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LOCAL NEWS

22-foot airplane-inspired ‘Oculus’ sculpture dedicated at FWA

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FORT WAYNE, Ind. (WANE) — Fort Wayne International Airport’s (FWA) new public art installation, “Oculus”, was dedicated Tuesday.

“Oculus” was created by artist Gordon Huether, known for his site-specific installations, and sits directly in front of the airport terminal, between short-term parking and the rental car lot.



"Oculus" art installation at Fort Wayne International Airport



"Oculus" art installation at Fort Wayne International Airport

The public art piece is constructed with four 18-foot pillars shaped like airplane wings, with a piece of glass held up by suspended cables at the top that reflect different colors throughout the day. On the inside of the four pillars are images representative of Fort Wayne.

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Huether said he hopes the airplane wing-esque design of the sculpture will invite viewers to engage with Indiana's aviation history.

"The concept for 'Oculus' takes inspiration from the fluid and iconic shape of airplane wings and establishes the viewer's engagement with the history of aviation in the state. Its four, 18-foot stainless steel 'wings' elegantly designed to resemble airplane wings also provide the support for an open yet structured space for visitors to enjoy." Huether said.

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Scott Hinderman, executive director of airports at the Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority, said the sculpture ties to both the airport and the Fort Wayne community, in part because of the variety of individuals who worked on the project.

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“‘Oculus’ would not be possible without the generous contributions of our donors and assistance of those that served on the airport’s Art Selection Committee. FWA is the region’s airport, and this is reflected in the organizations and individuals who helped bring this art to life,” Hinderman said.

“We are proud to have such a large public art piece on the FWA campus created by an artist with Gordon Huether’s caliber. This type of art installation will allow passengers and guests at FWA to engage and immerse themselves with public art that ties to the airport, as well as our community, and beyond,” he added.

Huether said the people of Fort Wayne inspired his designs for the sculpture, as he wanted to center the city and its residents with his designs.

“The art is never about me, it’s about the people that live here,” Huether said.

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