Dundas Driving Park public art competition

Scoring, as of February 28, 2011

*Haiku Tree*, Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly 66
*The Horse Chess Piece*, Yvonne Felix 76
*Racing Carousel*, Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos 79
*Leapfrog*, Daniel Davelaar 18
N/A 3

**The Horse Chess Piece** by Yvonne Felix  
Totally LOVE piece!!!

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**  
Love it!  
Captures the history of the race track, which so few people know and the children that enjoy the park now. Love the movement in the piece, very dynamic and quite lovely.

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**  
Of the four selections, I believe Racing Carousel will appeal to the vast majority of the public - it is artistic, creative and understandable! I love the concept of the horse being both a harness racer and a carousel horse. It really seems to bring together the history of the park - past and present.

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**  
Definitely catches the carefree spirit of children and family.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**  
I like that the artists have included children's words and work; it moves and changes, there are additional elements on the knoll leading up to it. Elegant and approachable - something children and parents can talk about and enjoy.

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**  
The only negative aspect is that I seem to be unable to find what the material they intend to make this sculpture out of. I would also like a comparison of costs.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**  
I like that the theme of nature is integrated into a structure that mirrors the lamp-posts. I also like the movement of it.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**  
it's just lovely and very fitting with all the trees in the park

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**  
Most evocative of Driving Park past. Also evokes a sense of fun and child-centred activities.

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**  
very artistic and well presented. I love it

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
definitely Haiku Tree! love the sentiment expressed and the aesthetic.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Haiku tree gets my vote. Love the animal theme and children will be engaged and have fun naming the animals. Also love the movement to some of the birds on bearings. Thank you.

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**
The artist should provide information pertaining to the type of material and colour.

N/A
I believe the artists should collaborate to come up with a synergistic piece. Drysdale and Monos’ idea of the Racing Carousel best reflects the ideas generated from the public charette. The stylized carvings of Daniel Davelaar could create much more interesting figures rather than realistic. Kanbara and Kelly’s thought to movement, perhaps by setting the piece on a rotating stand on the ground that was accessible to children, more like a real carousel. Putting the piece in a raised bed makes it less accessible to the public. I think it would be absolutely stunning and make a fantastic impact if it were located at the entrance to the park, where everyone sees it, and the existing statue of the boy that is there be moved to this raised location. I concur with a previous comment that the materials of construction for Racing Carousel are not public, but obviously must be durable to withstand weather and use. Thank you.

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
Love the concept...love the Artist!

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**
Thank you for allowing citizen input!

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**
The Racing Carousel is the winner for me! This piece is a beautiful blend between the history of one of the earliest race courses in Ontario and its contemporary function today as a family recreational site. Aesthetically, it has a dynamic flow and a cheerful, fun feel and the scale of it fits the space quite well.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Excellent options.
My second choice is Racing Carousel.
I love the movement, nature theme and associated smaller pieces of Haiku Tree. It will be a landmark, without being overly intrusive.

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
All four proposals are fabulous and I think that is going to be hard to pick one. I chose the Horse Chess Piece because it might encourage the park to be also used as a space for playing chess. Public art is important and I congratulate the city for setting aside funds for this new installation. This is a great use of public money.

**Leapfrog by Daniel Davelaar**
This piece not only evokes the spirit of children and play, but the smooth and exaggerated features as well as the placement atop a grass lawn/meadow are an invitation for folks to engage in play on and around it.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
I also love the Leap frog! Can you have both?

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Very imaginative...love it

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
very interesting

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
Art must have different dimensions. At first glance it is a tree. Then one sees different creations within the tree. Everyone's eye sees a different image. It is fun, playful and creative. It blends yet it stands out. It will enhance the park during all seasons. I feel that this design does not take away from the natural beauty of the park, but blends in with it. It encourages youth to be creative. Love it.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
I think this most closely represents the feel of fun at the Driving Park.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
I like the fact that the piece reflects the history of the driving park, as a race track, and carousels are my favourite.

N/A
I think the City of Hamilton can do better. Please consider other artists for the competition and see what else can be brought to the table.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
This is my favourite because for me it best ties together the park's origins and its more recent usage. It best depicts the park as not just a fun but a joyful place.

Leapfrog by Daniel Davelaar
Leapfrog stands out in its playfulness and is scaled to be an interactive unintimidating addition to the park.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
I like the creativity, perfect for a playground.

The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix
I lived on Parkview Row while growing up. I'm afraid the first two products will provide a great climbing spot for kids to fall from. I liked the horse chess piece because I used to lead horses around a pony ring in the park in the 1950's. My second choice is the Haiku Tree.

Leapfrog by Daniel Davelaar
I really like this - I think public art should be tactile. The driving park is a place where people go to DO not just to LOOK. Leapfrog - what a wonderful connotation of simple no-cost, low-tech fun for kids. Thank you.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
Haiku Tree is the most poetic design, the most artful, the one most open to viewers' own interpretations, and the only one that invites participation. The other designs are very, very literal. Each of them is one thing and one thing only, rather like a standard commemorative statue. Each of these tells the viewers exactly what the design represents, and further, says how the viewer should understand the subject matter. So despite being sculpture, they remain one-dimensional.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
I like the inclusion of poetry written by local children as well as the international connection to Japan. Also the design is very aesthetically pleasing and will continue to entertain over time (complexity). Racing Carousel a strong contender due to ties with the park's past but the sculpture itself isn't as pleasing.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
Racing Carousel is by far the most logical choice. Leapfrog, in my opinion, does not look like something appropriate for a childrens playground.

The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix
Wouldn't it be great if the City also installed three or four chess/checker tables in the vicinity of the Horse Chess Piece! They would be welcomed by many seniors in the community.

Leapfrog by Daniel Davelaar
Playful, attractive, classic, enduring.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
The design of a "sculpture" that responds to the wind makes this piece my favorite - and a uniquely magical creation. I'd love to see the view from ground-level....looking upwards through the art work to the ever-changing Driving Park sky

The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix
The chess piece represents the history and theme of the driving park

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
Kids look like they are having a blast in the Racing Carousel. That's what it's all about - fun!! Good work.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
playful whimsical - love the movement of rotating figures - lightness at tree top/street light level - input by Dundas childrens haiku an inclusive touch! integrates with existing park seamlessly. Hope to see it installed!

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
Perfect!

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
Captures the race track, which very few people remember the children will enjoy the park seeing this theme. The movement in the piece reflects the energy of the children.

The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix
love the concept

The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix
Very impressive!

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
With its depiction of children at play, it promotes a family-family atmosphere. It imparts joyful, positive feelings which will bring a smile to those who view it

The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix
I like how the theme of play was taken beyond the obvious child imagery - yet creates a figure children will still find intriguing. Love the colour choice for a natural setting. Attention to detail in the time period of the bridal and usch was also well conceived.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
Please please please do not choose the Leapfrog. I realize it is supposed to be an innocent child's game, but it looks far too sexual for a childrens park.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
I feel this sculpture reflects both the history of the park(referring to the actual race track and the
historically correct cart) while ensuring the playfulness of children is displayed through their actions and placement on the carousel. This sculpture feels like it belongs in this park.

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
Timeless and strong

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Twins (6) both chose the Haiku Tree. Their individual reasons (for liking it): "there are animals on it" and "it looks pretty & beautiful."

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
The horse head is grand. I like that the sculpture doesn't target a specific age group and further represents a game that can be learned & played by all ages. The Dundas Driving Park is for everyone to enjoy and the sculpture can rekindle the simplicity of Family and enjoyment of games with Friends.

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
I think this art is in keeping with the Driving Park heritage and looks beautiful.

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**
I am a Dundas resident who uses the park throughout the year. I feel that this is a fun piece that evokes happy memories for many. It therefore, appeals to all ages and would be an appropriate focal point for the wading pool area of our community park.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
This was a hard choice, with a lot of hemhaw on my part.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
This sculpture adds elements of whimsy and animation. It will not be static. It mimics the natural elements of the trees and is of a scale that will meet the natural elements on its own terms. It is not "cute" and will have a staying power that the others lack. The dynamic nature of the wind will play an integral part of the work which will enhance its overall whimsy.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
- The complement of ground situated animals works well for aesthetic (formal) and informative reasons.
- I don't think colour would improve this piece, on the contrary, I think it would diminish the piece.
- Haiku poetry inscribed on the trunk would necessitate walking through the flower bed if situated as depicted in the drawings. I don't think Haiku poetry is necessary anyway (a separate art piece?).
- Even though the proposed sculpture doesn't have specific human elements, it symbolizes a tree of life and has greater human significance than racing horses as a reference to the park's historical use.
- An example of contemporary sculpture! The other proposals have an Inuit/dated/conservative feel.

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**
While capturing an image of youth at play, this piece also speaks to the history of the driving park as a location for horse racing. As recent as the 1950s, pony rides were offered in the park in the area near the former bandshell. My late uncle worked as a caregiver to the ponies.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Finally one with some originality and aesthetically sophisticated form. Please let's not do the same old same old again (the other 3) with public art.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Cool! I like the movement in this one.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
This would be neat in this park - suits the location. The others seem pretty predictable, and heavy looking - not good lines.
**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
This one looks really elegant, and suits a park setting to reflect the surrounding trees and nature. The others seem lumpy.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
I love the whimsy of this, the balance and movement, and the inclusion of enough subject for family conversation. It blends elegantly with the surrounding natural landscape.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
The lines and shadows created with this will play through the shifts of light from early to late day, and will be of constant interest. This piece picks up on some classic children's book illustrations, and bridges the distance between representational art, and the beginnings of abstraction. It's a good way for everyone to connect with the interplay of human and natural in the park all around them.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Whimsical, spiritual presence makes the most of budget and placement restraints. Collaboration with local children will inspire ownership of the piece.

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
I like this one and the "Racing Carousel" as they both have play and history as the theme. I would be a bit afraid of my kids climbing on the Carousel and either getting injured or breaking it. I think this one is more sturdy and will stand the test of time with grace and beauty.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
I believe that this piece of art is more suitable to the location and more visually challenging to view. It is very creative.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
I just like trees and think this design very interesting. I know why the horse theme is there in the competition but how many of the children using the park now and in the future will know and/or care?

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
I believe that the design will invoke new thought patterns in the kid's heads.

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
This looks fun and inventive. The Haiku Tree will fit in with the beautiful trees in the park perfectly.

**Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos**
This of the 4, is not abstract and captures the racing oval that originally was the Park as well as fun and youthfulness) which is now the Park. The others are worthy in some other location

**Leapfrog by Daniel Davelaar**
As a young girl I always remember the park as being for families and to me children playing seems appropriate.

**The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix**
LOVE IT!!! Think the horse head chess piece is awesome!!

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Works with the natural area of the park! Many themes incorporated into 1 with nature, kids and animals as well as different cultures! It is also very appealing to the eye! Well done!

**Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly**
Wonderful design in a cultural but acceptable theme for a park. Understated but playful!
Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
An intriguing/exquisite creation that I perceive will draw attention to a large majority of those who visit the park of all ages that will provoke inquisitive discussion, investigation of it's origin/meaning and promote personal interpretations and reflection.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
Let's put art in downtown Dundas where more people can see it.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
The carousel seems to better capture the main theme of the park as being a park for kids and families as well as a place for family entertainment, sports and events. It also captures the nostalgia of the past both recent and historical. As an avid user of the park for years with my family I feel the art piece integrates very well and I would be pleased to sit and appreciate its originality as it would always capture my eye. It does not appear to be just another monument.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
What a great mix of old history and new purpose of the park - beautiful sculpture!

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
Delighted to see some strong, non kitchy/overly sentimental pieces, that work as contemporary sculpture.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
fitting to the proposed spot, something old and new would appreciate

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
They are all unique and special. It was difficult to choose. The Racing Carousel encompasses everything the Driving Park represents.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
I love the racing carousel idea. It really ties in the past and the present times of the Dundas Driving Park. So whimsical and wonderful. A beautiful addition to our park. I hope they win.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
Very nice and is unusual, very fresh!

Leapfrog by Daniel Davelaar
Would love it if the artist was from Dundas. Grow local, buy local and create local

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
Have captured the essence of the Drivingt park and also included the heritage.

Racing Carousel by Leslie Drysdale and Sandor Monos
This piece best reflects 'play and youth' and acknowledges the park’s history as a race track. Suggestion: an interpretive plaque highlighting the park’s history to be included with or near the piece.

Haiku Tree by Bryce Kanbara and Brian Kelly
Well thought-out, somewhat vandal resistant, a historical correct reference-although only a slight one

The Horse Chess Piece by Yvonne Felix
Here are my comments: I think the scale of all the three designs (Leapfrog, Racing Carousel, The Horse Chess Piece) are all way too small for this central location. This is a major focal point and I imagined something much larger which takes advantage of the vertical height available there. The Haiku Tree is the correct scale and height, but I feel the 2-dimensional quality of the sculpture is a let down, plus the human
connection is less obvious. For the amount of money being spent on this main sculpture I expected something much grander. Perhaps some of these could be utilized elsewhere.

That said, if I had to choose one of these proposals I would choose Yvonne Felix’s Horse Chess Piece - BUT - only if the scale were increased 2x-3x larger. It has some wonderful sculptural qualities in the piece and it does reflect on playfulness and youth (or those young at heart) while also making the historical connection of the park once being a horse race track.

So I would choose "The Horse Chess Piece" but make it 2x - 3x larger. Go big or go home.