

# ArtWorks

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## ArtWorks Installs New Sculptural Bicycle Rack at the Duke Energy Convention Center



Casagrande perches next to the completed art rack.

CINCINNATI – On Tuesday, December 20, ArtWorks installed a sculptural bicycle rack at the Duke Energy Convention Center, on the northwest corner of Elm Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Downtown Cincinnati. A part of ArtWorks’ Queen City Art Rack project, the new functional work of art was designed by local artist Edward Casagrande.

Queen City Art Racks is an ongoing initiative to bring artist-designed, functional bike racks to public spaces throughout Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. In the process it engages community stakeholders, employs professional artists, and strengthens the region’s transportation options by creating awareness around bicycle parking. Since its launch in the spring of 2010, Queen City Art Racks has created 14 opportunities for artists. The new art rack at the Convention Center is the third to be installed, with more to come in 2012.

This newest art rack is titled *Humanity Outpost Marker*, and is an extension of Casagrande’s “Humanity Machine Project”. The Humanity Machine is a sculptural exploration of the collision between humanity, technology, and earth. The art rack design features three bicycles hoisting a mosaic, bohemian sail and can support 6-12 bicycles at a time, offering a parking place for bicyclists visiting the Convention Center or other sites in Downtown Cincinnati. “I see [bicyclists] as humanity on the move,” says Casagrande. “The flags are a pageantry – celebrating their respite.”

The project was sponsored by the Duke Energy Convention Center which has previously partnered with ArtWorks on two projects: an indoor mural and an indoor glass art installation, both on display inside the Convention Center.

Says Tamara Harkavy, the Director of ArtWorks: “The exciting and unique thing about the art racks is that they serve both a creative and practical function and the *Humanity Outpost Marker* helps to make the Convention Center and Downtown more accessible to those who like to travel by bicycle. With three art racks in the landscape, ArtWorks is really starting to add artistic benefits for cyclists!”

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Those interested in designing or sponsoring an art rack should visit [ArtWorksCincinnati.org/artracks/](http://ArtWorksCincinnati.org/artracks/) .

**About ArtWorks:** Founded in 1996, ArtWorks is a non-profit arts organization that connects artists of all ages with opportunities in the arts through inspiring apprenticeships, community partnerships, and public art. ArtWorks hires teen and professional artists to make innovative public art to enrich the Greater Cincinnati community. To date, ArtWorks Summer Program has provided job opportunities for more than 2,500 teen Apprentice Artists and 500 professional artists. ArtWorks is funded by the City of Cincinnati, Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr./US Bank Foundation, ArtsWave, and the Ohio Arts Council. To learn more, visit [ArtWorksCincinnati.org](http://ArtWorksCincinnati.org).

**About Global Spectrum:** Global Spectrum is the fastest growing firm in the public assembly facility management field with more than 75 facilities throughout the United States and Canada, including the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati. The Philadelphia-based company is part of one of the world's largest sports and entertainment companies, Comcast-Spectacor. For more information, visit <http://www.global-spectrum.com/> or call 215-389-9587.