



## Tylur French

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## Education

2005 Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, MFA Sculpture

1997 Dan Yarbrough, 2-yr. Sculpture Apprenticeship, Santa Fe, New Mexico

1995 Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, Missouri, BFA Sculpture

## Selected Commissions Education

### 2023 **St. Jude Family Housing**

Multiple interior and exterior projects for a new, 450,000-sq-ft., housing facility

Outdoor steel and aluminum sculpture "Shades of Flight" (90'l x 47'w x 17'h); custom, stained glass, chapel window (170 sq. ft.); and 900-piece curated print and painting collection

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Domino's Village, Memphis, Tennessee

### **The Reading Silo**, City of Memphis and Urban Art Commission (UAC)

Laser-cut and welded stainless cylinder (16'h x 16'w), alkyd enamel, and night projection lighting  
Cordova Community Library, Cordova, Tennessee

### **Five Pillars of Freedom Veterans Memorial**, City of Corcoran

Five stainless steel figures (each 14'h), integrated pavilion, and animated LED light system  
Gateway Park, Corcoran, California

### **St Jude Family Commons School Facility**

Custom, mixed-media, wall art; suspended and freestanding sculpture; and sound-interactive/  
custom-fabricated play spaces and interiors for a new, 50,000-sq-ft., education center  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, World Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee

### 2022 **Pediatric Wall Relief Sculptures**

40 wall-relief sculptures ranging in size throughout patient rooms, hallways, and reception desk  
CNC carved high density foam, acrylic paint  
LeBonheur Pediatric Inpatient Ward, Jackson, Tennessee

### **Sculptural Boulders, Hospital Sculpture Garden**

Seven hand-built, large scale boulders (600 lbs. - 1,200 lbs. each)  
Carved EPS foam, rebar and proprietary concrete mixture  
LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee

### **Carnival Cruise Lines Kinetic Fish Sculpture**

Permanent installation on cruise liner entrance deck, sculpture moves with ship motion  
Stainless steel, carbon steel, vinyl and paint (6'h x 7'w x 6'd)  
Carnival Cruise Lines, Finland

2021 **Flame of Liberty 9/11 Memorial**, City of Los Gatos  
Stainless steel, cast bronze, tinted polycarbonate, and LED light system (13'h x 7'w x 7'd)  
Los Gatos Memorial Park, Los Gatos, California

**Intertwining**, collaboration with artist Yancy Villa, City of Memphis and UAC  
1,100 suspended acrylic elements with vinyl laminations (160'l x 60'w x 17'h)  
Memphis International Airport, Memphis, Tennessee

**Arc Parametric Wall Sculpture**, collaboration with artist Amanda Nalley  
Stainless Steel, Walnut and Programmable LED light system (80'h x 12'w x 12'd)  
St Jude's Advanced Research Center, Memphis, Tennessee

**Subterranean River Sequin Sculpture**, collaboration with artist Kong Wee Pang, UAC  
Off-set, mounted sequin panels (400'l x 16' high along two sides of the street)  
I-40 Highway Underpass at Downtown Memphis's Main Street, Memphis Tennessee

**Memphis Fire Department Sculpture and Relief**, City of Memphis  
Outdoor sculpture (11'h x 10'w x 12'd) and indoor 4" deep wall relief (10'h x 12'w)  
Steel, high density foam, cast bronze, gold and copper leaf, granite, limestone, and concrete  
Memphis Fire Department Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee

## 2020 **Wiseacre Art and Sculpture Series**

18 indoor and outdoor sculptures ranging in scale, hand-painted wall relief (3,500 sq. ft.), five mixed-media dioramas, and a large-scale animated LED sign (25'w x 30'l)  
Stainless steel, high density foam, programmable LED lighting, fiberglass, castable ABS plastic, acrylic paint, Dibond, turned wood, and resin  
Wiseacre Brewing Company, Memphis, Tennessee

### **Memphis Botanic Gardens Atrium Leaf Sculptures**

Six suspended, large-scale, stainless steel and pigmented acrylic leaves (35'l x 35'w x 24'h)  
Memphis Botanical Gardens, main lobby, Memphis, Tennessee

### **Hospitality Hub Signage and Sculptural Elements**

Completed signage and shade structure (exterior) and participatory dedication wall (interior); also provided design concept for potential, functional sculpture for building exterior and park  
Steel, paint, and LED lighting  
Hospitality Hub, Memphis, Tennessee

2019 **The Wanderer**, collaboration with artist Ben Butler, City of Memphis and UAC  
47'-tall suspended, acrylic sculpture representing Mississippi River history (15'w x 15'd)  
Renasant Convention Center, Memphis, Tennessee

**Memphis Bicentennial Sign**, Memphis River Parks Partnership  
Carbon steel, alkyd enamel, and concrete (10'h x 56'l x 6'd)  
Mud Island River Park, Memphis, Tennessee

2018 **The Sequin Forest Installation**

Sequin mosaic comprised of 1.3 million individual sequins, 14,000 sq. ft. of ground cover/synthetic river, and 1,000 kinetic, stainless steel plant sculptures; submitted to Guinness Book of World Records  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, World Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee

**LeBonheur Heart Sculpture Gate**

Two, large-scale heart sculptures (each 27'h x 50'w) located on the front lawn  
Carbon steel, 304 stainless steel, and LED lighting  
LeBonheur Outpatient Center, Jackson, Mississippi

2017 **Bentonville Bike Towers**, City of Bentonville

Four towers (each 18'h x 16'w) situated along extensive bike paths  
Concrete, steel, paint, and bicycles  
Bentonville, Arkansas

**Old Forest Portal**, Overton Park Conservancy, private donor

Large sculptural gate, wayfinding system, and bike rack leading into Overton Park's Old Forest Trails  
Steel, alkyd enamel, and concrete (29'h x 24'w x 17'd)  
Overton Park, Memphis, Tennessee

2016 **Cascading Grove Mobile and Mural**

Kinetic (HVAC-fueled), suspended sculpture made from steel and colored gels surrounded by complementing mural (each 5 stories tall)  
Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, main waiting area, Memphis, Tennessee

**Raised River Sculpture**, collaboration with artist Colin Kidder, City of Memphis and UAC

100' long, steel sculpture elevated above a bike path at Wolf River Park (18'w x 17'h)  
Wolf River Park, Memphis, Tennessee

**Le Bonheur Heart Sculptures**

Five, consecutive, visually-nesting heart sculptures (7'h x 8'w x 99'l)  
Carbon steel, 304 stainless steel, and LED lighting  
Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, main entrance lawn, Memphis, Tennessee

2015 **Broad Avenue Water Tower Mural**, Binghampton Development and Broad Business Association

Steel, alkyd paint, and programmable LED lighting  
(26'h x 78'w mural wrapped around a 140'h water tower)  
Broad Avenue Arts District, Memphis, Tennessee

2014 **Overton Park Bike Arch**, Overton Park Conservancy, private donor

Monumental gate for Overton Park's East Entrance and 1-40 intersection  
320 painted, community-donated bicycles; steel; and LED lighting (37'h x 35'w x 20'd)  
Overton Park, Memphis, Tennessee

**St. Jude Butterfly Garden**, collaboration with Memphis Botanic Gardens

800-sq-ft native plant and sculpture garden located outside hallway connecting two main buildings  
Painted steel wall relief (10'h x 70'w x 8"d), large floral sculpture/fountain, and river rocks  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, World Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee

## STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Youngblood Studio, which I established in 2008, is the leading creative force in the field of public art in Memphis, TN. I have produced over 90 large-scale municipal sculptures locally and 11 across the United States. All phases of conception, design, and production are completed inside my fabrication studio, which contains an array of state-of-the-art tools and machines. Youngblood often partners with local and regional artists on projects that prioritize collaboration and diversity. Staffed by a team of accomplished fabricators, we have the professional expertise to take a design from concept to completion on time and on budget with finesse.

My sculptures are experiential in nature and have a strong visual presence, yet are in harmony with their surroundings. My use of shape, scale and, color is influenced by the character of the site, the symbols of the community, and the desired level of engagement, while also taking into consideration quality, weather, longevity, and easy future maintenance. My goal is to create captivating designs that will resist people's ability to edit out routine interactions.

The opportunity to develop a design concept for the Carlsbad Veterans Memorial in collaboration with community stakeholders is well aligned with my creative practice. One of my primary strengths is my ability to communicate with and garner support from all invested members of a project. I approach each project independently, responding to the history, legacy, and vision of the community as well as the site's surroundings, purpose, and function. I begin my projects by having conversations with people representing all demographics that populate the site along with officials that manage and maintain it. My designs distill the common threads that run throughout, fostering a feeling of community ownership. My public works, created with materials and finishes that will stand the rigors of use and time, synthesize all of these factors.

I worked extensively with the City of Corcoran in California to create their veteran's memorial "Five Pillars of Freedom". Named by the community, this memorial features five hand-forged statues created from 3-D scans of real military personnel representing diverse types of veterans and each branch of the military. The figures are lit at night and disappear/reappear as viewers move around the sculptures, embodying how those left behind feel simultaneously close and far from lost loved ones. The "Flame of Liberty" in Los Gatos, California is a memorial that honors U.S. military service members, first responders, and two local 9/11 heroes who were "Killed In Action" attempting to take over cockpit control from the terrorists who hijacked United Airlines flight 93. The Veteran's Memorial and Support Foundation wanted an eternal flame that would reference the Statue of Liberty's Torch. The "flame" consists of translucent, tinted polycarbonate panels affixed in a stainless steel framework allowing viewers to see the pre-existing bronze cross encapsulated by the flame.

Often public participation directly affects my design choices. Book titles from over 150 community surveys are carved into the walls of "The Reading Silo" at the Cordova Public Library. For the Overton Park "Bike Arch," I personally collected the 320 community-donated bikes featured in the sculpture along with their intercorrelating personal stories. The Bike Arch commemorates the Supreme Court battle that stopped Highway I-40 from bisecting the city. Situated on a highly trafficked road, it is viewed by 35,000 people each day. Both projects intimate how community members' small contributions can be coalesced into meaningful designs.

The City of Carlsbad's invitation to create a public piece that encourages connection with the natural environment also intersects with my past experience. In the "Old Forest Portal," a pedestrian entrance to Overton Park and one of the largest old-growth forests in Tennessee, cool colors invite visitors into the park and integrate with the encircling forest..

The Carlsbad Veterans Memorial Project would allow me and my staff to capitalize on all of our expertise while also allowing me to apply my abundant creative energy to a meaningful historic and highly visible site that is useful to its community. This project is personal to me as my father was marine, a Vietnam Veteran, and was awarded two purple hearts for his bravery. In addition, both of my grandfathers served in the Navy. I hope to have the opportunity to describe in greater detail how I would develop a work for this project that reflects the character of the site and the ethos of the surrounding community.

## Image List for Tylur French

**Title:** Five Pillars of Freedom Veterans Memorial (Gateway Park, Corcoran, CA)

**Commissioning Body:** City of Corcoran

**Budget:** \$340,000

**Year Completed:** 2023

**Medium:** 304 stainless steel, concrete and LED lights

**Dimensions:** 17'h x 30'w x 30'd







**Title:** Los Gatos Memorial Park  
(Los Gatos, CA)

**Commissioning Body:**  
Veteran's Memorial and Support  
Foundation

**Budget:** \$80,000

**Year Completed:** 2019

**Medium:** 304 stainless steel,  
tinted polycarbonate, cast  
bronze, and LED lights

**Dimensions:** 13'h x 30'w x 30'd

**Title:** Memphis Fire Department Relief and Sculpture (Memphis Fire Department Headquarters, Memphis, TN)

**Commissioning Body:** City of Memphis Fire Department

**Budget:** \$125,000

**Year Completed:** 2021

**Medium:** CNC carved high-density foam, fiberglass, bronze leaf, 24K gold leaf, steel, concrete, granite, and limestone

**Dimensions:** 10'h x 12'w x 4"d (relief), 11'h x 14'w x 11"d (sculpture)









**Title:** The Reading Silo  
(Cordova Public Library,  
Memphis, TN)

**Commissioning Body:** City of  
Memphis, administered by the  
Urban Art Commission

**Budget:** \$145,000

**Year Completed:** 2023

**Medium:** stainless steel,  
concrete, alkyd paint, and LED  
lights

**Dimensions:** concrete base is  
16' in diameter, sculpture is  
14'h x 14'w



**Title:** Old Forest Portal (Overton Park, Memphis, TN)

**Commissioning Body:** City of Memphis, administered by the Urban Art Commission

**Budget:** \$100,000

**Year Completed:** 2017

**Medium:** steel, enamel, and concrete

**Dimensions:** 24'h x 29'w x 17'd



**Title:** Bike Arch (Overton Park, Memphis, TN)

**Commissioning Body:** Overton Park Conservancy (private donor)

**Budget:** \$125,000 (\$60,000 in labor donated)

**Year Completed:** 2014

**Medium:** Steel, enamel, concrete, 320 bicycles

**Dimensions:** 10'h x 12'w x 4"d (relief), 11'h x 14'w x 11"d (sculpture)





## WORK EXPERIENCE AND WORKING WITHIN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

### **Veterans Memorial in Corcoran (budget totaling \$340,000)**

- Material costs: \$145,000
- Other costs
  - Design: \$25,000
  - Lighting and Engineering Consultants: \$40,000
  - Labor \$80,000
  - Delivery and Installation (including travel): \$50,000
- Public engagement process:
  - Reached out to all individual branches in Memphis and interviewed veterans to choose a diverse group of representatives from each branch to 3-D scan for the final design.
  - Met with invested constituents and veterans including a local representative that is a Native American, a policeman, and has a son that died serving his country to discuss the project and receive input. Made two site visits and met virtually and in person with the City Council and mayor.
  - Gave a in person talk to students from multiple age groups.
  - Participated and helped plan opening ceremony that included medicine men representing all Indian Nations in California blessing the site, a fly-by of Airforce fighter jets, and a visit from the Governor of California.
  - Gave interviews to a radio show, tv news channels, and newspapers
- Reference/contact: Kings County Board of Superiors  
1400 West Lacey Blvd, Hanford, CA 93230  
Phone: 559-362-4664  
Email: richard.valle@co.kings.ca.us  
Role: Primary contact for this project; in charge of fundraising, artist and design selection process, and also head of the City Council in Corcoran

### **Bike Arch (budget totaling \$135,000)**

- Material costs: \$60,000
- Other costs
  - Engineering and Design: \$20,000
  - Labor \$40,000 (donated by artist)
  - Delivery and Installation: \$15,000
- Public engagement process:

Collected 320 bicycles from the public, meeting with each donor individually to explain the project and to hear their anecdotal stories
- Reference/contact: Tina Sullivan, Executive Director  
Overton Park Conservancy  
1914 Poplar Ave, Suite 202, Memphis, TN 38104  
Phone: 901.297.0557  
Email: tsullivan@overtonpark.org  
Role: Oversaw the project including planning, production, and installation

### **Reading Silo (budget totaling \$145,000)**

- Material costs: \$60,000
- Other costs
  - Design: \$15,000
  - Lighting and Engineering Consultants: \$10,000
  - Labor \$40,000
  - Delivery and Installation: \$20,000

- Public engagement process:  
Visited and surveyed 150 community stakeholders including students and adults from area schools and libraries, incorporating selections from the treasured texts and authors into the sculpture's design. Also collected suggestions from staff of foundational people and references.
- Reference/contact: Lauren Kennedy, Executive Director  
Urban Art Commission  
422 N. Cleveland St., Memphis, TN 38104  
Phone: 469-964-7944  
Email: lauren@sheetcakegallery.com  
Role: Oversaw the implantation of the greater\_Memphis municipal art program (including this project) and the allocation of the City of Memphis's Percent for Art funds.

### **Memphis Fire Dept (budget totaling \$125,000)**

- Material costs: \$60,000
- Other costs
  - Design: \$15,000
  - Labor \$40,000
  - Delivery and Installation: \$10,000
- Public engagement process:  
Interviewed the top six people at the Memphis Fire Department including the Fire Chief.
- Reference/contact: Steve Chastain, Chief of Fire Planning and Development  
City of Memphis Fire Department  
2670 Avery Avenue  
Phone: 901-489-7089  
Email: steven.chastain@memphistn.gov  
Role: Was the project manager for the new headquarters and renovation of all the fire departments, including managing the finances, installation scheduling and material approvals for the project.

### ESTIMATED LABOR COSTS, MATERIAL COSTS, PROJECT SCHEDULE, AND VALUE-ADDED OFFERINGS

Budget: \$350,000

- Design: \$30,000 (maintenance plan is contingent on material choice)
- Lighting and Engineering Consultants: \$40,000
- Materials: \$150,000 (will provide detail material budget upon design submission)
- Labor: \$80,000
- Delivery and Installation (including travel): \$50,000

Schedule for completion of work:

- Immediate site-visit (meeting with community members and other stakeholders)
- Two month turnaround from award of project to delivery of conceptual renderings and 3-D model for review
- Late Spring of 2024 begin production
- Delivery and installation can be done as early as Fall of 2024

Value-added offerings:

- Bid out all materials to get the best value
- Try to schedule purchasing of materials during favorable market time-frames
- All fabrication is done in-house; allowing for more control over labor and material costs, as well as the quality of craftsmanship
- 25 years of experience designing, producing, and installing large-scale public art