

NADIA NIGGLI

608.333.3634

Madison, Wisconsin

nadianiggli@gmail.com

#### REVISED PROPOSAL

In response to feedback from the Parks Department and the Madison Arts Commission, I would like to submit the following revised proposal for an art installation at Vilas Park in Madison as part of a 2014 Blink Grant project.

#### PROJECT LOCATION

The most significant change I am proposing is to locate the sculpture in the rain garden at Vilas Beach. The sculpture will now be free-standing, a change from the original proposal of attaching to a bridge. Using a series of 24" stakes and at least two steel posts, the piece will sit securely within the footprint of the rain garden perimeter and will not interfere with park maintenance.

#### PROJECT DESIGN

The design of the sculpture remains largely unchanged, except for the material of the individual pieces: instead of copper, which is vulnerable to theft, I will make the small bowls ceramic. I am fabricating approximately twelve vertical strings of these bowls, which range from 3" to 6" in diameter. The chains will hang down from a lightweight but sturdy steel structure that will be fabricated by local metal artist Erika Koivunen.

This project will draw attention to the often over-looked but beautiful rain garden at Vilas and encourage visitors to consider water management issues in Madison.

#### PROPOSED TIMELINE

This will still be a temporary installation, lasting from May through October.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this project.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Niggli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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#### ARTIST STATEMENT

I design and make abstract work based loosely on nature. By creating organic but edited shapes, I can then play with repetition to explore scale, density and color. What I've kept coming back to over the past year has been a circle shaped into a very shallow bowl. I've been obsessively playing with this shape in a variety of media: metal, ceramic, wood, fabric and paper. It's a universal, abstract shape that reminds me of a million things. By stringing together many of these shallow bowls in a range of sizes, I am working with rhythm and creating a whole out of many parts.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

I will fabricate approximately eighteen vertical strings of these flat bowl shapes from oxidized copper. They will hang down from the underside edge of the northern bridge at Vilas park lagoon, hovering to just above the water. Bent copper wire will connect each bowl to the next, and each string will suspend about nine bowls, ranging from 3" to 9" in diameter. The oxidized copper will echo the lily pads and algae that grow so thickly in the lagoon.

This project will draw attention to a stunning but delicate landscape, one used by a variety of community members: parents, athletes, birdwatchers, zoo visitors and many more. In particular, I hope that it will encourage viewers to think about how overgrown our lakes have become.

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PROJECT LOCATION

First choice: northern bridge at Vilas Park lagoon

Second choice: one bridge (tbd) at Tenney Park lagoon

PROPOSED BUDGET

I am requesting \$1,500 for copper sheeting, copper wire, permalac, installation hardware and tools, insurance, photography, and minimum 50 hours of labor.

PROPOSED TIMELINE

I would like this to be a summer installation: May through early October.

REFERENCES

**Brenda Baker**

Director of Exhibits | Madison Children's Museum  
608.354.0545 bbaker@madisonchildrensmuseum.org

**James McKiernan**

Graphic Design Instructor | MATC Truax Campus  
608.246.6482 McKiernan@madisoncollege.edu

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