

Griffis Sculpture Park prepares for season

New sculptures, phone app, art classes and events will give visitors new ways to enjoy the park

The installation of three new sculptures created by an acclaimed artistic duo, highlight a very busy season ahead for Griffis Sculpture Park in East Otto, NY. In addition to new installations, the park is debuting a phone app this spring, a new website, Saturday art classes, a summer market on Sunday's in August, a vendor fair, and more.

Griffis Sculpture Park contains over 250 sculptures throughout fields, forests and ponds of the 400-acre park. It is believed to be one of the first and largest sculpture parks in the United States. The park was founded in the mid-1960s by Larry Griffis, Jr. The park is owned and operated by the Ashford Hollow Foundation.

Installing three inspirational sculptures by internally renowned artists

The newest additions to the park will be four bronze statues of inspirational women created by Australian collaborative artists Gillie and Marc Schattner. The life-like 10 ft. tall bronze sculptures of Gabby Douglas, Tracy Dyson, Janet Mock and Cheryl Strayed were donated to the Ashford Hollow Foundation by the artists. The unifying mission of the artwork is to fill the world with inspiring public art that spreads messages of love, equality, conservation and hope. The Douglas, Dyson and Strayed sculptures will be installed at Griffis Sculpture Park in mid-June. Before making their way to the park, the Janet Mock sculpture will appear at Bidwell Park for the next month. The Mock sculpture will then be permanently installed at the Essex Arts Center in Buffalo.

Gillie and Marc have been called "the most successful and prolific creators of public art in New York's History" by the New York Times. Creating some of the world's most innovative public sculptures, Gillie and Marc have re-defined what public art should be, spreading messages of love, equality, and conservation around the world. Their highly coveted sculptures and paintings can be seen in art galleries and public sites in over 250 cities.

Other new additions to the Griffis Sculpture Park in 2021

In addition to the annual Griffis Sculpture Park Summer Festival (August 15, 2021) and NIGHT LIGHTS at Griffis Sculpture Park (Sept. – Oct. 2021), the park is excited to welcome the following new additions this year:

Mobile app

A mobile app will make its debut in June. Visitors will be able to download the app, which will display the location and background information of all the sculptures. The app will assist visitors in navigating the trail system of the park.

Saturday Art Classes

The sculpture park will host eight Saturday arts classes in the months of June through September. Guests can participate in a two-hour art class at the sculpture park house taught by local instructors. The full schedule of classes will be released on May 14th.

Sunday Market

For four consecutive Sunday's, the Rohr Hill site of the park will host a food and makers "market." Guests will be able to visit with local food and artistic purveyors. The market will make its debut on Sunday, August 1st.

Griffis Sculpture Park Vendor Fair

On Saturday, September 11, 2021, over 30 local arts and crafts vendors are expected to participate in the inaugural Griffis Sculpture Park Vendor Fair. Held at the Rohr Hill Road

section of the park, the event will feature art vendors, music, food and more.