

# Sculptures Walk Placement To Begin Downtown Friday

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The University of South Dakota (USD) is bringing a little art to downtown Vermillion.

In 2013, USD placed six sculptures around its campus and received enough positive feedback that Larry Schou, the dean of the School of Fine Arts, decided to bring an idea to the Vermillion City Council of four new sculptures to be placed downtown.

An agreement was made and with the help of Sculpture Walk Sioux Falls, the pieces were chosen and will be installed Friday, Aug. 14.

“Sioux Falls Sculpture Walk has heard good kudos from USD alumni,” Schou said. “Jim Clark (the director of Sculpture Walk Sioux Falls) told me last week that he’s had a lot of people say, ‘I really enjoy the sculptures down at USD’. Those things really started us thinking that maybe the city would like some.”

The Vermillion City Walk program is partnered with Sculpture Walk Sioux Falls and will work on a two-year lease.

The committee in Sioux Falls put out a call to national and international sculpture artists to submit designs. They then choose 30-40 pieces to propose to Schou and his committee to decide what would fit best in downtown Vermillion.

An additional seven sculptures will be added to the USD campus bringing the total to 11 new sculptures around the community.

The pieces slated for downtown are going to be placed in four different locations on Main Street: in front of the Edith B. Siegrist Library, in front of Bank of the West, in front of Whoopti Do and on the Platz. The pieces vary in size from eight feet to two feet.

“Some of them are bigger than others,” Schou said. “We kind of pick and choose the site. Like the one (at Bank of the West), we wouldn’t want a big one because there’s traffic with people turning corners and a big one could get in the way of them seeing around it, so it’s a smaller one.”

As part of the leasing program, every two years the sculptures will be traded out for four new pieces and each one will cost the city \$1,200 per year to display, totaling \$6,000 a year. The seven on the USD campus are paid for by the school.

Currently, there is no formal presentation scheduled. Schou anticipates a celebration in early September, but he is hoping the new art will bring



COURTESY PHOTO  
**This sculpture piece titled “Back Channel” will be one of four placed in downtown Vermillion on Friday.**

more people to downtown Vermillion to boost business.

“The arts can really do a lot of things to collaborate with businesses,” Schou said. “We bring people to town to enjoy the arts and then businesses can then sell things and people stay at hotels or people go out to dinner because of the arts.”

If Schou sees success with the new sculptures, he’s hoping to expand on the Vermillion City Walk by bringing in even more pieces for people to enjoy.

“People are thinking already that we could have more than four, but we went with four to start downtown

because it’s a new program,” he said. “We want to see how people enjoy it. If they don’t, we’ll stop. If they do, we might continue to build and grow on it.”

Brochures will be made available with information about each artist and a description of each piece with maps of the USD campus and downtown Vermillion. They will be equipped with numbers corresponding to each sculpture to match the locations with the descriptions and will be available at different locations throughout USD and Vermillion.

## Market Street Water Tower Set For Demolition On Tuesday

Iseler Demolition plans to remove the Market Street water tower on Tuesday, August 18, 2015. Preparation of the site and materials will begin early on Tuesday morning. A crane is expected to arrive around 7:30 am to begin work. The majority of the work is anticipated to be completed during the day of August 18, 2015. Bloomington Street will be closed from Market Street to Court Street while the work takes place. The north-south alley between Market Street and Court Street will also be closed while the work takes place. Unfavorable weather conditions may delay demolition of the water tower.

The 100,000 gallon Market Street water tower was constructed in 1908. The water tower has been removed from the City of Vermillion water system with the completion of the 500,000 gallon Shriner Street water tower.

For more information or questions contact City Hall at (605) 677-7050.

## Fia Rose Boutique To Hold Grand Opening On Saturday

Fia Rose Boutique by Sunflower Photography will be opening it’s second store this Saturday, August 15th in Vermillion at 918 E. Cherry Street.

Grand Opening festivities will run from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. with a free scarf to the first 50 people and free tote with \$100 purchase. Appetizers and drinks will be provided.

Karen Bankowski has been the owner of Sunflower Photography for more than 7 years in Sioux Falls and started Fia Rose Boutique more than a year ago. She is an Alumni of USD, and graduated with a B.F.A.

## Former USD Teacher Who Played Prominent Role At FDA Dies At 101

A former University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine teacher who later prompted sweeping changes in how drugs are evaluated and approved has died at age 101.

Dr. Frances Oldham Kelsey died Aug. 7 of natural causes at her daughter’s home in London, Ontario, Canada, said one of her two daughters, Christine Kelsey.

Dr. Kelsey, featured in the Fall-Winter 2014 edition of South Dakota MD, operated a private medical practice in Vermillion and taught pharmacology at USD in the 1950s. Before coming to South Dakota, she received her medical degree and taught at the University of Chicago, where she met her husband, Dr. Fremont Ellis Kelsey. The FDA recruited her in 1960 to serve in Washington as a medical officer and help the newly formed government agency protect public health and safety.

“When people are writing about her, they often jump from Chicago to Washington, but in fact her South Dakota years were very important,” Christine Kelsey said, referring to pages 33-43 of her mother’s autobiography posted on the FDA website.

Just one month into the position, she was assigned to review the application for a drug known as thalidomide. Expectant mothers in Canada, Africa and Europe had been using the sedative and painkiller to ease “morning sickness” symptoms and other discomforts. Its manufacturer sought to have it approved for use in the United States. But Kelsey suspected it might harm a fetus during pregnancy and refused to approve it for sale. That prompted a high-profile fight between the pharmaceutical company and the FDA. Kelsey’s suspicions were eventually confirmed when researchers discovered birth defects among children whose mothers had used it.

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