



DOWNTOWN FLORENCE

Public Art Guide

DOWNTOWN FLORENCE PUBLIC ART MAP

The ten pieces of public art in Downtown Florence are conveniently located within two blocks and can be viewed individually or on a 0.4 mile loop.



DOWNTOWN DIRECTORY

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DOWNTOWN FLORENCE PUBLIC ART GUIDE

Downtown Florence is home to several public art pieces as well as cultural institutions like the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center and the Florence County Museum & Waters Gallery. Downtown Florence also has the honor of joining only seven other communities in the state to receive the designation of a SC Arts Commission Cultural District for exhibiting a concentration of walkable and connected cultural assets, amenities, and activities.

Starr Ward & Beverly Hazelwood Sculpture

LOCATED BEHIND THE FMU PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

This sculpture by Alex Palkovich depicts two local musicians, violinist Starr Ward and pianist Beverly Hazelwood, who were honored for their long and tireless effort to bring a performing arts center to Florence.



The Lorax

LOCATED IN THE GRIFFIN PLAZA

Created by artist Leo Rijn, this sculpture was enlarged from an original maquette inspired by Dr. Seuss's character. Rijn's strikingly accurate Seuss works embody a masterful and intuitive Seussian sensibility, displaying his interpretive sculpting talent.



Big Bleu Birdnanna

LOCATED BY 135 S. DARGAN ST

This 25-foot tall, kinetic sculpture is one of the largest pieces created by husband and wife contemporary sculptors, Mike & Patz Fowle. This sculpture was made possible thanks to donations from Duke Energy as well as other local companies and citizens.

Plaza Iron Gate

LOCATED IN THE JAMES ALLEN PLAZA

This entryway to the James Allen Plaza was designed by English Cooper and features handcrafted colored glass by Mike Gann & Laurie Brown. The design mimics the art deco style of the Carolina Theatre and one of the buildings previously on the site.



Plaza Metal Sculptures

LOCATED IN THE JAMES ALLEN PLAZA

World-renowned sculptor Bob Doster and elementary, middle, and high school art students created the five metal sculptures displayed in the Plaza. The sculptures are of the old City logo, the SC state flag, and three circular designs that include the SC state bird, flower, horse, and butterfly.



James Allen Bust

LOCATED IN THE JAMES ALLEN PLAZA

This sculpture depicts former Florence resident and businessman, James Allen. Allen moved to the village of Florence in 1865 and established a mercantile store on the corner of Evans and Dargan Street. The 2nd floor of his building became Florence's first civic gathering spot.

Luna Caprese Grande

LOCATED BEHIND HOTEL FLORENCE

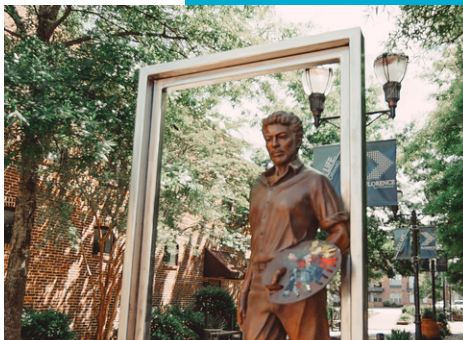
Sculpted by Giacinto Bosco, this piece is his demonstration of two lovers who try to climb the moon via a rope. Bosco's works conform to the expressive traditions of the late 20th century, yet integrate the timeless themes of a love story.



Houston Person Mural

LOCATED BY THE CITY OF FLORENCE PARKING GARAGE

This mural was created on-site during the 2018 SC Pecan Festival by live muralist, ARCY!. It portrays American jazz tenor saxophonist and Florence native Houston Person, most famous for his partnership with Etta James. This work was produced thanks to a sponsorship by AECOM.



William H Johnson Sculpture

LOCATED IN THE EVANS STREET BREEZEWAY

This sculpture by Alex Palkovich depicts world-renowned African American artist and Florence native, William H. Johnson. Johnson was most well-known for his "folk" style of painting through the use of bright colors and two-dimensional figures.

Dr. R.N. Beck Sculpture

LOCATED BY THE FMU HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING

This sculpture by Alex Palkovich depicts Florence physician and civil rights activist, Dr. Roswell Nathaniel Beck, Sr. Dr. Beck was a veteran, community leader, and the first African American physician to have admittance privileges to a white hospital.

