2022 marked an exciting year of change, achievement and growth for Franconia Sculpture Park. It also marked a bittersweet farewell as I departed Franconia for California. It’s been wonderful to remain involved with the organization through the Search Committee as we look for the next visionary leader to continue the positive momentum we’ve built with the current team over the past three years. I look forward to my continued involvement as a donor, advisor, and as Franconia continues to host and expand upon the first 4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial.

We found numerous opportunities to underscore Franconia’s core mission at the intersection of art and ecology. We invited artists, writers and performers to respond to the annual theme of “Land Art & Temporality” as we launched 4Ground in collaboration with dozens of artists and organizations across North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. This massive undertaking allowed visitors to learn more about the people that collectively share this place through dozens of site-specific land art installations, performances, and community-based projects. We received new and significant support to fully-fund this far-reaching initiative from Arts Midwest, the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation Fund at the St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation, Blandin Foundation, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation, and the Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation. The overwhelming support and positive feedback from funders, artists, and audiences alike demonstrated the need for continued critical conversations around land, climate change, and activism - particularly through the unique lens of contemporary art that Franconia is able to provide. Projects such as Martena Myles’ Dakota Spirit Walk can still be experienced year-round via AR at Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, and serve as a catalyst for more significant projects being developed with Native artists and partners, and 4Ground was written about extensively in a feature article in January 2023 Landscape Architecture Magazine.

Franconia dedicated more efforts to building lasting community collaborations and partnerships, such as our work with Interact Center in St. Paul, an important organization serving artists with developmental disabilities. The opening reception in September was celebrated by a beautiful dance piece performed by artists via the Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota.

While still in its infancy, Franconia’s Writers Residency has proven to be one of our most important and impactful programs. Franconia fields more applications to this residency than any other program we offer, demonstrating that Franconia is serving a real need in the writers community to offer space, funding, and support for writers as they develop new works in rural Minnesota.

All of this work could not have been done without the dedicated and talented staff and board at Franconia Sculpture Park, whom I already miss daily. But most of all, I’m going to miss the supportive, creative community of Minnesota and bringing quality, contemporary art experiences to rural spaces. I look forward to seeing Franconia continue to develop, evolve, and grow over the coming years. Thank you for welcoming me to your community and your continued support of Franconia!

Ginger Shulick Porcella
Former Executive Director and Chief Curator of Franconia Sculpture Park
4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial Festival was conceived in 2022 by former Franconia Sculpture Park Executive Director & Chief Curator, Ginger Porcella, in collaboration with more than 20+ community partners including tribal organizations, art museums, and land conservationists.

4Ground is a far-reaching initiative spanning four states and tribal lands of the Upper Midwest and was designed to raise awareness around important land and water issues affecting the region while celebrating the art, land and history of the rural Midwest and boosting tourism of the region through suggested road trips to experience site-specific land art.

“The 4Ground Biennial dramatically expands the Middle American Land Art tradition in a way that is exciting, diverse and inclusive for audiences and partners.”

– Andrew Maus, Director & CEO, Plains Art Museum

16 participating host sites across four states

30+ fully-funded participating artists

$300K+ raised in government, foundation, and individual donations
In 2022, Franconia Sculpture Park hosted:

“Acorn” by Emerging Artist-in-Residence Bruna D’Alessandro

“Support Structure” by Emerging Artist-in-Residence Kaitlin West

“While at Franconia I was blessed with the gift of time. I was able to think, contemplate and explore my new environment, the grounds, the art, the history, the native plants and the people of the area; and spend the rest of my time working!”

–Alexander Bustamante
Mid-Career Fellow 2022

Artist Residency Programs

Upon the launch of 4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial, Franconia Sculpture Park focused events and programming on the theme of Land Art and Temporality. The majority of works commissioned at the park in 2022 highlighted the intersection of art and ecology through specific and ephemeral installations. Franconia encouraged its artists and audiences to collaborate with nature and ask the question, “How can we be better stewards and caretakers of this land we share?”

In 2022, Franconia Sculpture Park hosted:

5 visiting artists

8 mid-career fellows

15 emerging artists

2 artist families

7 writers-in-residence
Education

Education is a key tenet of Franconia Sculpture Park’s model as a community-oriented contemporary arts nonprofit. In 2022, Franconia demonstrated its commitment to providing accessible education programs by hosting free art-making workshops during events, affordable tours, and Youth Summer Camps.

Franconia supported 24% of children attending Youth Summer Camps in 2022 with financial assistance. Summer Camps were taught by Emerging Artists-in-Residence as part of their work share.

3 weeks of Youth Summer Camps

6 educational workshops after Farmers Markets

10 weeks of free Creature Camp art-making

55 tours given to both youth and adults

Creature Camp with Brett Douglas Hunter

Thanks to a grant from the East Central Regional Arts Council, Franconia Sculpture Park hosted artist Brett Douglas Hunter in April of 2022. Hunter created a colorful modern folk art sculpture for the park titled “Grief Truck.” To celebrate his work with the public, Franconia hosted 10 weeks of Creature Camp, an artist-designed workshop where visitors created their own sculptural creatures based on Hunter’s work.
Exhibitions

In 2022, Franconia Sculpture Park curated and hosted five unique exhibitions: four in the Mardag Gallery and one in the Driscoll Education Center. Hosting exhibitions in the Franconia Commons building allows Franconia to display works that might not be suited for outdoor environments.

**Tornado on the Map**

Franconia partnered with Interact Center for Visual and Performing Arts, a St. Paul studio that serves artists with developmental disabilities, to present **Tornado on the Map**, a three-person exhibition exploring ecology that featured the work of artists Daniel Metchnek, David Wright, and Matt Zimdars.

**Minnesota Art Explosion with Memorialize the Movement**

In October of 2022, Franconia Sculpture Park was proud to partner with Memorialize the Movement to present **Minnesota Art Explosion**, an exhibition and collaborative art experience that highlighted the work of Twin Cities artists who created murals following the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis in 2020.

The event featured free art-making workshops, performances by 3 musicians, a DJ, a healing practitioner, and closed with an exciting fireworks show.

*Collaborative mural facilitated by Crystal Sokuu*
Minnesota Art Explosion

Exhibition of selected murals from Memorialize the Movement displayed in the Driscoll Education Center
In 2022, Franconia saw a large jump in Total Income and Expenses as a result of being the lead organizer of 4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial. Thanks to Ginger Shulick Porcella, Franconia was able to raise more than $300,000 in grants to pay 30+ artists across four states for participation in this one-of-a-kind celebration of Land Art in the Upper Midwest.

**Franconia FY22 Finances**

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<tr>
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<th>2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contributed Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earned Revenue</td>
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![Image of a sculpture titled "The Contraption For A Council Of Seven" by Mid-Career Fellow Frederick Wright Jones]
Thank you to our 2022 Major Supportors, especially those who have made a sustaining contribution to Franconia Sculpture Park. Individual donations have a significant impact on the continued growth of Franconia, demonstrating the strong and lasting commitment our community has to supporting contemporary sculpture and the intersection of art and ecology in Minnesota.

If you would like to join our list of committed patrons to the arts, sponsor a program, or make a corporate or planned gift, please contact info@franconia.org or call (651)257-6668.

$50,000+
Andy Warhol Foundation
Blandin Foundation
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts

$25,000+
Arts Midwest
East Central Regional Arts Council
Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., Minnesota State Arts Board

$10,000+
Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts
Fred C & Katherine B Andersen

$5,000+
Gavia Trust

$1,000+
Arthur W. Kaemmer
Amy & Bill McKinney
Todd Bockley
Dorothy Golide & Ralph Schwartz
Nicholson Family Foundation
Renee Spillum
Weston Hoard
SCF Room Tax Committee
Kate & Stuart Nielsen
Nancy & Dick Nicholson
Nora O’Brien-Kaitfors
Maribeth & Erik Romslo
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Pleasant Valley Orchard

$250+
Alexander & Margot Rosenstein
Blind Art Materials
Carolyn Roby
Common Harvest Farm
Janet & Markus Keel
Jeffrey Martin
Jocelyn Hale & Glenn Miller
Kristin Seterdaht
Mary Volk
Meg Kosowski
Melyssa Cowles
MidWestOne Bank
Page Knudsen Cowles & John Cowles III
Paul Gleich
Ryan Folz & Jessica Jeney
St. Croix Chocolates
William Sippel
William Fletcher

$100+
AKASport
Alexis Polen
Christine Baemler
Cole Zrostlik & Nathan Deprey
David & Patricia Borchert
David Johnson
Deborah & Mark Kravik
Debra Swanson
Douglas McElrath
Gail Korb
Gloria Peterson & Jim McCarthy
Genie Newville
Greg and Jodie Gentle
Gregg Lind Jame Emison
Heidi & David Wetzel
Holly Bailey
Jamie Worthington
Jeanette Wittrock
Jennifer Marshall

$100+ cont.
Jenny Nellis
Jesse Okie
Joe Devore
Jo Zimmermann
Kelly O’Brien
Mark Keach
Meena Mangalvedhekar
Mightycause Corp
Nancy & Ronald Johnson
Plains Art Museum
Reed Liak
Robin & Paul Molina
Robinson Scott
Sharon Louden
Steve and Kaitlin Prusak
Teddy Gesell
Theresa Cadeau
Tim Feyma
Troy Kozma
United Way St. Croix Valley
Yvonne Snidarich

$50+
Amery Women's Club
Atom Robinson
Carole Southam
Carl Zepecki
Curtis Hoard
David Smith
Dawn Doering
Genie Newville
James Romslo
Jessica Asvaved
Kathleen Kelley
Lydia Morken
Michele & Bernard Drevnick
MN Nice Cream
Peter Staas
Rachel Frank
Ron Johnson
Teri Firkens
Vokal Photography

$10+
Andi Snax
Andrew Wolf
Angela Mallory
Barry Groebel
Brian Adashek
Brendan Bennett
Brendan Downes
Byron Richard
Carrie Johnson
Cathy Kelley
Christopher Green
Chris Wehe
Cindy Jacobson
Colton Anderson
Dane Peterson
Daniel Bergfalk
Dan Nyberg
David Broadwell
Donna & John Patterson
Donna Klingenberg
Dorothy Goldie
Eric Tell
Haley Rasmussen
Heather Autey
Heather Logelin
Jack Becker & Nancy Reynolds
Jacob Dubbs
Jaimie San Nicolas
James Robinson
Jason Erickson
Jeanne Molohon
Jennifer Scammahorn
Joel & Nell Anderson
John Persico
Josh Arrington
Joy Allizadeh
Joy Milhoan
Karrie Khattab
Ken Scott
Kristi Link
Kristin Naverud
Lara Homa
Laura Black
Laura Carroll
Lin Hipp
Linda Orsted

$10+ cont.
Lynn Recktenwald
Marci Franzen
Marge Alden
Marie Doering
Mark McCarville
Marla Klein
Mary Beth Arthaud
Mary Ellyn Johnson
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Miranda Bryan
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Sara Achtarz
Sara Baer
Stephen Maefsky
Susie Platt
Sarah Marie Baron
Shannon Timmer
Stephen Maefsky
Steven Lust
Tori Nonnemacher

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