



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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**FIRST COMMUNITY ART INSTALLED AT TERRA PARK**

**JOHNSTON, Iowa** – The City of Johnston unveiled its first public art sculpture at Terra Park on December 16, 2019. This "Tree of Life" will serve as a welcoming feature within the City's largest park for years to come. This Tree of Life was made possible by the Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant, Bravo Greater Des Moines Grant, and 50th Anniversary donations.

"Trees are important within our community, and we are grateful this unique design fits well within the nature of Terra Park," said Johnston Art Council President Lisa Cooper. "The words with each of the leaves represent the Johnston community. Depending on the time of day, it will create a shadow on the concrete below. The commission is excited about this project, and we are grateful for the contributors to make this a reality."

The artist for this design is Hilde DeBruyne with Hilde DeBruyne Art & Design. Throughout her career, she has created and installed 14 permanent public art pieces throughout the Des Moines metro, including seven free-standing steel sculptures.

In spring 2020, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary bricks sold will be placed around the sculpture to create an everlasting piece of history within our community. The placement was chosen by the 30 residents serving on the 50th Anniversary Committee and the eleven members of the Johnston Arts Council. The high-volume of foot-traffic, the space available, and residents' pride in this new public space was ideal for a piece that expresses our connection with nature and the values, history, and aspirations of our community.

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