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## Deadlines

- Deadlines are: February 1, June 1, and October 1
- All application materials must be emailed to the Madison Arts Commission ([madisonarts@cityofmadison.com](mailto:madisonarts@cityofmadison.com)) by 4:30 pm on the day of the deadline.



*"The Beehive Project" by Chele Isaac, was an interactive public art project consisting of a large scale beehive, featuring a queen bee inside typing a story on an old typewriter. The public participated by helping to write the story.*

## Madison Arts Commission

The City of Madison (MAC) recognizes the unique value of the arts and the contribution they make to the quality of life within our community. Madison Arts Commission was created by ordinance in 1974, to advise the Mayor, Common Council and city agencies on matters which relate to the creation, presentation and funding of public art.

# BLINK Grant Application

## Applicant Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (no P.O. boxes) \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Project Description

Project Title \_\_\_\_\_

Location(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Start date/time \_\_\_\_\_ End date/time \_\_\_\_\_

Project costs:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional project income (if any):

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount requested from MAC

Estimated Total Costs / Income

Do you have the necessary insurance coverage?

Yes       No

Do you have all necessary permits and permissions?

Yes       No       In progress



## BLINK Grant Application (continued)

Conceptual Approach

Project Description (400 words or less)

**LILLIAN SIZEMORE****Cell: 415-793-0079****Lillian@Lilliansizemore.com****PROJECT PROPOSAL TITLE*****How lovely are thy branches?***

Temporary Labyrinth

Installation

**Proposed Location:****See attached site map**

The beautiful Historic Olbrich Park

3527 Atwood Ave. Madison, WI

Near the Biergarten grounds in a space suggested by and approved by Parks.

A sweeping vista of Lake Monona / 'Tchee-ho-bokee-xa-te-la' or 'Teepee Lake'

**Statement of Artistic Purpose**

Cretan-style Labyrinths are among the most ancient forms of land-art. I want to construct this beautiful symmetric form for the community of Madison. This archetypal labyrinth design consists of a single pathway that loops back and forth to form seven circuits, bounded by eight walls, surrounding the central goal.

Labyrinths draw us into the center with balance and harmony. Walking the winding back-and forth circuits has been scientifically proven to gently rock our neurological connections into a state of deep flow. In a labyrinth there is no wrong way. You follow one way in and one way out. By contrast, a maze is designed to confuse and confound with many dead ends.

I propose to use pine trees resourced from the City's discarded Christmas tree pick-up program to bring a sense of vitality to the construction. It will give a "second life" to these fragrant noble pines, and extend and enrich the sensations of winter.

**We are social beings: create the mindset for fostering positive change**

Revitalizing an unused area for the public in winter would add a festive destination to an already well-loved and well-known location. The labyrinth would serve as gathering place and be open to all to walk in safe distances, to synchronize energy, to slow down, to imbue peace and calm, ease anxiety and connect with nature. Ultimately, it is a solo experience, even when walking with others. It is a rich time to create the mindset needed for creating and fostering positive change.

A small weather-proof sign would be on site as suggestion on how to approach your walk in the labyrinth. (Parks/Streets has already approved sign format)

### The central goal: a placemaking site for positive intention

The labyrinth design has a cross at its center point. This is The Moss Mound. The area will be covered with reindeer moss, birchbark, and other natural materials. The Moss Mound is for leaving rocks, spontaneous messages for the earth, hopes and ideas for ‘global cooling’, a placemaking site for positive intention.

Offerings can be left for our lakes, forests, skies and birds, air, native land, sunsets, sunrises, for loved ones, to all our relations. People and nature collaborate in the ancient tradition of walking a labyrinth connecting inner and outer worlds. Happiness, meaning, fulfillment, worth, beauty, pleasure. Those gifts, in turn, make it possible for us to act collectively.

- An archive of the offering items brought to the Labyrinth would be photographed and stored for a period of time as an extension of this temporary interactive project.
- Early evening ceremonies could be planned for opening and closing events.
- Opening and closing events could be videotaped or live streamed.

### Why Pines?

Cultures around the world identify the tree as an ancient symbol of life. Long before there was a Christmas, Egyptians brought green palm branches into their homes on the shortest day of the year in December as a symbol of life’s triumph over death. Romans adorned their homes with evergreens during Saturnalia, a winter festival in honor of Saturnus, their god of agriculture.

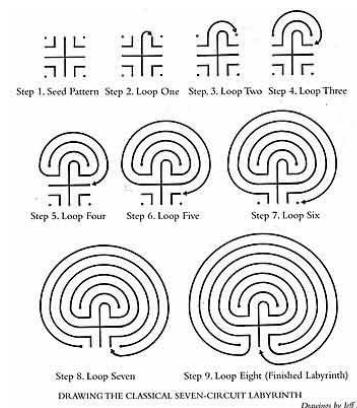
I live near to the proposed site, and would make daily pilgrimages during the exhibition period to check the site. There is a beauty in aging and allowing the space to evolve over the life of the exhibition period.

## 1.0 METHOD / Approach

**1.1 Construction:** the labyrinth would be constructed from the discarded Christmas Trees as cut log lengths and pine boughs stacked and interwoven to approximately 12” height. The width of the curvilinear pathways are 1:2 width, the “negative space” is the walking pathway is calculated at 36” wide. The boughs would outline the pathway design of the Cretan labyrinth.

The labyrinth will be geometrically accurate but made by hand, by and for the People.

**1.2 Natural Material/Greenery** would be procured from the Christmas Tree Drop Off Campaign. A voluntary citizen drop off site with signage at the Park was recommended by Streets & Parks.



(See below 2.0 Methods) The trees would be cut down into log lengths and pine boughs, so they can be interwoven to create the curvilinear pattern of the labyrinth. This processing could take place on site.

**1.3 Proposed Site:** To enhance the continued efforts of employing underutilized outdoor spaces for artistic and recreational use, based on Parks recommendation, I am suggesting the use of Olbrich Park near the Biergarten area. (see attached site map)

**1.4 Accessibility:** Public parking, public transportation and bike racks are available at this site. Restrooms are closed for the season.

**1.5 Security:** No need for security services outside of what is currently done for the park. Nothing of value to be stolen or vandalized. Certainly the nature of an outdoor installation could be disrupted by wind, heavy snows, or mischief. Given the circumstances, it may be possible to refresh the labyrinth construction as needed during the exhibition period. The piece will be checked regularly and maintained throughout the exhibition period.

## 2.0 METHOD / Logistics Christmas Tree Drop Off

**2.1 Permission** Parks has already approved this project and will issue a Temporary Land Use Permit for the labyrinth. We have agreed on a tree drop off site (see attached site map) and I will invite the community to drop off their trees to the site. I would arrange a small team of helpers (2-3 people) to cut down the pine boughs and prepare them for use in the labyrinth. We would use small chain saw, loppers, and electric saws.

## 2.2 Streets Division Tree Pick Ups

Streets has agreed to pick up tree construction debris when construction of the labyrinth is completely constructed and at the end of the project after the labyrinth is deconstructed.

**2.3 Calculation** of plant material needed:

Labyrinth will be estimated 42 ft wide x 45 ft high

One standard Xmas Tree = 6 linear feet at 12" depth  
for path. Outside path #1 = 42 feet diameter = 132 ft  
circumference x pi (3.14 ) = linear feet  
+ the 7 pathways of diminishing diameter +  
entranceway

> Approximate minimum 200 to 250 trees needed

**3.0 Timeline****Proposed Timeline:****2021**

FEBRUARY - planning meetings, logistical discussions, permits, budget

MARCH- MAC Blink Grant funding, ID other sources for funding

APRIL-NOV Request for sponsorships, support partners/volunteers, pro bono commitments

OCT -NOV-DEC - Public awareness campaigns, notifications to neighbors, volunteer coordination. Draft a letter that would go out to neighborhood groups (Eastmorland, SASY, Atwood, Marquette, Eken Park, etc.)

**2022**

JANUARY: Tree drop off and collection at Park - from early- to mid-January — (MLK day or so)

LAST WEEK JAN - break down tree material, construct labyrinth on site, news/PR

FIRST WEEK FEBRUARY- Labyrinth opens to public, for 30-45 days duration.

FEBRUARY - ongoing photographic documentation, news/PR, interviews with the public 2022

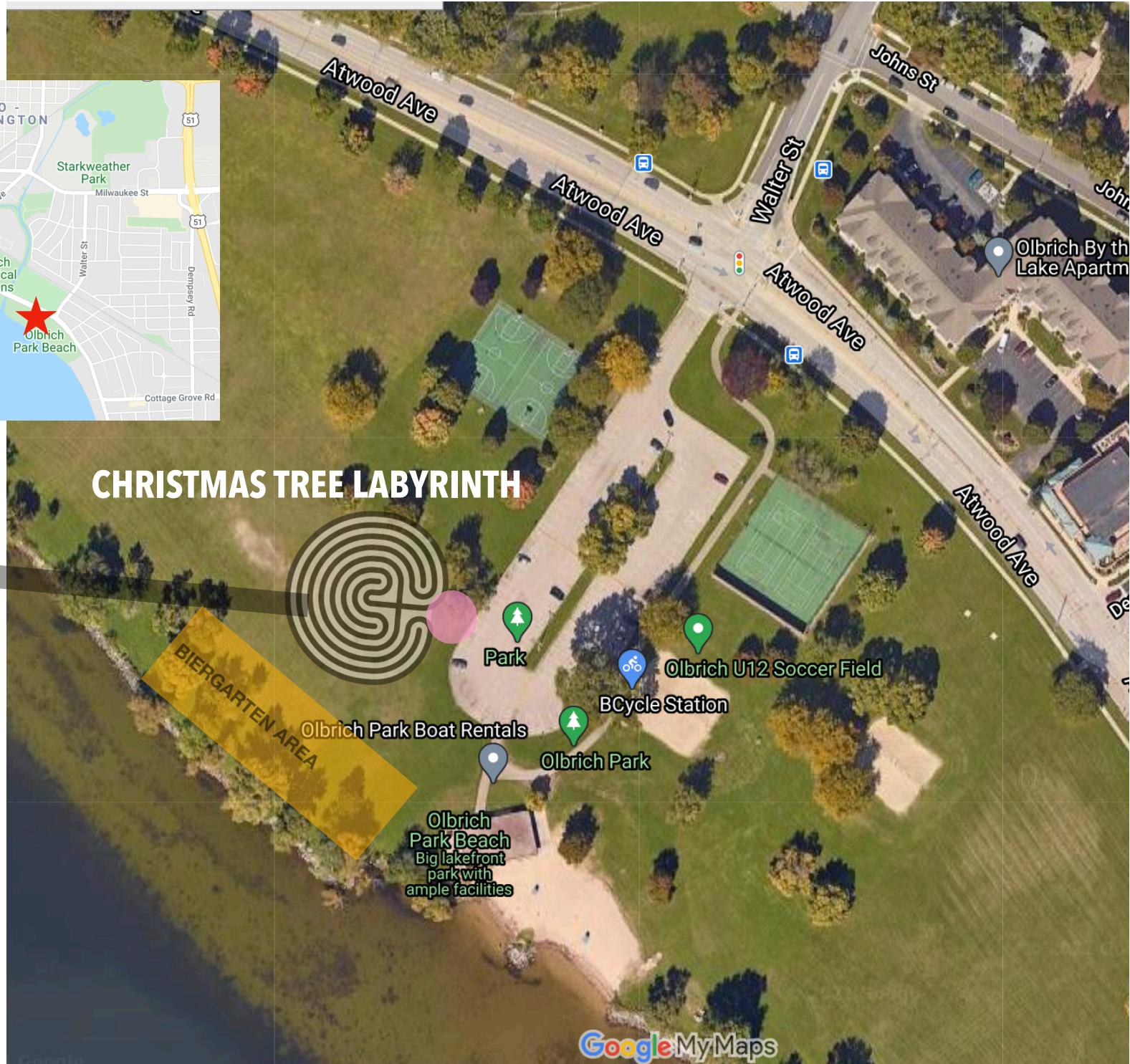
MARCH 15 - Estimated date for DE-Install weather depending.

MID-MARCH - Team Clean up and City pick up debris.

LATE March - Blueberry Mulch!, finalize documentation, 'Zine or booklet about the project.



# LILLIAN SIZEMORE



Madison, Wisconsin



Google

Street View



Google

