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*City Center Partnership Announces Fourth People’s Choice Winner
Thirteen Public Art Sculptures Added to the Community in Four Years*

MANKATO, Minn.— The City Center Partnership announced the 2014 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour award winners at the November 18th Greater Mankato Business Awards and Hall of Fame event. The People’s Choice was awarded to Eric Thorsen of Montana for his bronze sculpture “Green Sea Turtles”, which also won the Best in Show award in the bronze category. This sculpture will be purchased by the City Center Partnership and permanently installed in City Center Mankato.

Another annual recognition is the Best of Show. Sculptures were juried and selected by an esteemed group of judges including: Lois Peterson- Professor of Art and Art History at Gustavus Adolphus College, Andrew Overn- Associate Professor of Studio Art and Media Arts at Bethany Lutheran College, and Liz Miller – Professor in the College of Arts and Humanities, Minnesota State University, Mankato. Winning sculptures in “Other Materials” included, Best of Show – Honorable Mention, “The Rhino” by Dale Lewis of Minnesota; Best of Show – Third, “Gang Activity” by Judd Nelson of Minnesota; Best of Show – Second, “G-0048” by Greg Mueller of South Carolina; and Best of Show – “Embrace” by Serge Mozhnevsky of British Columbia. Winning sculptures in “Bronze” included, Best of Show – Honorable Mention, “Mothers Cherished Moment” by Ben Hammond of Utah; Best of Show – Third, “Indomitable Spirit” by Jerry McKellar of Colorado; Best of Show – Second, “Ghost Cat” by Fred Dobbs of Canada; and Best of Show – “Green Sea Turtles” by Eric Thorsen of Montana.

Since 2011, CityArt has facilitated the addition of thirteen permanent sculptures in City Center Mankato and throughout the community adding beauty and dimension to the downtown core. Plans are

well underway for the 2015 tour which will include approximately thirty sculptures with several spots reserved for artists from the Greater Mankato area.

The mission of the CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour is to create a professional, year-round outdoor sculpture program in the City Centers of Mankato/North Mankato that is both high-quality and artist-friendly. CityArt is a program of the City Center Partnership and a collaborative effort with the cities of Mankato and North Mankato. For additional information, please visit the City Center Partnership website, www.citycentermankato.com.

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