* by Kenneth Snelson located at the Miami-Dade College Wolfson Campus in Downtown Miami.

### **Background**

In 1986, the Art in Public Places Trust received a generous donation from the Lannan Foundation of (12) twelve 20th-century sculptures by prominent American artists. A few years later, in 1993, a loan agreement was approved between the Trust and the Board of Trustees for the Miami-Dade Community College for the immediate siting of (8) eight of the sculptures on the grounds of the Miami-Dade Community College Wolfson Campus. The agreement stated that the works on loan would remain the property of Miami-Dade Art in Public Places and that costs associated with the initial placement, installation, transportation of the sculptures, and regular maintenance and cleaning, would be the college's responsibility. The agreement also states that costs associated with the restoration, repair, and conservation of these sculptures would be the responsibility of the Miami-Dade Art in Public Places Trust.

Since the summer of 2023, APP staff has been working with the staff at Miami Dade College to coordinate the repair, restoration, and the potential relocation of one of these works, *Double City Boots*, by American contemporary sculptor Kenneth Snelson. The sculpture, currently sited in a covered breezeway in Building 2 of the Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus, has sustained visible corrosion damage that compromises its structural integrity and poses a safety concern to the public traversing through this busy area in the building. APP staff performed an in-person assessment to verify the artwork's condition and found the work to be unstable due to a loss of tension, misalignment of tubes, and broken cable connections. While exercising our due diligence to inform the artist of the artwork's

condition, APP staff learned of the passing of Mr. Snelson and the designation of fellow sculptor Philip Stewart of Pinwheel Corp., as the recognized technical authority for the maintenance, preservation, conservation, and restoration of all Kenneth Snelson sculptures. After working for 23 years directly under Mr. Snelson's guidance in the servicing of his sculptures, Mr. Stewart has extensive knowledge and hands-on expertise in dealing with the complex restoration needs of the artist's works.

On November 14, 2023, through approval of Trust Resolution No. 23-73, the Trust authorized a proposal contract in the amount of \$3,500.00 to Future Sculpture, LLC (lead artist consultant Philip Stewart) to conduct a thorough assessment, condition report, comprehensive repair plan, and hire an independent appraiser to perform a valuation of the collection artwork. In February 2024, the consultant along with APP and college staff met on site to perform a full inspection of the sculpture and to scout alternative site-appropriate outdoor locations within the campus for relocation of the work.

The consultant's in-depth assessment confirms the heavily corroded condition of the cable connections, cable body, and hub side and recommends installing stainless steel screens to cap the top openings of the tubes to avoid future clogging of the drains in the ground connections. The proposal for the repair and restoration of the artwork includes all new components to anchor the work to the ground, 47 new cable assemblies, as well as a thorough cleaning of the hubs and cable threads, replacement of up to three hubs, reassembly of the network, polishing the stainless-steel tubes, installation of the sculpture in its final location, and its inclusive of all travel and transportation related costs. In addition to the conservation proposal, Mr. Stewart secured the services of an independent local fine art appraiser to determine the fair market value of the work. The appraisal by Ms. Chris Ingalls (Accredited Appraiser), completed using the comparable sales approach confirms the artwork's significant market value of \$200,000.00 based on the sale of two artworks similar in scale and complexity.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-52 authorizing a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Future Sculpture, LLC (lead consultant Philip Stewart, Kenneth Snelson's Estate Designee) in the amount of \$54,000.00 for repair and restoration services of the Art in Public Places Collection Artwork *Double City Boots* by Kenneth Snelson located at the Miami-Dade College Wolfson Campus in Downtown Miami.