

BASE in PLACE

Stones to serve as bases for sculptures for the CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour beginning next month

25 sculptures to be displayed in downtowns

By Tim Krohn

tkrohn@mankatofreepress.com

The Kasota stone bases are in place around downtown Mankato and North Mankato, awaiting sculptures that will arrive from around the country a month from now.

The cities' first year-round CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour kicks off May 21, featuring 25 sculptures displayed along Hickory and Second streets in Mankato, and along Belgrade Avenue in North Mankato.

"It's exciting seeing it come to fruition with the unveiling of the bases," said Shannon Robinson, executive director of Twin Rivers Council for the Arts and co- chair of the CityArt committee.

The bases, put in place with front- end loaders Wednesday, were fabricated courtesy of Vetter Stone and carved out of 65,000 pounds of stone. Each base weighs between 1 and 2 tons.

Tami Norberg Paulsen, co- chair of the CityArt committee, said artists from as far as New York, Florida and Arizona will send or deliver the sculptures to be erected in May. (Four of the sculptures don't require a base.) None of the artists is from the Mankato region.

The sculptures were selected by the committee from more than 40 finalists.

Robinson said the sculptures range from 2 feet tall to larger than life size in mediums including bronze, marble, found materials and even bike handles.

" We have a very high caliber of artists who are displaying a nice combination of figural and abstract work," she said.

The idea for the sculpture tour dates back to 2006 and is modeled after a similar tour in Sioux Falls,

Please see BASES, Page [A2](#)





Photos by Pat Christman

City employees place a Kasota stone base in front of the civic center Wednesday — one of 21 placed around downtown Mankato and North Mankato. Next month, sculptures from around the country will be affixed to the bases as a walking sculpture tour kicks off.

Article Continued Below

[See BASES on Page A02](#)

BASES: Works to follow soon

Continued from Page A1

S.D. New sculptures will be presented each year.

At the end of the display period, individuals and businesses can purchase any of the sculptures. They have selling prices of between \$3,500 and \$20,000.

There will be “Best in Show” and a “People’s Choice” sculpture contests.

The People’s Choice sculpture will be purchased by the City Center Partnership and permanently installed in City Center Mankato.

On the web: www.cityartmankato.com

Powered by TECNAVIA

Copyright 2011 Mankato Free Press