

About the Artist

Jes McMillan (Dayton, OH) has been creating mosaics for over twenty years. In 2015, she founded the Mosaic Institute of Greater Dayton, whose mission is to inspire, empower and unify the community through art. Recent projects include the commemorative sidewalk mosaics in Miamisburg, and projects with the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton and the Montgomery County Courts Probation. McMillan received degrees in Industrial Design and Applied Arts from Point Park University and The Art Institute of Pittsburgh. Learn more about her work by visiting her website <http://midayton.org>.



ArtLocal is an initiative of the City of Kettering's Cultural Arts division. Through Rosewood Arts Centre, which provides arts education opportunities, and CitySites, a percent for art program, ArtLocal is an artist-led, collaborative public art program that strives to reflect Kettering's unique neighborhoods.

CitySites is a percent for art program recognizing artistic excellence, accessibility to the arts for all people, and the positive impact creativity has on our community and quality of life in the City of Kettering. With over 25 artworks throughout Kettering, CitySites continues to enhance our environment, inspire our residents and celebrate our legacy as a premier city to call home.

Learn more about Kettering's CitySites public art programs at www.playkettering.org/citysites and ArtLocal at www.playkettering.org/artlocal.

BEE AMBITIOUS

JES MCMILLAN

Acknowledgements

Support for this project is made possible by CitySites, the Community Foundation for Kettering and the Ohio Arts Council. ArtLocal is implemented in partnership with Cities of Service (COS), a City of Kettering program dedicated to innovative ways to harness the power of volunteers and address critical city needs.

Special thanks to the Haverstick artist committee: Anna Breidenbach, Andy Dailey, Andrew Kraemer, Wil Samson, Tom Robillard and Mary Lou Randolph; Kettering's Cities of Service team and the Art in Public Places committees.

Our appreciation to the City of Kettering staff including: Chad Ingle, Todd Livesay, Tom Lockett, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts department, Mayor Donald Patterson and the Kettering City Council.

We are also thankful to the greater community for helping this project happen, including: David Zimmerman, Kim Haverstick, Rachael Foster, Amelia Petreman, Ileana Del Campo-Gray, and Haverstick residents Wil and Beverly Samson, Andrew and Megan Kraemer, Mike Hill, Carissa Hostetler, Judy Reitz, Ashley Alexander Morris, Stan Perry, Tamara and Christopher Ball, and Debbie Smith.

Let Your Hopes and Dreams Take Flight

Haverstick is a 1954 development of one and two-story Cape Cod houses across from the Kettering Business Park, which previously housed the Gentile Air Force Base and Defense Electronics Supply Center (DESC). Formerly farmland, Joseph and Bob Haverstick bought the land and developed it into affordable housing, using the ranch-style and stick built Cape Cod kit homes created by National Homes Corporation. Joseph and Bob were brothers and the owners of Haverstick Builders, with a portfolio of housing developments in Montgomery, Greene and Clark Counties. Within the Haverstick neighborhood, streets were named after family members including Kim Street, named after Joseph's son, who is currently the owner of Haverstick Builders, and Gay Street, named after a cousin.



In 2018, Mayor Patterson selected the Haverstick neighborhood of north central Kettering as the Cities of Service program area. This neighborhood, developed in the 1950s across from the current Kettering Business Park, sits between Forrer Boulevard, Wilmington Pike, Mendota Court and Smithville Road. Volunteers and city staff hosted a series of events in the summer and fall to celebrate the neighborhood, and Kettering's CitySites Public Art Program commissioned a permanent public artwork in conjunction with the Mayor's initiative.



CitySites selected Jes McMillan, founder of the Mosaic Institute of Greater Dayton. McMillan saw an opportunity to engage children in outdoor recreation through her art and address the lack of a public park within the neighborhood. With Haverstick residents, McMillan designed a series of permanent sidewalk games. Installed in the spring of 2019, the public artwork "Bee Ambitious" is a collaboration with Haverstick residents, Kettering families and school children. During the fall of 2018, and winter of 2019, McMillan worked with students from Beavertown Elementary and Kettering Middle School to create the mosaics, along with families and artists at several community mosaic days at Rosewood Arts Centre.



Locations

"Bee Ambitious" includes a broken beehive represented in a 29 foot mosaic hopscotch and game board on Mendota Court, with ten mosaic bees scattered along Tabor Avenue, Reardon Drive, Colton Drive, Gary Drive, Wilmington Pike, and Forrer Boulevard. The bees hold clues to a word scramble, with two to three letters found in their wings, and several more letters in the game board. In total, there are nine games that can be played in the artwork:

- Hopscotch by numbers
- Hopscotch by letters
- Advanced hopscotch
- Long jump
- Baby bee hop
- Word scramble
- Tic tac toe
- Checkers
- Hidden hearts



"I wanted to make the bees to be all different colors, to have some fun with diversity," McMillan stated. "They are all different and have different personalities... one has an open mouth, one is mad, the orange one is surprised, some have double stripes. In the hopscotch, the designs are fun and imaginative, just like these bees. I want the kids to love them."

