

The Brookings Great 8

ARTFUL DOZEN

The Great 8 is your passport to one-of-a-kind attractions only found in Brookings. The Artful Dozen, a component of the passport, are various sculptures dedicated to individuals and community initiatives which create a lasting impact in Brookings.

1: THE URBAN CANVAS

ROBBIE JELSMAS & SDSU | 2015

Public art thrives in the alleyways of downtown Brookings. The Urban Canvas consists of six life-size murals, five of which were created by artist, Robbie Jelsma. The sixth was a collaboration with SDSU art students and artist Molly Wicks. These colorful outdoor canvases make great backdrops for a family photo or styled photoshoot.

2: OASIS

SCOTT WALLACE | 2014

“Oasis,” located outside in the South Dakota Art Museum’s Anderson Plaza, was commissioned by Lynn A. and Diane Engh Anderson in memory of their daughter and to those who donate their time to the South Dakota Art Museum. SDSU visual arts faculty member Scott Wallace created the sculpture as a representation of the rippling effects the museum makes throughout the region and its individual impact through society.

3: WAR HORSE

JOHN LOPEZ | 2014

As a permanent fixture in the boulevard of the Brookings Arts Council, “War Horse” began as just the top of a tank lid. Lopez, a native to the area, tours kitchens and scrap piles, barns and grain elevators, cemeteries and workshops, hosted by the people of the prairie, to carefully find what makes his sculptures tick. Turning trash into treasure, Lopez started the metal piece with a few odds and ends and the rest is scrap history.



4: THE GUARDIAN

LEE LEUNING | 2012

In a show of support, celebration and commitment to Special Olympics, the Brookings Police Department commissioned South Dakota artist Lee Leuning to create The Guardian. It’s an officer sharing a special moment with an athlete while carrying the flame of hope. This sculpture was dedicated at the same time the department opened its doors as the Brookings Public Safety Center in 2012.



5: WEARY WIL & DIRTY LIL

DAVID ANDERSON | 2011

Embodying the spirit of tradition on Hobo Day, Weary Wil & Dirty Lil represent the proud, confident, successful and enthusiastic spirit of the SDSU family. Weary Wil, the caricature, was originally created in 1941 by Keith Cox (SDSU, 1941). Dirty Lil, the caricature, first appeared in 1976 by the first female Students’ Association President, Barbara Strandell as a nod to the hippie era that promoted gender equality. The actual model bringing Wil to life is David Blegen (SDSU, 1964). Anita Quast (SDSU, 1940) was the facial model for Lil, as she was the first Hobo Queen in 1938. Both are proud to be “Hobo by Choice,” and are a permanent part of the SDSU family.

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6: CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

MEMORIAL FROM THE FAMILY OF
MARDELL J. PETERSON | 2011

Created from the likeness of the sculpture's own daughter, this cylinder showstopper is shown with a band around the outside containing the engraved titles of several popular children's books as a little girl sits in the middle of the cylinder reading her favorite book. It's balanced on a pyramid base of books and is located inside the Brookings Public Library.

7: THE LITTLE PROFESSOR

GREGORY JOHNSON | 2004

Perfectly propped on the corner of Main Avenue and Fourth Street sits The Little Professor, a lasting legacy dedicated for the celebration of the 125th year anniversary of the Brookings community. The sculpture was purchased through efforts of the 125th Anniversary Committee and officially unveiled in 2009 as part of the reopening of Downtown Brookings after the rehabilitation project.

8: THE OWL: CELEBRATE A CENTURY OF LEARNING

PALMER EIDE | 1988

Commonly referred to as Owl and Owlet, this was the first outdoor sculpture in Brookings as a celebration of the South Dakota Centennial. Created from Indiana limestone, this sculpture is located outside in the southeast window area of the Brookings Public Library.

9: SCULPTURE PROJECT SANCTUARY

MICHAEL WARRICK | 1990

Located in Larson Park, this sculpture captures the contemplation of the passage of time and seasons. It is constructed of three cast-concrete sundial-shaped slabs to form a 14-foot-high gothic arch, accompanied by a circular bench with etched ancient symbols of the four seasons.

10: BLIND MAN II/THE CHASE

ALLAN C. FISCHER | 1994

Situated on the corner of Sixth Street and 17th Avenue of Hillcrest Park, this is a version of the "chase," representing a revolving door of humanity blindly chasing what it cannot possess or attain. The sculpture is designed so that passing motorists can see both images of the man and woman without stopping.

11: LOT LINES

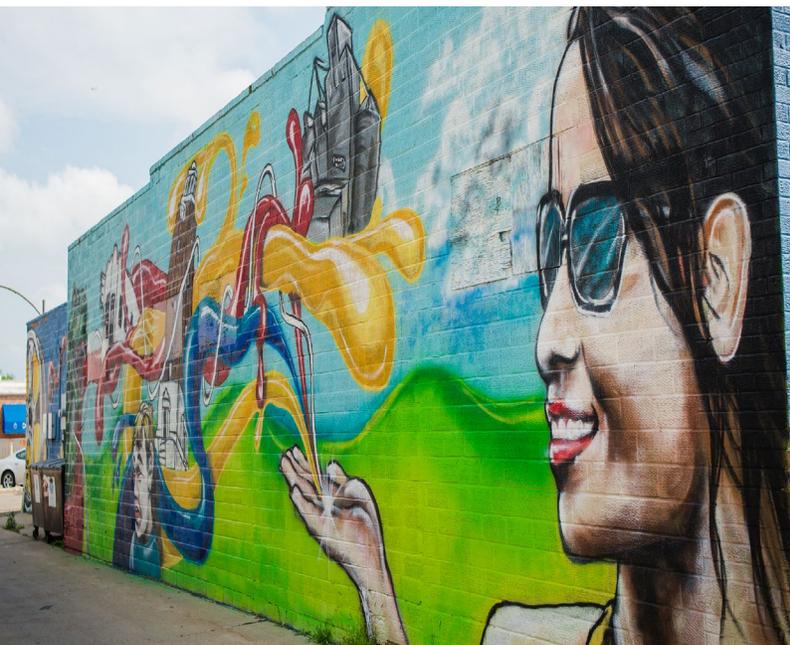
SCOTT WALLACE | 2002

Located outside and around the corner from "The Owl" at the Brookings Public Library, this larger than life steel-sculpted tulip casts numerous shadows throughout the day as it's situated in the east window area of the library.

12: SOMEWHERE WEST OF WALL STREET

BRUCE GREEN | 2004

Sitting in front of Capitaline's office, at the Historic Brookings Depot on Main Avenue is a sculpture of a working farmer sitting with his golden retriever, glasses perched on his nose, reading the Wall Street Journal. Gordon Ommen, founder of Capitaline, purchased the piece because he felt it blended the hard work and careful analysis of Capitaline.




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