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For Immediate Release

Kirkwood Will Dedicate “Purple Twist” June 30

June 4, 2018

Kirkwood, Missouri: The Kirkwood Arts Commission and the City of Kirkwood will dedicate “Purple Twist,” the City’s newest sculpture on Saturday, June 30, at 10:00 a.m. The dedication will take place at the sculpture, which is located in the Kirkwood Farmers’ Market Greenway on Argonne Drive, directly across Kirkwood Road from the historic downtown Train Station.

“Purple Twist” was designed and built by local artist Jessie Cargas in 2018. The sculpture is part of the Creative Cities Alliance’s “Sculpture on the Move” program, which the City of Kirkwood joined along with about 10 other regional municipalities. Each participating city receives a sculpture to exhibit for two years. The sculpture then moves to another city, unless the first city decides to purchase the sculpture.

The Creative Cities Alliance (CCA) Sculpture on the Move (SoM) program was designed to foster relationships between communities and artists and to increase art appreciation across the region. The program is open to all municipal governments and to nonprofit organizations. The sponsoring entity pays the artists a rental fee and facilitates the installation of the sculpture in an outdoor public area. The City of Kirkwood and the Kirkwood Arts Foundation have provided funding for the program.

Jessie Cargas is a Kirkwood resident who began to design and build metal sculptures in her late 40s, according to her artist’s statement. She works in steel with finishes of polyurethane, paint, patina, or powder coat. Ms. Cargas creates the designs and then does all the welding as well as the finishes. She creates “turn-about,” which are sculptures that can be physically turned and/or viewed from a new perspective. She considers Brother Mel Meyers to be an influence.

Ms. Cargas was born in St. Louis and exhibits at art festivals, local galleries, garden centers, and art strolls around the country. She teaches at a trade school and has taught in a middle school and at the County Jail. For more information about the artist, visit her website: www.weldmadeart.com.

The sculpture was installed in April 2018 and will be on display for two years.

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