



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**June 17, 2019**

***ᐃᓄᓄ (ĪNĪW) River Lot 11ᓄ Indigenous Art Park Honoured by  
Americans for the Arts***

Edmonton, Alberta, June 17, 2019—Edmonton’s Indigenous art park - ᐃᓄᓄ (ĪNĪW) River Lot 11ᓄ - is among 50 public art projects from around the world recognized by the Americans for the Arts [Public Art Network](#) *Year in Review* program. This is the only American program that specifically recognizes the most compelling public art. Chosen by public art experts, the roster of selected projects was unveiled at Americans for the Arts’ Annual Convention in Minneapolis on Friday. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> year that Americans for the Arts has recognized public art works. This is the fourth time a piece in the City of Edmonton’s Public Art Collection has received this honour.

ᐃᓄᓄ (ĪNĪW) River Lot 11ᓄ Indigenous Art Park is the result of more than six year of collaborative work between the Edmonton’s Indigenous communities, the City of Edmonton, and Edmonton Arts Council. Placed within the historic Queen Elizabeth Park, the six artworks, by contemporary Canadian Indigenous artists express the stories of “this place” – Edmonton’s river valley, which has been a gathering place for peoples of many nations for millennia.

“Projects like ᐃᓄᓄ(ĪNĪW) River Lot 11ᓄ are important signposts in our collective journey toward reconciliation,” says Sanjay Shahani, Executive Director of the Edmonton Arts Council. “Artists have always been in the vanguard of profound social change. These six artists have not only inscribed an indelible mark on our city’s landscape but also made a significant contribution to this conversation.”

“The best of public art can challenge, delight, educate, and illuminate. Most of all, public art creates a sense of civic vitality in the cities, towns, and communities we inhabit and visit,” said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. “As these Public Art Network *Year in Review* selections illustrate, public art has the power to enhance our lives on a scale that little else can. I congratulate the artists and commissioning groups for these community treasures, and I look forward to honoring more great works in the years to come.”

The projects selected for *Year in Review* can be viewed [on this page](#). Two independent public art experts—artist Seitu Jones of Saint Paul, Minnesota, and Aaron Ott, Curator of Public Art at Albright Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York—discussed the trends they uncovered while examining hundreds of submissions in selecting this year’s choices for the most exemplary, innovative permanent or temporary public art works created or debuted in 2018.

The complete presentation, which includes photos and descriptions of all 50 projects, will be available for purchase through [Americans for the Arts’ store](#).

***Americans for the Arts*** is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and



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*creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts.  
Additional information is available at [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).*

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*The Edmonton Arts Council is a non-profit society and charitable organization that supports and promotes the arts community in Edmonton. The EAC works to increase the profile and involvement of arts and culture in all aspects of our community life.*

For information about the EAC, please visit: [edmontonarts.ca](http://edmontonarts.ca)  
To visit the Public Art Collection, please visit: [edmontonpublicart.ca](http://edmontonpublicart.ca)

For more information, photos, or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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