



## Columbia Police Department Molly Bowden Neighborhood Policing Center: Art Proposal

Artist: Beth Nybeck

During my design phase, I had an opportunity to meet with representatives from various divisions of the Columbia Police Department. We discussed the history of Columbia, the philosophy CPD takes on law enforcement, the issues that currently face your community and the cultural demographic surrounding the new Neighborhood Policing Center. This active conversation was formative in my understanding of the work CPD is doing in the community. I was grateful for the time the officers were able to give towards the project.

I left that meeting feeling a great sense of complexity for humanity and the task to keep communities safe and thriving. There was a mixture of hopefulness for the future, frustration, and a passion for helping and serving the community. When it comes down to it, the best way law enforcement happens is through relationships and trust with the community. In order for this to happen, you need active, consistent dialogue within neighborhoods.

Reflecting on these conversations, I was most inspired to create a concept that highlights the hope for the future and the important role law enforcement plays on helping the future to flourish. Please review my design concept and let me know what additional questions you may have. It was an honor to dream up these concepts for you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth Nybeck".

Beth Nybeck

Beth Nybeck Public Art Proposal  
Working Title: *Indivisible*

Statement:

The Police Force plays a special and specific role within our community. They protect and serve, so that we can maintain life, peace and growth. Much of my art is inspired by the natural world. I found an element within the natural world I consider to be similar in functionality to the police force. It served as my inspiration for this proposal.

The tiger lily seedpod (to the right), is a structure that forms around the seeds of the tiger lily plant. This protective layer offers the seeds shelter from birds and insects that might eat them. The skeletal structure offers the seeds light and air. The seeds will rot within a tight, confined space without ventilation. Over the winter and spring months, the seedpod gets thinner, until eventually it breaks open spilling the seeds onto the ground. The seeds will find their way into the soil to grow new life. The seedpods aren't a sure guarantee against nasty storms or the peskiest of birds, but they do their best to ensure some of the seeds sprout into beautiful, bright plants in the spring.



I felt the seedpod was a beautiful metaphor for the role the police force plays within our communities. They do their best to protect our future and allowing life to flourish, while maintaining transparency and dialogue. Officer Molly Bowden, gave her life serving and protecting the community. The seedpod structure is also symbolic of community and family. A network that works together in collaboration to help bring about a stronger and more brilliant future. I've created a geometric sculpture of a seedpod. The design is made up of eighty-one panels that have openings cut into the sides, allowing light and air to pass through the artwork. Nestled inside of the seedpod is a stand-alone seed.

This sculpture includes an element of community engagement. This artwork is spirited around hope for the future. It would be my intention to ask community members, Officers of the CPD, and a special invitation to Molly Bowden's friends and family to answer the prompt: "Tell me about a future you hope for". I would take their responses and have them cut into the solid panels on the interior seed. I want the community's words to be offered up as seeds for our future. The seed will have a different finish on the surface, making it stand out from the seedpod and be illuminated at night to show the cut-out words from the surface.

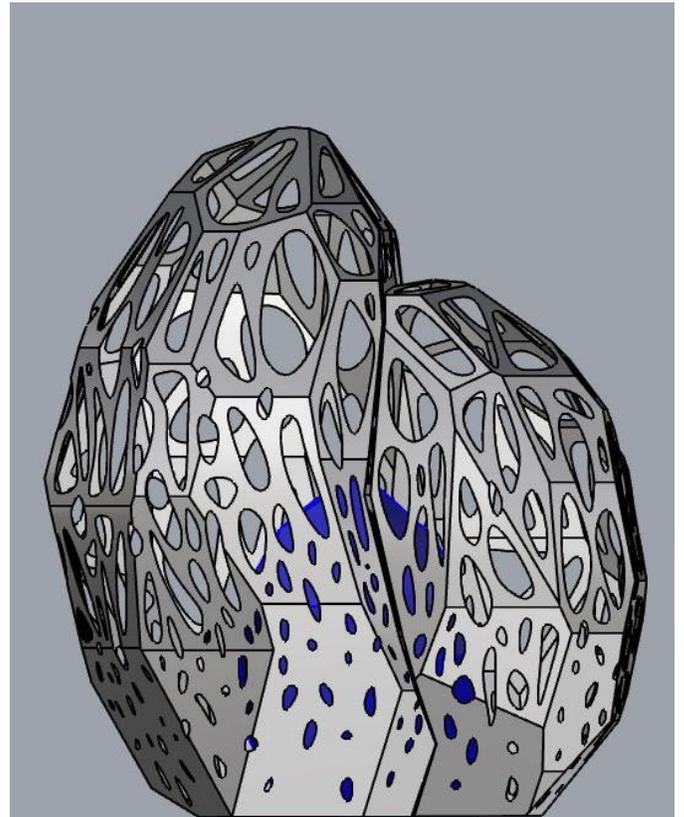
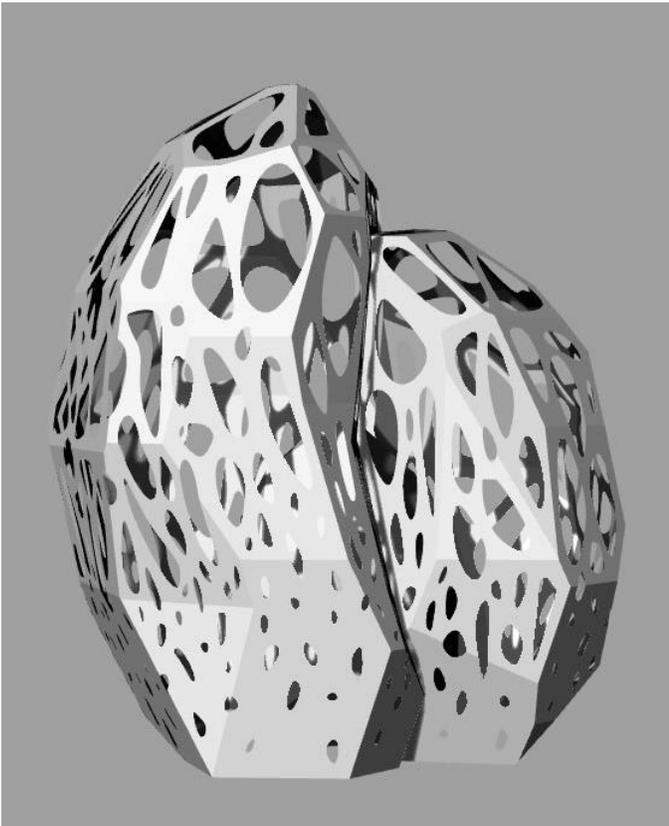
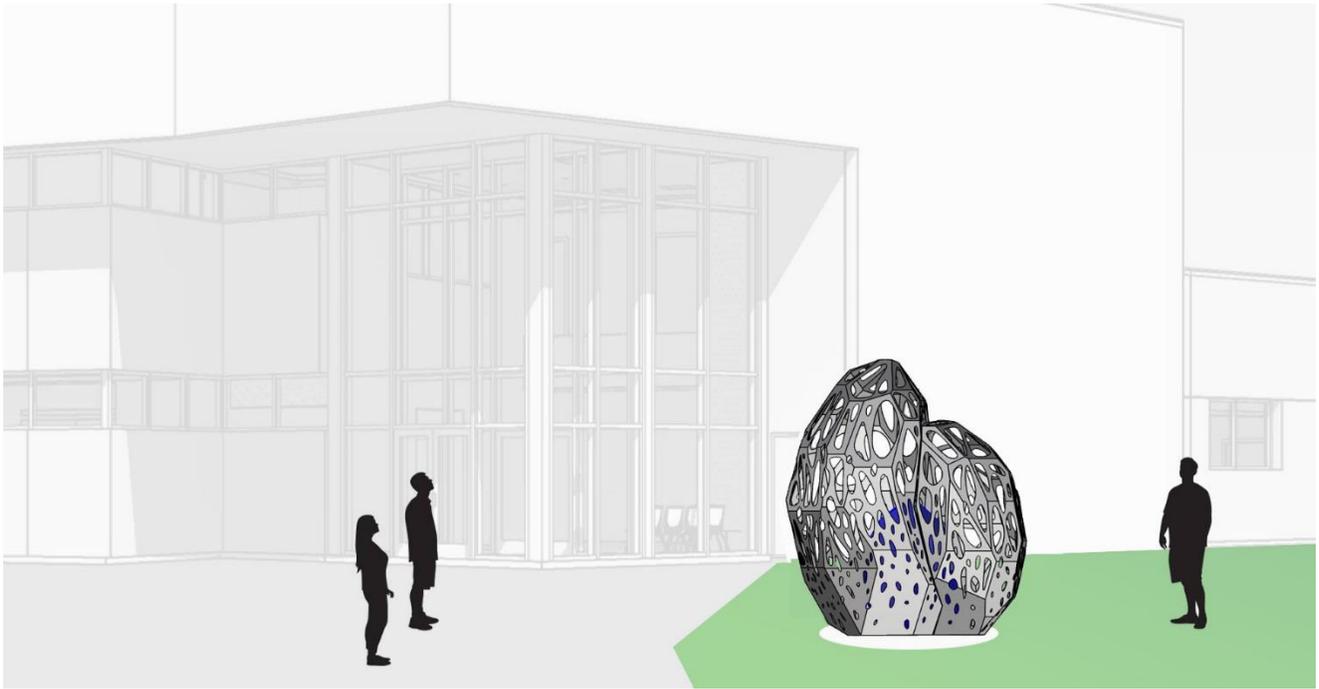
**Details:**

Material: Stainless Steel (The interior seed will be powder-coated gold.)

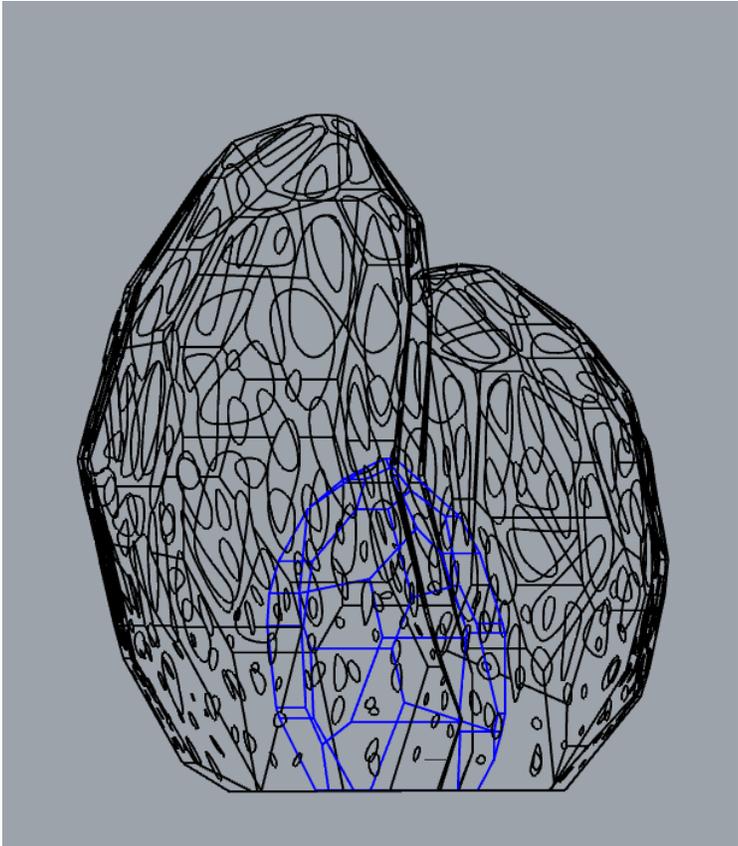
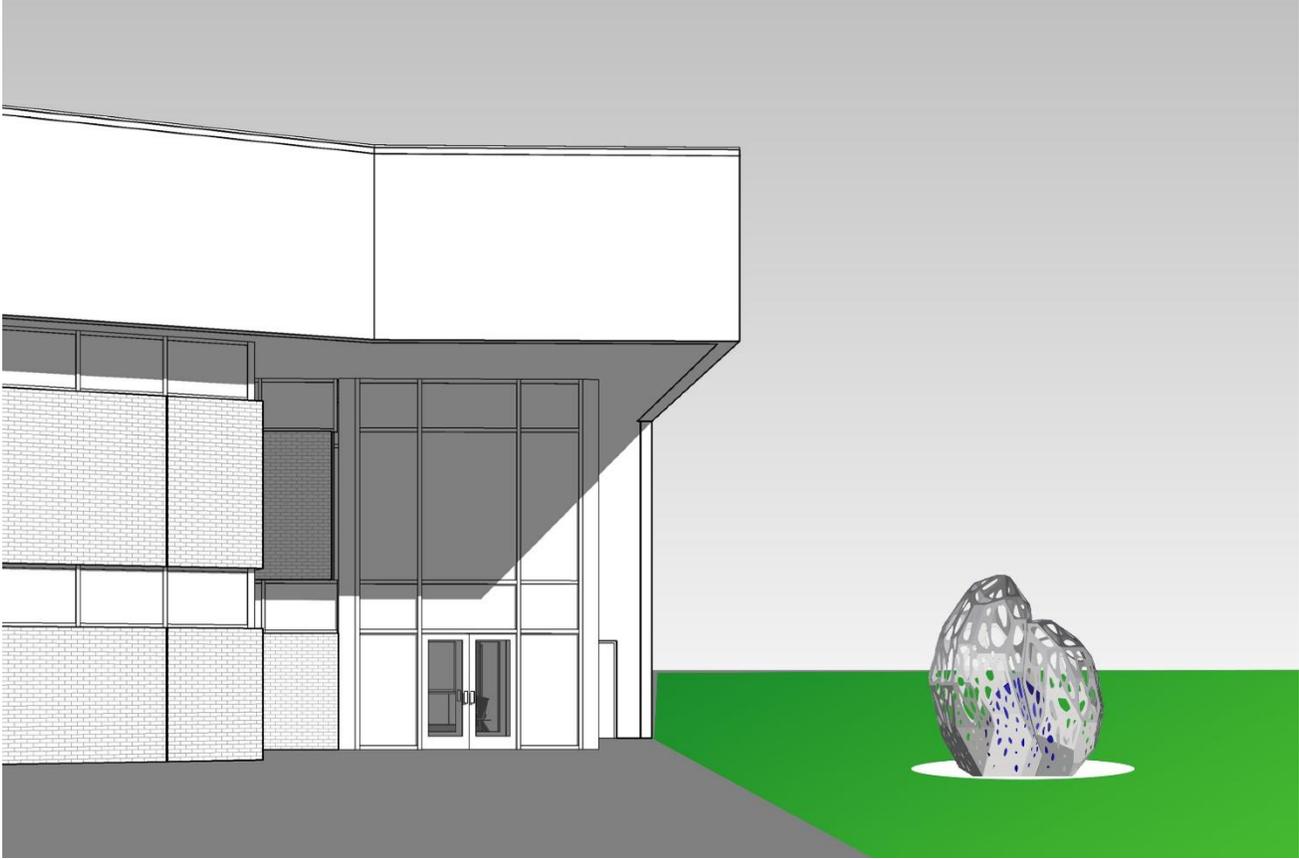
Installation: Concrete Slab, approximately 8ft diameter circle with embedded lighting elements. The sculpture will bolt to the concrete pad, with the base flange and bolts facing the interior of the artwork.

Location: Northwest corner of the building (to the right as you enter in the main entrance)

Scale: 10' x 10' x 9' (HWD)



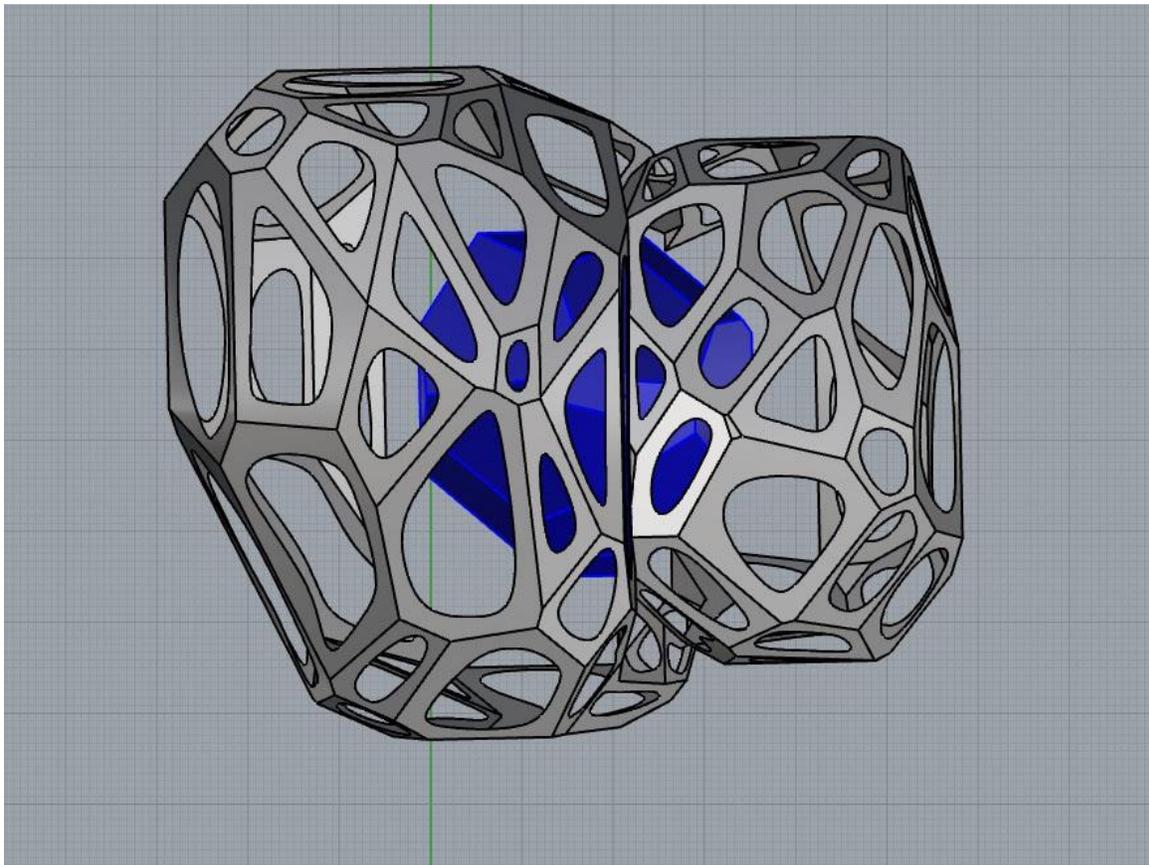
\*\*Please note, the interior seed will not be painted blue. I have shown it in blue to best help distinguish the difference between the exterior structure and interior.



This is a transparent sketch of the sculpture. In gray, you can see the form of the seedpod skeleton. In blue, you see the central seed. The center seed, stands at 5ft tall and the tallest seedpod frame stands at 10ft.



This is a bird's eye view at the sculpture. You are able to see two pods coming together, in gray, with the seed centered in the middle, in blue.



**LOCATION:**

The proposed location for is in the northwest corner of the building, to the right of the main entrance. The image above depicts the footing (8ft diameter pad) with the red footprint of the sculpture. The pad will have lighting embedded into the concrete to illuminate the artwork at night.

