Art has the power to provoke thought, stimulate the imagination, offer beauty, spark conversation and even stir the soul. The University of Washington Tacoma is fortunate to have a growing collection of public art for the entire community to contemplate and enjoy. Many of the pieces within UW Tacoma’s public art collection were commissioned by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program in collaboration with the University of Washington. We invite you to tour the art on UW Tacoma’s campus using this guide.
INSTALLATIONS ON DISPLAY

Grouped by building; buildings listed alphabetically.

BIRMINGHAM BLOCK (BB)

1 Japanese Calligraphy
   (c. 1930)
   ARTIST: unknown
   LOCATION: Birmingham Block hallway
   Discovered at the site of the former Japanese Language School on Tacoma Avenue.

2 Commerce Street Series
   (1994)
   ARTIST: Larry Dahl
   LOCATION: Birmingham Block hallway
   Photographs. Gift of Action for Art.

3 Ash-Wednesday Series
   (1991)
   ARTIST: M. Lucia Enriquez
   LOCATION: Birmingham Block hallway
   Ink and watercolor on paper. Gift of Asian Pacific Islanders' Student Association.

4 The Shape of Haiti
   (2010)
   ARTIST: Pam Kelley
   LOCATION: Birmingham Block hallway

BIRMINGHAM HAY & SEED (BHS)

5 bipARTisan
   (2010)
   ARTISTS: Pam Keeley, Deborah Lawrence, Linda Davidson, Stevie Webb, Kevin Wildermuth and Ellen Ito
   LOCATION: BHS Student Lounge (behind BHS 106)
   Armed with paint and differing points of view, six artists conducted a live experiment in getting along. The result was bipARTisan. The six artists have very different styles, but they drew common inspiration from “the way our government is so polarized it can’t work together.” Their project was a lesson in whether people can work together. The idea was to see what emerges as the artists repeatedly return to the mural, one or two at a time, and paint on the wall. Or re-paint it. Artists could paint over what’s been previously painted; there was no plan for what they ended up with.

CHERRY PARKES

6 Black Gold
   (2004)
   ARTIST: Don Fels
   LOCATION: Cherry Parkes, 1st floor atrium
   This six-part artwork illustrates the progression of the Indian pepper (the original “black gold”) trade that funded the Renaissance in Western Europe. Each part uses Indian cinema billboard painting to convey the complicated, and often brutal, history of European colonialism. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission's Art in Public Places Program.

7 Comparative Morphologies
   (2004)
   ARTIST: Stephanie Syjuco
   LOCATION: Cherry Parkes, 2nd & 3rd floors
   Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission's Art in Public Places program.

DOUGAN BUILDING

8 Journey Into the Night
   (1996)
   ARTIST: Morse Clary
   LOCATION: Outside Dougan 101
   This is one of a series of works that investigate the “book” as a sculptural metaphor. Clary taught visual arts at the college level for 32 years, and developed a great love and respect for books as embodiments and conveyors of ideas, stories, information and other potentials. These books carry certain meanings beyond words that can only be conveyed via the visual and tactile elements that are the language of the visual arts. Carved wood. Gift of Action for Art.
Garretson Woodruff Pratt (GWP)

9 Parapet Relay (1995)
ARTIST: Buster Simpson
LOCATION: Roofline of GWP Building
Buster Simpson’s Parapet Relay is hard to miss. A massive pair of signs along the south and east rooflines of Garretson Woodruff Pratt give different messages depending on the viewer’s angle. A series of cast iron and bronze sidewalk plaques mark the optimum viewpoint for each message. GWP was originally built as a warehouse and signs advertising those services were prominently painted on almost every available surface of the building, including one that read “Storage.” This installation pays homage to the history of the building and the neighborhood with language that reflects both the historic and contemporary uses of the space. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program.

10 Free Speech Zone Pallet (1997)
ARTIST: Buster Simpson
LOCATION: GWP interior stairs to Pacific Avenue
Presented by the artist to the Associated Students of UW Tacoma. Donated to the University by the Class of 2001.

11 African Music (1983)
ARTIST: Richard Mock
LOCATION: GWP atrium
Brooklyn painter and printmaker Richard Mock’s linocuts (often satirical political cartoons) have been printed around the world in everything from the New York Times to anarchist publications. Donated to the University by Bill and Bobby Street.

12 Hombre en Llamas (Man in Flames) (1998)
ARTIST: Isabel de Obladia
LOCATION: GWP third floor hallway
Glass sculpture. Donated by Lee Gillenwater in honor of his father, Kelso Gillenwater.

13 Tabula Saragdina (1997)
ARTIST: Dennis Evans
LOCATION: GWP 312
Mixed media sculpture.

14 A Place for Trestles: Remembrance and Foretelling (1991)
ARTISTS: Alexander Brodsky and Ilya Utkin
LOCATION: GWP 320 (Lucien Room)
Wrestling with the question of reinvigorating its waterfront and downtown, Tacoma invited Russian architects Brodsky and Utkin, in town as part of the 1990 Goodwill Games cultural exchange, to submit plans for a pedestrian walkway intended to connect downtown to the waterfront. Looking at the sketch you could be forgiven for thinking that their vision of a 12th Street bridge is a fanciful piece of make-believe architecture. Brodsky and Utkin spent much of their careers as “paper architects,” designing and sketching out fantastical, fairy-tale buildings never intended to be built.

15 Overlook (Oregon Coast) (2004)
Sailby (2007)
Neighbors (Moclips, Wash.) (2010)
Dunes (Florence, Ore.) (2002)
ARTIST: Mark Reader
LOCATION: GWP 320 (Lucien Room)
For more about the Mark Reader collection, see 29.

16 Gourds (2007)
Hope (2010)
ARTIST: Mark Reader
LOCATION: GWP, 3rd floor hallway
For more about the Mark Reader collection, see 30.

17 Peninsula (Alaska) (2007)
Shoreline (Alaska) (2007)
Sunset Beach: Moclips (Washington) (2009)
Fishmonger (Seattle) (2008)
Sleeping Beauties (Seattle) (2008)
ARTIST: Mark Reader
LOCATION: GWP, 3rd floor terrace
For more about the Mark Reader collection, see 29.
OUTDOOR

Ghost Signs (2012)
Writer: Kristen Kendle
LOCATION: Joy Building, near ground floor entrance
All over campus are vintage signs, whose faded lettering recall the days when the UW Tacoma campus was a bustling downtown warehouse district. The most obvious signs can be found inside Philip Hall and the Dougan Building, and outside Mattress Factory. A display board showing many examples around Tacoma and giving some history of this once-common commercial art can be found inside the Pacific Avenue entrance to the Joy Building. Photography and essay by Kristen Kendle. Display donated by Korsmo Construction.

Terminus (2002)
ARTIST: Brian Goldbloom
LOCATION: North end of Keystone Building
Goldbloom’s granite sculpture, Terminus, references Tacoma’s place as the Western terminus of the Northern Pacific Railway. The sculpture lies in a small courtyard just off the tracks that once served the Northern Pacific railroad. It is constructed of several hinged pieces of rough white granite and one piece carved to look like an open suitcase. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program.

Maru (2014)
ARTIST: Gerard Tsutakawa
LOCATION: North end of Prairie Line Trail outside Joy Building
The nine-foot-tall bronze sculpture, Maru, was created by renowned Northwest artist Gerard Tsutakawa in collaboration with Kenichi Nakano, principal of Nakano Associates, landscape architects. The sculpture honors the Japanese Language School that once stood at Tacoma Avenue and 19th Street and the Japanese-American community that thrived in this neighborhood prior to World War II. The complete story is told on plaques next to the sculpture. Funded by private donations, many from alumni of the school.

Peace Pole (2010)
LOCATION: Outside southwest entrance to Keystone Building
Peace Poles, a tradition begun in 1955 by Japanese philosopher Masahisa Goi, have been planted around the world. The handmade monument reads, “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in four languages—English, Japanese, Spanish and Lushootseed, the language of the Salish tribe. Donated by Japan Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

All The Rivers In The World (2019)
ARTIST: Vaughn Bell
LOCATION: Along Prairie Line Trail below Tioga Building
Before the railroad cut the “prairie line” across this stretch of land, other lines coursed this way: the paths of creeks, streams and rivers leading to Puget Sound, footpaths and game trails. The Puyallup River, our local river, is the original line and Bell’s painted aluminum sculpture reflects on the Puyallup as a lifeline and connector. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program.

SCIENCE BUILDING

The Four Elements (2003)
ARTIST: Steve Gardner
LOCATION: Science Building, main stairwell, all floors
The Four Elements is a four-panel terracotta sculpture by artist Steve Gardner. Each sculpture depicts a personification of one of the four elements—earth, air, water and fire. Many of the images and patterns within the sculptures draw on cultural traditions from around the world, a reference to the universality of scientific thought and discovery. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program.

SNOQUALMIE BUILDING

Chinook Red Chandelier (1999)
ARTIST: Dale Chihuly
LOCATION: Snoqualmie, 2nd floor
Internationally-renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly—born in Tacoma and a graduate of UW in Seattle—presented Chinook Red Chandelier to the University to celebrate the permanent campus. The piece is 19 feet tall, weighs 1,500 pounds and consists of more than 900 individual pieces that were assembled on site. It is even more striking at night when it is lit up like a glowing beacon.

Le Visage de la Paix (The Face of Peace) (1953)
ARTIST: Pablo Picasso
LOCATION: 2nd floor near Reading Room.
In 1944, after the liberation of Paris from the Nazis, Pablo Picasso became an active participant in the Peace Movement. In 1949, the Paris World Peace Conference adopted a dove created by Picasso as the official symbol of the various peace movements. Picasso would repeat this image, which he titled Le Visage de la Paix (The Face of Peace), with variations for several occasions. This particular drawing was created in 1953, when Picasso offered it as a gift to Hiroshima, Japan, marking an anniversary of the atom bomb blast that destroyed much of the city. Felt pen on fabric. Donated by Journey of Repentance.

Strangers / Community Series (2013)
ARTIST: Dawoud Bey
LOCATION: Snoqualmie Reading Room
Photography
Dawoud Bey’s paired portraits bring people from different parts of the Tacoma community together, revealing superficial similarities and differences while expressing the connections that make a community work. This body of work, created for the University, is part of an ongoing project exploring and identifying diverse communities. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program.
27 Vertical Penduling (1999)
ARTISTS: Dan Senn and Patty Quake
LOCATION: WCG atrium, 2nd floor
A “kinetic sound installation,” this combination of aluminum, steel and wood make an abstract symphony when activated. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program. The sound component of this piece is currently out of order.

28 Hysteric (2012)
ARTIST: Taylor Pierce (IAS ’12)
LOCATION: WCG 4th floor
This mixed media collage was created as part of a final project for the course Gender, Space and Culture during Winter Quarter 2012. Hysteric explores connections between movements in space, confinement, and the diagnosis and treatment of hysteria in the 19th century. The piece draws on themes and images in the novellas The Awakening by Kate Chopin and The Yellow Wallpaper by Charlotte Perkins-Gilman, Mixed media. Donated by the artist.

29 Salmon of the Pacific Northwest (2001)
ARTIST: Christina Anderson
LOCATION: WCG 424

30 Connecticut (2007)
Plowed Field, Oaxaca, Mexico (2012)
Walking the Oregon Coast (2005)
Autumn Harvest (2006)
Flowering Plant (2011)
Skyscape (2002)
Bamboo Shelter (2005)
Wildlife Preserve (Kirkland, Wash.) (2008)

31 Flare Up (2007)
House (2007)
Intersection (2007)
ARTIST: James Lavadour
LOCATION: Philip Hall, Columbia Bank Lobby
This trio of paintings is inspired by the mountains and plains of the Columbia River Plateau in eastern Oregon, where Lavadour makes his home on the Umatilla Reservation. Lavadour is founder of the Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts. Funded by the Washington State Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program.

32 Gray’s Elegy (1990)
ARTIST: Deborah Oropallo
LOCATION: Judith Graubard Kopp Gallery, Philip Hall, main floor
Although originally trained in painting, Oropallo’s work incorporates mixed media including photomontage, computer editing, print technique and paint. Her composite works utilize layered visual sources to produce a dense interplay between time, place, form and content. Donated to the University by Bill and Bobby Street.

33 Market Sunday (Pisac, Peru) (2011)
Sacred Valley (Moray, Peru) (2011)
The Blue Sash (Cuzco, Peru) (2011)
Approaching Moray (Peru) (2011)
Fallow Field (Central Valley, Oaxaca, Mexico) (2006)
Orchard (Yagul, Oaxaca) (c. 2006)
Cabo San Lucas (Mexico) (2008)
Manta (Pisac, Peru) (2011)
ARTIST: Mark Reader
LOCATION: Philip Hall
For more about the Mark Reader collection, see 30.
**UNIVERSITY Y STUDENT CENTER**

**In Unity There’s Strength** (2015)
**ARTIST:** Chelsea O’Sullivan  
**LOCATION:** Lounge near main entrance

For more than 60 years before the University Y was built, this site was the home of the longshore union hall (ILWU). Chelsea O’Sullivan’s mural honors that legacy.

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**BONUS:** Technically not art, giant “W” logos are present on all three UW campuses. Unlike the Ws on the Seattle and Bothell campuses, which are made of bronze, the Tacoma logo is painted steel with a shadowed edge. At eight feet tall—not counting the base—it is also the tallest W of the three. Installed at the top of the main stairs at 19th and Jefferson in July 2015, it weighs more than two tons. The installation was funded by private donations.