

**Media Release
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**AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING PUBLIC ARTS PROJECTS FOR 2014
Edmonton's *Vaulted Willow* honoured today by Public Art Network Year in Review**

WASHINGTON, DC, June 11, 2015 - Americans for the Arts, the USA's leading non-profit organization for advancing the arts and arts education, honours 31 outstanding public arts projects created in 2014 through the Public Art Network (PAN) Year in Review program, the only national program that specifically recognizes the most compelling public art. The works were chosen from more than 300 entries across North America and were recognized today at Americans for the Arts' 2015 Annual Convention in Chicago.

Vaulted Willow by Marc Fornes & THEEVERYMANY celebrates art, architecture, and math. An "architectural folly," it evokes the decorative, non-practical structures that adorned the great estates of Europe in the 18th & 19th centuries. Structurally, it explores the concept of lightweight, self-supporting elements generated through computations of form and structure as well as descriptive geometry. From a distance its colours seem to meld seamlessly into one another. Up close, the surface is revealed as an intricate assembly of coloured structural shingles.

"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 honouring more great works in the years to come."

"*Vaulted Willow* was commissioned as part of the Borden Park Revitalization Plan, and has been embraced enthusiastically by Edmontonians from the moment it was installed," said Paul Moulton, Executive Director of the Edmonton Arts Council. "*Vaulted Willow's* inviting colours, shape, light and shadow-play have made the piece a highlight of Edmonton's public art collection."

The 2015 PAN Year in Review jurors were Peggy Kendellen, Public Art Manager, Regional Arts & Culture Council in Portland, Oregon; Laurie Jo Reynolds, Assistant Professor of Public Arts, Social Justice and Culture at the School of Art and Art History at the University of Illinois at Chicago; and Ernest C. Wong, Principal, site design group, ltd in Chicago. To see the 31 projects selected through Public Art Network Year in Review, click here: <http://bit.ly/1I3GLbz>. To see comments from the jury about *Vaulted Willow*, click here: <http://yegarts.tumblr.com/>

The Public Art Network (PAN), a program of Americans for the Arts, is designed to provide services to the diverse field of public art and to develop strategies and tools to improve communities through public art. The network's constituents are public art professionals, visual artists, design professionals, and communities and organizations planning public art projects and programs.

Americans for the Arts is the leading non-profit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C., and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at 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 more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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