

Reflection
HDR Landscape Architects

Reflecting design principles of Landscape Architecture and ensuring comfort for all, the three seated bench is inspired by the natural succession of plant material from budding to full bloom and welcomes the user to sit back and enjoy the surroundings.



Rebar
Randy Brown Architects

Commonly found within the cement that is used to build roads and structures, Rebar emerges from the concrete and exposes itself to create spaces for sitting and talking. This abstract piece is located at the unofficial entrance to the Gene Leahy Mall.



Sinuous
Holland Basham Architects

Just as the lagoon's water lazily flows from shore to shore, the seat mimics this rhythmic movement from every angle and reflects the ebb and flow. The undulation of *Sinuous* allows you to be one with the park and asks you to be a participant in its energy.



MAKIMONO bench
RDG Planning and Design

Allowing for multiple users to sit randomly, the bench deconstructs the typical horizontal seating form by slicing it into four separate pieces and allows people to sit either facing or adjacent to each other in an effort to facilitate interaction.



crO!ak
Prochaska & Associates

Having crawled from the lagoon to the lily pad it rests upon, *crO!ak*'s playful theme appeals to all ages and is located in one of the Gene Leahy Mall's most popular places. As the frog looks for a snack, he may just happen to catch those looking for a place to rest.



Vanishing Point
Think Tank Design Studio

Classic, simple geometric forms and the concept of vanishing lines provide a seat capable of accommodating a variety of people, from small children to tall adults. The bright orange color complements the palette of existing park fixtures.



TAKE A SEAT!

GENE LEAHY MALL



Special thanks to:



For more information on the Take A Seat! project visit www.omahadowntown.org or www.publicartomaha.org

The Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, has supported this program through its matching grants program funded by the Nebraska Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Visit www.nebraskaartscouncil.org for information on how the Nebraska Arts Council can assist your organization, or how you can support the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

Take A Seat! was created by:



TAKE A SEAT!

GENE LEAHY MALL

In 2009, the Omaha Downtown Improvement District, the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, the Omaha Public Art Commission and the City of Omaha joined together to determine the best way to replace the deteriorating benches within the Gene Leahy Mall and further strengthen this iconic park within Downtown Omaha. The resulting *Take A Seat!* public art project placed 13 new functional art pieces throughout the park in May 2010.

The Gene Leahy Mall, a popular place to relax within the urban environment of Downtown Omaha, is located between Douglas and Farnam Streets, just north of the Old Market.

Thanks to the talents, creativity and generosity of Omaha's outstanding architectural and engineering community, it's a pleasure to invite you to view, enjoy, experience, and most importantly – *TAKE A SEAT!* on some of Omaha's newest pieces of public art!

b3nch
Brian and Andrea Kelly
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Reflecting the energy and dynamics of the Gene Leahy Mall and Downtown, the base of the bench gestures toward a machine aesthetic while the seat itself, fabricated from one sheet of plate steel, is cut and folded to create intimate places for conversation and interaction.



Serenity
Studio 360 Architecture
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Inviting, comfortable and timeless, this seat meets the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists and city transit users. The bench pays homage to the Gene Leahy Mall and is painted orange to match fixtures surrounding the park.

aha-MO!
The Architectural Offices
& Paul Konchagulian
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Rising out of the landscape of the Gene Leahy Mall is aha-MO!, the prairie individual, welcoming you to the city of Omaha and providing visitors a resting place upon its hands.



HOUSE³
Bruce Frasier Architects
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Inspired by a house; four walls, a pitched roof, and a place for shelter, and patterned after a house lined street, this piece provides a sense of separation for multiple users; an armrest, a backrest, or a shaded place for man's best friend.



Goldenrod
DLR Group
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Embracing the simple beauty of Nebraska's State Flower and a desire to focus on the act of communicating, Goldenrod creates a space for conversation both on the street side of the bench and within the park.



Untitled No. 8
BVH Architects
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Combining technology and art, the steel in this seat has been computer laser cut to evoke images of natural foliage patterns. Each seat alone is not big enough for a single person, however the combined pieces become a seating surface for multiple persons.

Stacked Stone
HDR/DeMarco Bros.
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Representing the stratification that occurs in natural earth formations, this seat utilizes unused stacked stone panels from another project which complements the Gene Leahy Mall — the Holland Center.

