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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Announcing the New ArtAround Roswell and Bike Rack Project Digital Tour**

Roswell Arts Fund (RAF) is delighted to share “Along the Way Virtual Tour” an exciting new way to explore and enjoy the ArtAround Roswell Sculptures and Artistic Bike Racks featured in the city of Roswell’s permanent collection. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, RAF was awarded a generous Virtual Arts Initiative Grant from the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to help support the development of a free digital tour of the collection. This new virtual experience includes unique perspectives, such as drone and 3D imagery, and allows visitors to explore from anywhere increasing access to those unable to visit in person.

After conducting an exhaustive search for a local filmmaker, RAF selected Joel Silverman of Skychief Media to direct the project.

*“As a Fulton County native, I’ve always had favorite haunts in Roswell, but filming these sculptures was like a scavenger hunt leading me to Roswell’s most interesting and peaceful corners. Looking down at the view from a drone camera, you can appreciate how Roswell is truly a city in a forest. From just 400 feet in the air, the historic downtown and the Chattahoochee are visible from every point in Roswell. And the opportunity to direct footage from sculptors David Landis and Craig McKay was a special treat.”*

*-Joel Silverman, SkyChief Media*

The “Along the Way” tour highlights the 10 permanent ArtAround sculptures and 6 artistic Bike Racks cultivated by RAF in partnership with the City of Roswell. The permanent pieces were made possible by previous generous donations made by Carl Black Buick GMC Roswell, The Hagan Family Foundation, James Hetherington, Northwood Foundation, Randall-Paulson Architects, Roswell Arts Fund, Roswell Downtown Development Authority, Roswell Magazine’s 10U40 Class of 2019 and Roswell Wine Festival .

In addition to the permanent pieces the digital tour features an original poem celebrating the City of Roswell and its public art written and performed by local writer, poet and emcee Adán Bean. Mr Bean’s incredible talent is not new to Roswell. In 2018, he was featured in the Roswell Roots slam poetry contest. Included below is the full transcript of the commissioned poem featured in the tour, “*Along the Way*”.

**The digital tour and shorter companion pieces spotlighting the individual sculptures will be available on RAF’s website: [www.RoswellArtsFund.org/VirtualTour](http://www.RoswellArtsFund.org/VirtualTour) . We will work with local organizations, schools, and businesses to share this valuable tool for our residents, tourists and ultimately magnify Roswell as a destination for the arts!**



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## **Along the Way by Adán Bean**

*Commissioned by Roswell Arts Fund for the ArtAround Roswell and Bike Rack Project digital tour*

Along the way...we found a river,  
Where people gather, no matter how they differ  
Bonds are formed and life is richer  
Where hope floats, by water wheels  
a sense of belonging, a place to heal,  
Where art has a way to make us feel...  
Along the way...we found our roots  
Where the soil we stand on tells the truth  
A complicated past and hopeful future produce  
The fruit of our labor  
Which binds us as neighbors  
The elegant beauty and balance of humanity and nature  
Along the way...  
Along the way...we found a home  
Modern spirit and southern soul  
A place that makes us feel whole  
Where our day to day lives intersect  
Where you and I might connect  
Different as can be, but that's the beauty I suspect...  
That along the way...we found a community  
A place that looks out for you and me  
That offers options and opportunity  
It's Riverwalk Trail and waterfalls  
Route 400 and Barrington Hall  
Building bridges instead of walls, this vibrant place is a home for all,  
Cotton mills and Vickery Creek  
strangers we have yet to greet  
It's the reality that lies beneath our feet and the ideals we strive to meet  
And along the way...we found our voice  
If you listen closely, it drowns out the noise,  
It's in the art we make, we come together and rejoice  
And listen and learn, we support and survive,  
We teach, we mature, we progress, we try  
We love, we live, we grow, we thrive,  
We struggle and succeed,  
We follow and we lead,  
Whenever we can, we meet each other's needs,  
We sculpt, we enhance  
We sing and we dance,  
We design and we speak  
With what we create from our hands  
And along the way...  
Along the way, we didn't just find assistance and help,  
Along the way, we didn't discover riches and wealth  
Along the way, it wasn't just prosperity and good health,  
Along the way, together...we found ourselves.  
-Adán Bean



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***Roswell Arts Fund is funded in part by the City of Roswell, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, and the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta.***

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### **About Roswell Arts Fund**

Roswell Arts Fund, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the designated arts agency for the City of Roswell. Roswell Arts Fund was founded to strengthen the scope of the arts in the city and to champion the ability of diverse cultural experiences to excite the imagination, strengthen public places, and encourage conversation. Through each of our initiatives, Roswell Arts Fund aims to IGNITE creative conversations, INSPIRE residents, visitors, and businesses to create, support, and become engaged in the arts and IMPACT the economy by making Roswell a cultural destination.

Learn more [www.RoswellArtsFund.org](http://www.RoswellArtsFund.org)

Virtual Tour link: [www.RoswellArtsFund.org/VirtualTour](http://www.RoswellArtsFund.org/VirtualTour)

Website: [www.roswellartsfund.org](http://www.roswellartsfund.org)  
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