

Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation & Des Moines Airport Authority Commissioning Public Art for the New Des Moines International Terminal

Des Moines, Iowa (January 3, 2024): The Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation and the Des Moines Airport Authority announce their collaboration to bring inspiring public art to the new airport terminal, slated to open in 2026. The \$445 million terminal will increase gate capacity by fifty percent, boosting central Iowa's economic development. Overseeing the artist selection and installation process, the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation has initiated a \$4 million-dollar fundraising effort, which began in late 2023.

"Following the successful collaboration that resulted in the Alice Aycock *LIFTOFF* sculpture in 2021, the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation is thrilled to work with the Des Moines Airport Authority on the public art installations that will serve as the first and last impressions of Iowa for millions of travelers a year," stated Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation Director, Alexa McCarthy, PhD.

The current terminal, built in 1948, is still in use today and hosts nearly 3 million travelers a year as the gateway to Iowa, America's Heartland. Through this new terminal project, the Des Moines International Airport will be poised to increase air service and accommodations enhancing the travel experience for all. The highly visible spaces in the new terminal provide the opportunity for expansive and engaging installations.

The selection process is underway for the interior artwork installations, with a committee of representatives from the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation, the Des Moines Airport Authority, and community stakeholders. At the end of this month, the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation will issue a call for artists / artist teams to create installations for an exterior site of the new terminal. This call is for artists who live and work in Iowa.

Once selections are made this summer, artists will coordinate with the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation and the Airport Authority to have the artworks in place when the new terminal opens. The artworks will be on permanent loan to the Des Moines Airport Authority from the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation, and the Airport Authority will be responsible for maintaining the art.

"Together, we embark on an inspiring journey to lift the new Des Moines International Airport terminal with \$4 million worth of captivating art, enriching the traveler experience and showcasing the vibrant spirit of our community and state," said Kevin Foley, Executive Director of the Des Moines Airport Authority. "We thank the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation and their donors for their support and investment in the future of the Des Moines International Airport."

About the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation

Established in 2004, The Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation is a non-profit organization, which recognizes that art belongs not just in galleries and museums, but also in streetscapes, parks, buildings and infrastructures of a thriving community. Dedicated to envisioning, developing, advancing and promoting public art projects, the Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation collaborates with local entities and artists to engage, inspire and enrich the lives of residents and visitors to the community. For more information visit:

<https://dsmpublicartfoundation.org>, or socialize with us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/dsmpublicartfoundation>, Twitter and Instagram at @DSMPublicArt.

About the Des Moines Airport Authority

The Des Moines Airport Authority is an independent entity that oversees the operations and maintenance of the Des Moines International Airport. The Airport Authority ensures the safety of the Airport and works to improve the quality of air service making air travel to and from Des Moines more convenient and pleasurable. For more information, visit www.flydsm.com and follow [@dsmairport](https://twitter.com/dsmairport) on Twitter and [DSM International Airport](https://www.facebook.com/DSMInternationalAirport) on Facebook.

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