Proposal Name: THE BIG BOUNCE
Artist(s): Paul Slipper and Mary Anne Liu

CONCEPT STATEMENT

Our goal for this project is to create a sense of celebration and reflect upon the history of the Town of Dundas. Balloons are one of the most recognizable icons for celebrations in modern times. They evoke memories of events such as sporting events, family picnics, parades, birthdays and happy occasions.

We propose placing highly polished granite balloons that appear as though they are bouncing along the ground through the park, giving the feeling of freedom and movement. Presented on the balloons are historical photos of the Town of Dundas and Dundas Driving Park. Images that are both intriguing and historical will be sand blasted onto the surface of the highly polished granite surface as though they are light reflections.

Up close, people will be drawn to touch and interact with the beautiful and unique qualities that only polished granite can showcase. Placed at strategic points along the pathway, viewers will be enticed to discover the imagery and qualities of each balloon. From a distance, the balloons will create a magical festive feel in this park setting.

A total of five balloons are envisioned for this project. Each will be 4’ high by 6’ long. The historical photos depicted by sand blasting will be at maximum 14” high by 20” wide. Two images placed on opposite sides of each balloon will encourage the viewer to move around the artwork. The selection & acquisition of the historical images may be in concert with the Dundas Driving Park Public Art Committee.

Granites from across Canada will be used, adding deep connections of the material to the sculptural concept and site area. The “string” tied to each balloon visually suggests the freedom and travel of the balloons.

Viewers of all ages and from all walks of life will easily be able to relate to “The Big Bounce”. This sculptural installation is a visual pun that juxtaposes concept with reality. While the form is delicate and soft conceptually, the stone is permanent and strong in reality.

We are very excited to work with the City of Hamilton and the Town of Dundas to create a compelling and timeless public artwork that conveys the concept of celebration and at the same time depict reflections of history.
ELEVATION PLAN AND MATERIAL DESCRIPTION

Elevation Sketch

Proposed Materials
- Cambrian Granite (black / Quebec)
- Aqua Mist Granite (white / BC)
- Vermillion Bay (Red / Ontario)
- Blue Pearl Granite (Blue / Norway)
- Golden Sands (Golden yellow / Brazil)

Balloon Strings
1.5” Dia. Stainless Steel Pipe ¼” wall thickness bent to shape, fasten and embedded into concrete foundations. (as per Engineering specs)

Foundations:
Concrete with steel rebar. (as per Engineering specs)

Engraved Designs

Historical Image Samples Sandblasted onto Granite Balloons (May be selected in conjunction with Public Art Committee)
Installation:
Each balloon will have a flat bottom that is undetectable after installation. A boom crane truck will be used to lift and lower each granite balloon into position. The Balloon concrete foundations are approximately a 3’X3’X3’ oval shaped pad reinforced with steel rebar 6” below surface, a collar shaped piece is used to support the balloon to the concrete foundation so that grass can be growing surrounding the balloon. (or as per engineering specs) The galvanized ¾” Dia. anchor pins @ 12” high will be set into the concrete foundations. Each balloon will be lowered onto the pins by the boom crane and attached with Hilti exterior stone glue. The “strings” are welded to a Stainless Steel collar. The collar will be attached to the balloon with a ¾” dia. 10” long pin for maximum strength. Each Balloon string will be set into its own foundation approximately 1’X1’X1’ into the ground. (or as per engineering specs).

Maintenance:
No maintenance is anticipated. Graffiti can be removed with standard graffiti removal methods. The highly polished and hard surface of the granite will not allow the paints to be absorbed into the stone.
Maquette: The Big Bounce