

Laurelhurst Community Center, *SAMARA*

Artist	Susan Zoccola
Funding	Seattle Department of Parks & Recreation 1% for Art Funds
Completion Date	March 2007
Location	Laurelhurst Community Center 4554 N.E. 41st St. Seattle, Washington



Artist rendering of *SAMARA*

Background Based on the goals of the Community Center Art Plan developed for the 1999 Community Center Levy, Susan Zoccola was selected in 2004 to design an entry artwork for the expanded Laurelhurst Community Center. For inspiration, Zoccola attended community meetings and spent time at the center and in the surrounding park. She created an artwork that fuses with the natural setting and serves as a beacon for the center.

Artist's Current Residence Seattle, Washington

Artwork Name *SAMARA*

Media 8" diameter steel pole, steel rod, steel tube with fiberglass cover, lighting, paint

Dimensions Pole: 18 - 20' H; Seed Pods: 4' - 7' W x 7" D

Location Across from the center's front door on a traffic island in the parking lot.

Description The 18-foot-tall tapered steel pole features clusters of seed pods dangling from branches. The pods, inspired by the helicopter seed pods of maple trees, have a light, airy appearance and move slightly in the wind. Internally lit at night, the pods are visible from various vantage points within the park environment.

Artist's Statement “I appreciate how proud and strongly connected people are to their park’s natural beauty and rich history. With its unique diversity of old trees, I felt that I should reference nature in the artwork I created for this place. The park site is particularly dark at night, so incorporating light into the piece was also important. I hope that the lighting, scale and “movement” of the parts of the sculpture will encourage people to smile and pause to appreciate the surrounding beauty of the park and its amazing views of the city. The curved top of the pole with the clusters of dangling pods will gesture toward the center’s entry door, greeting people to the center as they come and go. “