

CULTURAL ARTS OF WACO

Presenting:
Waco Cultural Arts Fest,
Waco National Outdoor
Sculpture Exhibition,
Branding the Brazos -
Sculpture Project,
The Doris Miller
Memorial Project

>>>>>>>For Immediate Release<<<<<<<<

What: "STICKWORKS"

Where: Cameron, University Parks Drive, Waco

When: Installation Oct 3rd – Oct 23rd 2010

Additional Lectures:

Where: The Conference Center, McLennan
Community College, 4610 N 19th St., Waco, TX

When: Tuesday, October 5th 7:00 p.m.

Where: Hooper- Schaefer Fine Arts Center Rm. 149
Baylor University, University Parks Drive Waco, TX

When: Tuesday, October 19th 6:00 p.m.

STICKWORKS GALLERY RECEPTION

Where: The Croft Gallery,
712 Austin Ave., Waco TX

When: Friday, October 8th 6:00 p.m.

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A gift to the City of Waco by the Cameron family the Cameron Park celebrates its centennial this year with a series of celebrations and events in the park. The Waco National Sculpture Invitational, a program of Waco Cultural Arts Fest (WCAF) dba. Cultural Arts of Waco, received a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to bring internationally recognized sculptor, Patrick Dougherty, to Waco October 3rd 2010. Beginning October 4th Dougherty will combine his carpentry skills with his love for nature relating the project to primitive building techniques using tree saplings, possibly bamboo, or other local vines as construction material to pay homage to Cameron Park and the Centennial Celebrations for this magnificent inner city park.

During February of this year international sculptor, Patrick Dougherty paid a visit to Waco, Texas to search for raw materials for his installation at Cameron Park, Waco. Dougherty bent saplings and tree branches, discovered the vicious Mesquite thorns and finally with the help of the Waco Parks and Recreation Department found exactly what he was looking for in the wetlands; acres of willow saplings, normally the wetlands has a controlled burn of the willow, considered a 'pest' species in the wetlands. The willow branch's flexibility is essential to Dougherty's work because his forms employ each individual sticks tension. Each stick has an inherent way of joining, a different tension or spring in its shaft. When a stick is placed in the matrix of other sticks, it springs back and holds in place. Dougherty's affinity for trees as a source of material comes from a childhood spent wandering the forests around Southern Pines, North Carolina. He became fascinated with the natural "drawing" made by the many intersecting lines of the branches. When he took up sculpture as an adult, Dougherty was drawn to sticks as a plentiful and renewable and for him, inspiring resource. As he worked with the natural material, he realized that saplings have an inherent method of joining – that is, sticks entangle easily and create their own structural density. This property is a key to how he is able to work the material into gigantic forms.

Waco National Sculpture Invitational, a program of Waco Cultural Arts Fest (WCAF) dba., Cultural Arts of Waco gratefully acknowledges the City of Waco, Parks & Recreation Department, The Cameron Park Centennial, Specialty Property, LTD., the Greater Waco Council for the Arts, Valerie and Gordon Robinson, Wells Fargo, Baylor University, Department of Art, McLennan Community College and The Croft Gallery, 103.3 KWBU NPR, Grande Communications, KXXV Channel 25 for their generous matching support, and all the volunteers and students that will make this a gigantic event for all to experience and enjoy.