



Kate Kaman Studio
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Maplewood Mall Artwork

Hive

I have lived and worked in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia for more than a decade. My studio is on Germantown Avenue and over the last 10 years I have come to know the beauty and unique friendliness of my neighbors. Often, when I'm working on projects outside in my parking lot, neighbors stop by to chat. They share stories about their lives, ask questions about what I am doing, or ask what the history of my building is. We help each other out, whether in the form of returning a lost chicken, lending a tool or organizing a block party. There is grit, heart, and true community in Germantown. The design for the benches in Maplewood Mall is inspired by the people of 19144. The imagery of bee hives, helping hands, and local flora & fauna will cover the benches. This imagery will be driven by community input. I will ask people what their favorite types of plants are and then incorporate those ideas into the design.



The interdependence of the hive, and how bees are connected is a beautiful metaphor for the community in Germantown. There is also a rich history of beekeepers in the area. Every year there is a Honey Festival at Wick, where beekeepers come from all over Philadelphia to celebrate and educate about bees.

A community engagement letter went out to local businesses and to some on-line forums. We had over 35 responses to the letter. The design incorporates all the native species of plants that participants suggested. Magnolia, Joe Pie Weed, Black Eyed Susans, and Jewel Weed are just a few examples. Images of the flowers and plants were taken and made into vectors that can be used to cut the brass files.

A Letter from Kate Kaman

Hello Neighbors,

I am an artist looking for community input for a new public artwork on Maplewood Mall that is part of The City of Philadelphia's Percent for Art Program. The artwork will be on the seat benches at Green & The Mall. I would love to hear from you... What are your favorite flowers, or plants that are native to the Philadelphia area? They can be from your garden or other ones you know. I will incorporate your suggestions into the artistic imagery on the benches.

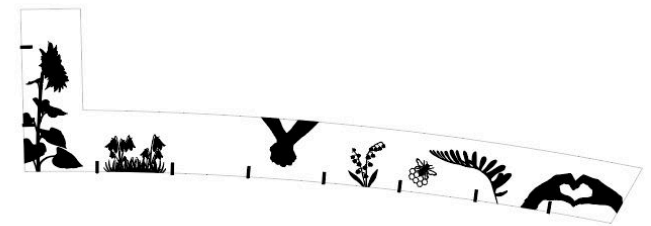


Please write your favorite native plants that you would like to see here before September 12th:

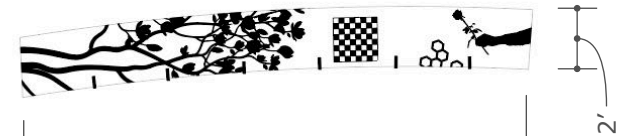
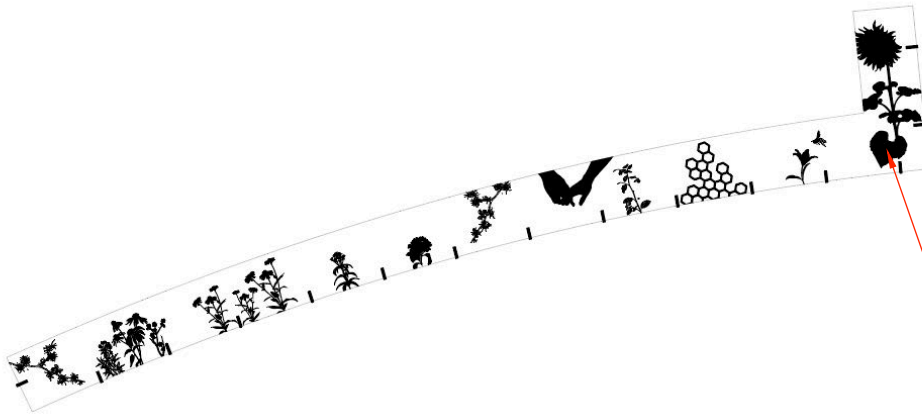
_____ and give this completed form to the business you got it from or email your suggestions to: katekaman@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!

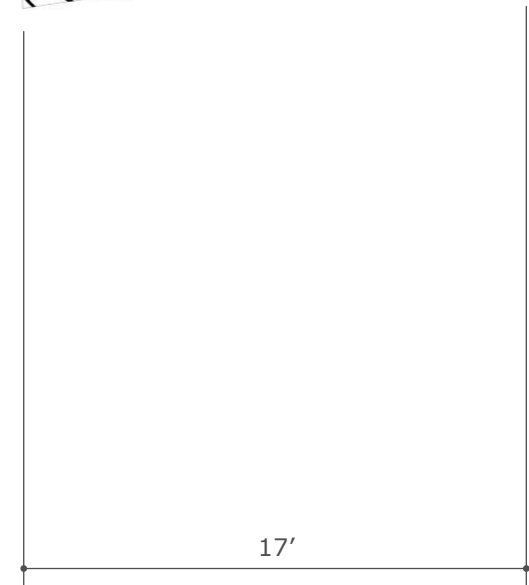
PLAN VIEW OF BRASS INLAY



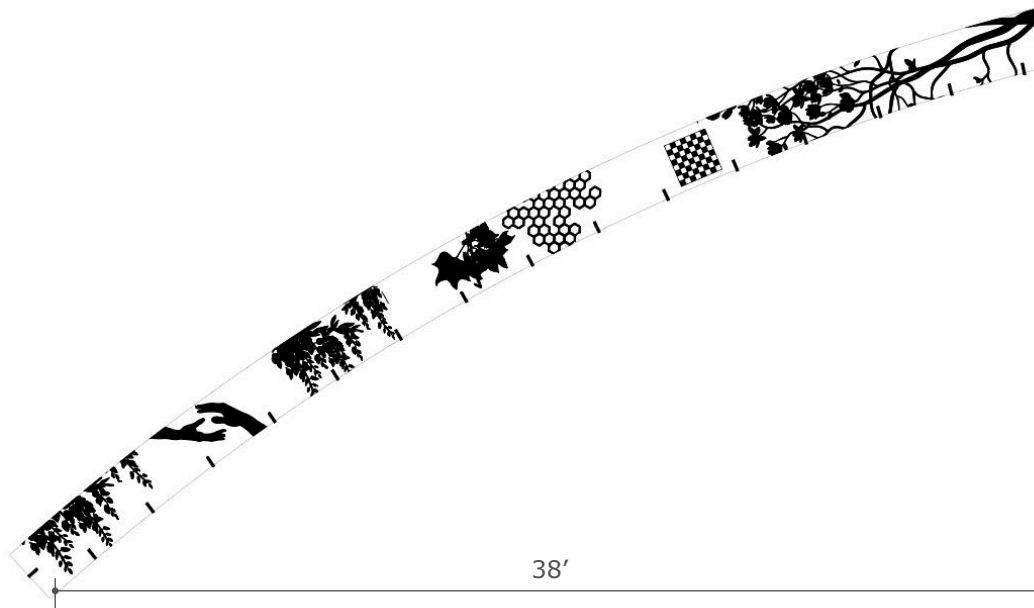
brass cut files



2'

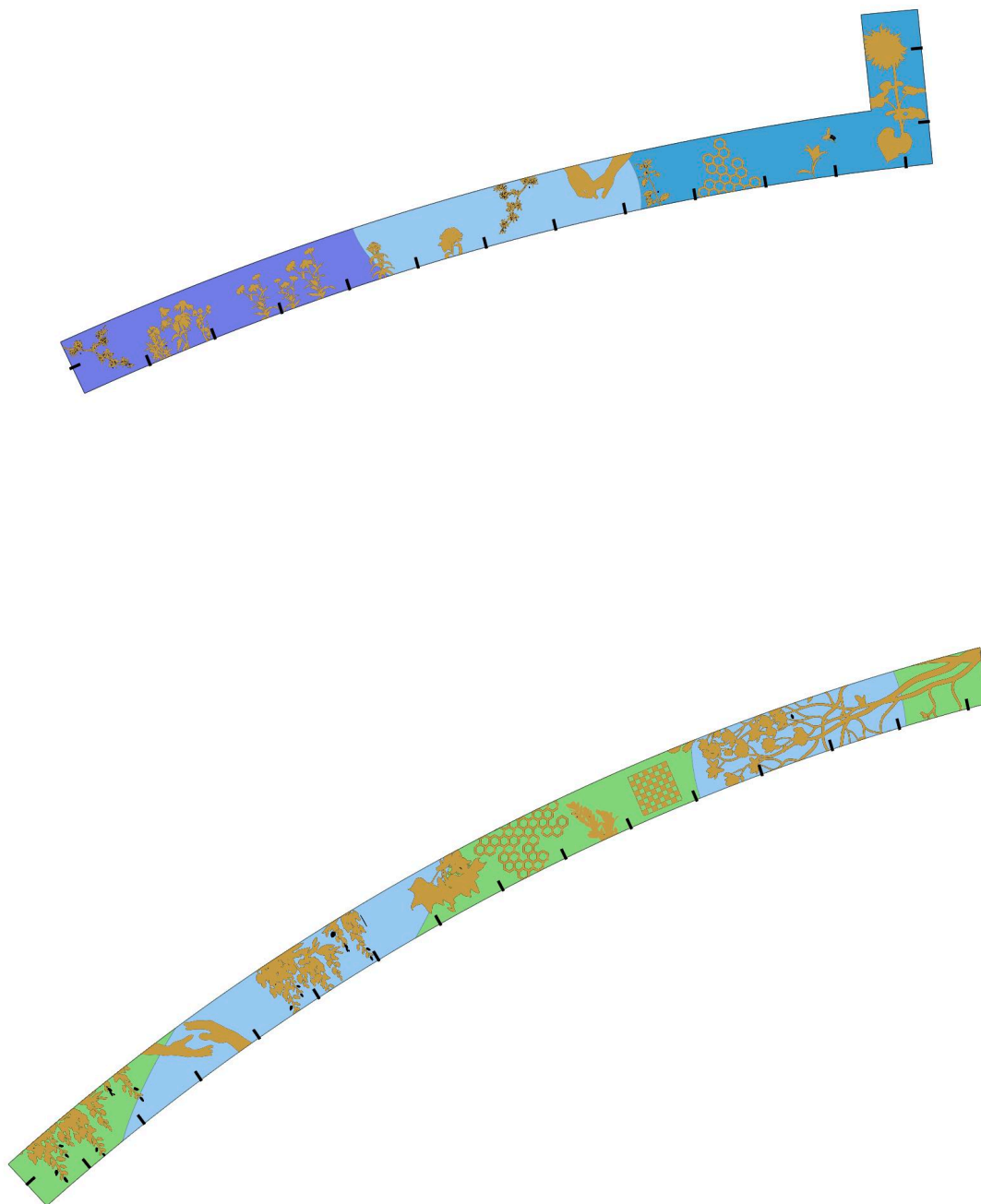
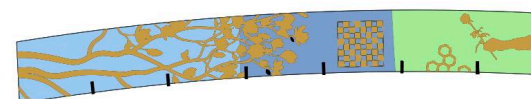
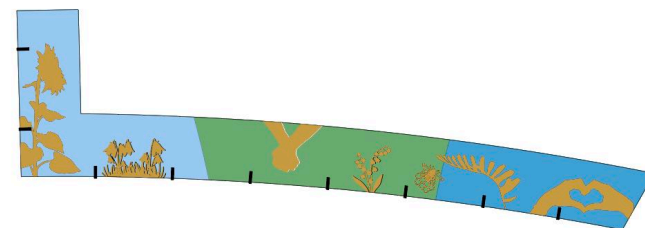


17'



38'

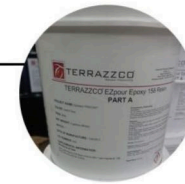
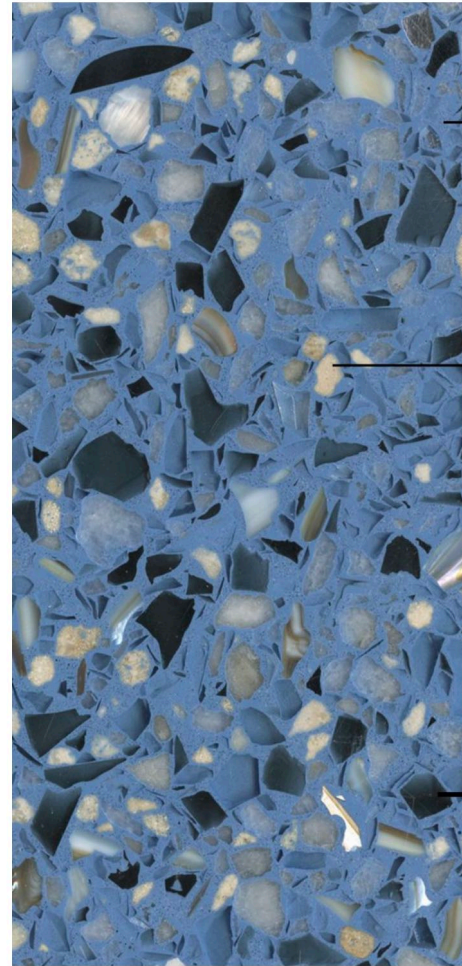
COLOR SCHEME



Brass inlay into terrazzo will be scattered throughout the bench tops. This is an image of part of a series of tabletops I recently fabricated.

One interesting aspect of this material is that the brass color changes dramatically from light to dark and in between, depending on the angle and time of day, so the hand imagery will represent a rainbow of skin tones and the diversity of our Germantown Community.





EPOXY RESIN

Combined with terrazzo aggregates, the epoxy resin can be tinted to match any color.



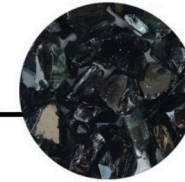
MARBLE CHIPS

Terrazzo surfaces can include a mixture of marble or granite chips. Shown here is Coral.



SHELL CHIPS

Regional seashells can be included in a terrazzo design, with Mother of Pearl reflecting off lighting.



GLASS CHIPS

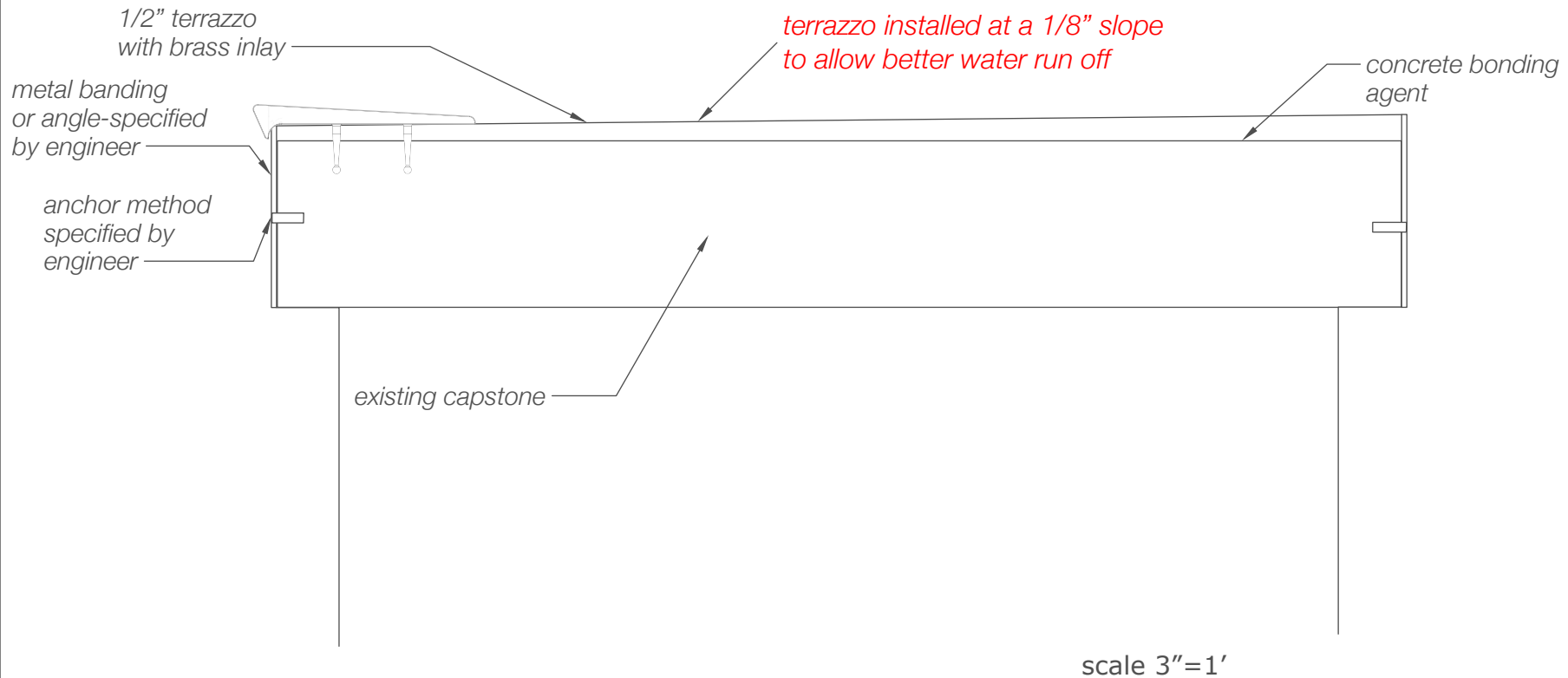
Terrazzo can use recycled glass chips which are often vibrant in many different colors, making the chips stand out.

DISSECTING A TERRAZZO SAMPLE

Terrazzo or polished concrete is an ancient and durable material. It is often used as a flooring in public spaces. Terrazzo allows for metal inlay as well as a huge array of colors and aggregates. The capstones will be a rainbow of different colored concrete that is polished to expose a brass inlay.

The installation method and materials are contingent on a PA engineer design and review. An engineer will review any expansion and contraction issues between materials. A cementitious terrazzo mix will be used. The large bed of cementitious material does not conduct heat, and acts as a heat sink for the brass that may heat up in the sun.

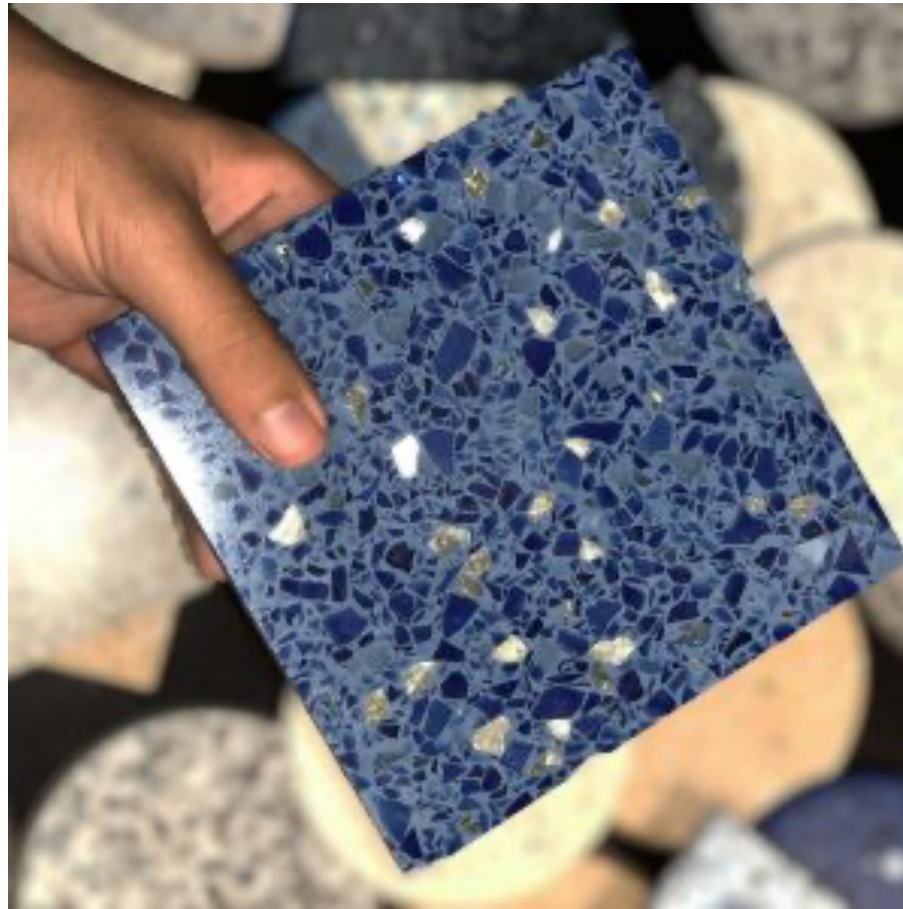
125" x 4.5" metal banding or bent angle will be attached to the edge of all the capstones. Brass metal cutouts with welded studs will be inlaid into a bed of concrete. The concrete and brass inlay will then be polished. The existing skate board deterrents will be removed to make the installation of the artwork easier and cleaner. New, matching deterrents will be installed after the artwork is created.



There is ample lighting at the site. The artwork will not require additional lighting at night.



Terrazzo is one of the most durable materials available. It will be strengthened with additives such as fiberglass and epoxy. Once sealed with epoxy, it is impervious to water and stains. The brass will be sealed with an epoxy coating as well. The terrazzo and metal surfaces will hold up to both environmental and human induced stresses. The PA engineer will oversee the design so that they will not break under large loads. The benches will be able to be power washed in the event of vandalism and can be cleaned with soap and water.



Artist Fee_____ \$7,425

For all services of the artist, including, but not limited, to the following:
research and design development, drawings and construction documents, attendance to all required
meetings and site visits, construction and installation supervision, hiring and coordinating sub-contractors

Fabrication Costs_____ \$12,375

Materials (brass, concrete, additives, aggregate)
Fabrication (laser cutting brass inlay, labor)

Installation Cost_____ \$14,850

Labor, packing and delivery, on-site installation, concrete casting & polishing, special equipment,
skate deterrents

3rd Party Professional Fees_____ \$4,950

Engineering, photo documentation, computer modeling

Miscellaneous Costs_____ \$4,950

Insurance, utilities, rentals

Contingency_____ \$4,950

TOTAL _____ \$49,500

Commission Timeline:

May 2021 - presentation

Summer 2021 - Contract Signing

Fall 2021- Spring 2022 - Fabrication & Installation