PLANT yourself IN A Garden

Discover for yourself the vibrant array of public art throughout Cambridge. Explore this collection of verdant plots that promise to nurture and inspire you.

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CAMBRIDGE ARTS HAS COMMISSIONED MORE THAN 280 PUBLIC ARTWORKS THAT ENRICH OUR CITY, BASED ON A LONG-STANDING PERCENT-FOR-ART PROGRAM THAT INTEGRATES ART WITH MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. DISCOVER THESE ARTWORKS FOR YOURSELF ON THIS SELF-GUIDED CAMBRIDGE ARTS EXCURSION.

ARBOR
LOCATION: GREENE-ROSE HERITAGE PARK, 155 HARVARD STREET (BORDERED BY MOORE AND DICKINSON STREETS) DETAILS: BY GENE CAUTHEN / 1986 (REPLACED IN 2008) / BRONZE

Community gardens are an exuberant expression of urban diversity and cooperation through the enterprise of growing flowers and vegetables. Gardeners come not only to serve their own needs but also to meet other gardeners and share knowledge. Cauthen’s Arbor provides an elegant architectural element for this small raised garden bed.

CENTANNI WAY GARDEN SCULPTURE
LOCATION: CENTANNI WAY PARK/BULLFINCH SQUARE, THORNDIKE STREET (BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD STREETS) DETAILS: BY DIMITRI GERAKARIS / 1989 / PAINTED GALVANIZED IRON

New England winters are long and Gerakaris wanted to create a four-season representation of plants common to this area—the poppy, daylily, lily-of-the-valley, sunflower, and grape vine. They’re a reminder of spring’s renewal, which all New Enganders look forward to. He forged the plants from wrought iron, allowing him to make their naturalistic and sinuous shapes.

THE LATE FLOWER ALPHABET
LOCATION: FRANKLIN STREET PARK, 495 FRANKLIN STREET (IN A POCKET PARK) DETAILS: BY MURRAY DEWART / 2003 / SAND-CAST BRONZE, GRANITE

Once a dreary concrete-lined hole along a tree-lined residential street, this site was transformed into a restful green space. Dewart’s four sculptures speak to the capacity for landscape design to express harmony with nature. His “nine ton gate,” a form he has used in other projects, employs a strong post-and-lintel arrangement of heavy granite and bronze elements.

HERE AND THERE
LOCATION: COSTA LOPEZ TAYLOR PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN, CORNER OF LOPEZ AND CHARLES STREETS DETAILS: BY ROBERLEY BELL / 2008 / PAINTED STEEL

Bell was asked by the park designer, Rob Steck, to create a unique sculpture that would mark the entrance to the community garden area—serving as both a gate and a sculpture. Bell created a playful oversized set of gourds, echoing the fruits of the gardeners.