

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4 November 2019

What: *The Arch of Nature* – a new sculpture creates a gateway to Riverside North

Where: Riverside North, near its east entrance off Copeland Avenue (just north of the La Crosse River)

When: November 4 until completion

Who: City of La Crosse Arts Board

“The Arch of Nature” is a new sculpture for a newly envisioned space in Riverside North.

The sculpture, designed by Roald Gundersen, is inspired by the Losey Memorial Arch at the entrance to Oak Grove Cemetery, which is based on the triumphal arch of antiquity.

“Triumphal,” is defined as celebrating a triumph, or showing a feeling of triumph. “The Arch of Nature” celebrates no military victory or singular, monumental achievement. And unlike the permanence of other triumphal gateway arches, “The Arch of Nature” instead celebrates the triumph of nature’s ability to survive by changing, acknowledging the ephemerality of our existence. It serves as a gateway from our urban world into the wetland habitat, a passage between downtown and the new Riverside North development. An initiative of the City Arts Board, “The Arch of Nature” is the inaugural sculpture for a space that may soon become home to more artworks.

“The Arch of Nature” is being constructed entirely from invasive species that are growing in the La Crosse River marsh: buckthorn and black locust. These small trees are harvested to form the structure of the arch, and the harvest itself has opened up views of the wetland areas along the paved trail. Volunteers are welcome to assist in the project throughout the month of November.

For interviews or more information regarding the sculpture or about the City Arts Board:
contact Doug Weidenbach at DWeidenbach@lacrossecounty.org

To volunteer/assist in assembling the sculpture: contact Roald Gundersen at
roaldgundersen1@gmail.com