



February 26, 2026

Katherine Liss
Director
The Philadelphia Art Commission
One Parkway, 1515 Arch Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

SUBJECT: Request for Art Commission Administrative Review of Public Art Conservation

Dear Katherine,

Creative Philadelphia is submitting this letter to the Art Commission for Administrative approval of conservation work for the following City of Philadelphia owned public art sculptures. Note that items identified by asterisk (*), required time-sensitive conservation work that is either in process or completed, and are included in this letter for record/notification.

1. **AMOR*, by Robert Indiana, Sister Cities Park, 18th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway
2. **Government of the People* by Jacques Lipchitz, Municipal Services Bldg, Broad St and JFK Blvd
3. *Washington Monument* by Rudolf Siemering, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at Eakins Oval
4. *Benjamin Franklin, Craftsman* by Joseph Brown, Broad St and JFK Blvd
5. *LOVE*, by Robert Indiana, 15th Street and JFK Boulevard
6. *Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Memorial* by Hermon Atkins MacNeil, Benjamin Franklin Parkway and 20th Street
7. **Ellen Phillips Samuel Memorial*, by Various Artists, Kelly Drive
8. **Decline and Rise*, by Harold Kimmelman, West Mill Creek Playground, 51st and Reno
9. **John Wister*, Raffaello Romanelli, Vernon Park, 5700 Germantown Ave
10. **Richardson Dilworth Plaque*, PHL International Airport
11. **A Quest for Parity: The Octavius V. Catto Memorial* by Branly Cadet, City Hall (South Apron)

For #1, *AMOR*, the work consists of the temporary removal of the metal sculpture and base, and the complete stripping and repainting of the artwork offsite, using the specified paint system directed by Robert Indiana Foundation. The base will also be cleaned and restored offsite. The work will be performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC in partnership with Fine Art Finishes Painting Studio, as approved by the Robert Indiana Foundation.

For #2, *Government of the People*, the conservation work consists of cleaning the sculpture and base, remove all staining, graffiti and guano and then applying hot wax to the bronze sculpture. The work is currently being performed by Kreilick Conservation, LLC.

For #3, *Washington Monument*, the conservation work consists of cleaning and waxing the bronze sculpture. The work will be performed by Kreilick Conservation, LLC.

For #4, *Benjamin Franklin, Printing Press* the treatments consist of cleaning and waxing the bronze sculpture and repairing the granite base which was damaged by vandalism. The conservation work is being performed by Kreilick Conservation, LLC.

For #5, *LOVE*, the conservation treatments consist of cleaning the sculpture, filling and repainting gauges in the surface to match existing surfaces, and performing intervention that may help reduce future streaking from water run off. The work will be performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #6, *Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Memorial*, the work consists of cleaning both sets of sculptural pylons to remove soiling and biological growth, and repointing loose and open mortar joints with an appropriate mortar to match existing. The work will be performed by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #7, *Ellen Phillips Samuel Memorial* the work consists of continued high priority masonry repairs at the Central Terrace including repairing a stone step, repairing a severely deteriorated limestone bench seat and vertical block, caulking deteriorated joints, cleaning and performing composite repairs where stone is missing. Due to the emergency nature of this work, the conservation treatments are in process by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #8, *Decline and Rise*, the work consists of cleaning the metal sculpture, removing paint coatings and restoring the existing surface finish. The scope also includes bracing the sculpture to protect it during construction activities currently in progress at the West Mill Creek playground. Due to the time sensitive nature of this work, this scope is currently in process by Heritage Conservation Collective, LLC.

For #9, *John Wister*, the work consists of cleaning and waxing the bronze sculpture, cleaning the base and applying mulch around the base to mitigate splashing of soil onto the sculpture during rain. The conservation treatments were performed by Sculptural Services, LLC, and this letter serves as a notice to the Art Commission for record.

For #10, *Richardson Dilworth Plaque*, conservation treatments include cleaning and removing graffiti from the bronze plaque. Due to the time sensitive nature of this work, it has been completed by Sculptural Services, LLC, and this letter serves as a notice to the Art Commission for record.

For #11, *A Quest for Parity: The Octavius V. Catto Memorial*, the work consists of removing graffiti from an existing plaque. Due to the time sensitive nature of this work, it has been completed by Kreilick Conservation, LLC, and this letter serves as a notice to the Art Commission for record.

We are requesting for this work to be included on the **March 11, 2026** Philadelphia Art Commission meeting agenda as an Administrative item for approval (as typically presented in the past).

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me at 215.686.4596.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marguerite Anglin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Marguerite Anglin, RA
Public Art Director
Creative Philadelphia