

# Tulsa International Airport

Art Inventory



# Sculptures & Statues

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# Sooner Sandhills

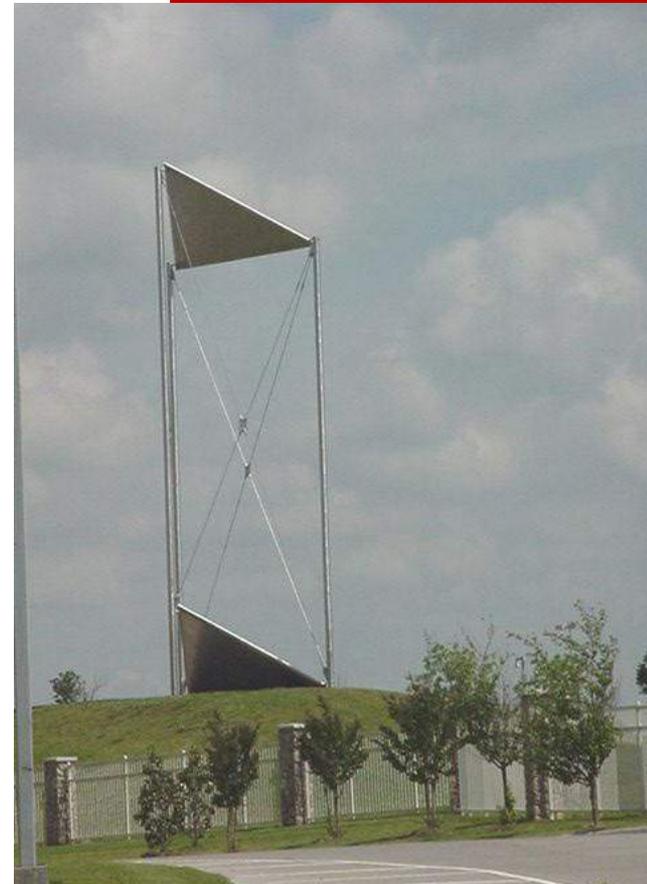
This sculpture of sandhill cranes titled “Sooner Sandhills” was sculpted by Mike Sughrone and is located on the airport roadway just as visitors leave the airport. The sculpture was presented by Natureworks to Carl Pireceall as the winner of the 2005 Wildlife Stewardship Award for his unselfish dedication to wildlife conservation.



# Pilot's Memorial

This 55 foot tall abstract metal representation of a biplane wing stands in the center of the public parking lot and is visible from most areas of the airport.

Internationally known artist, David Von Schlegell, crafted the work from stainless steel. Installed in April 1983, it is "Pilot's Memorial" in memory of the many US World War II Pilots.



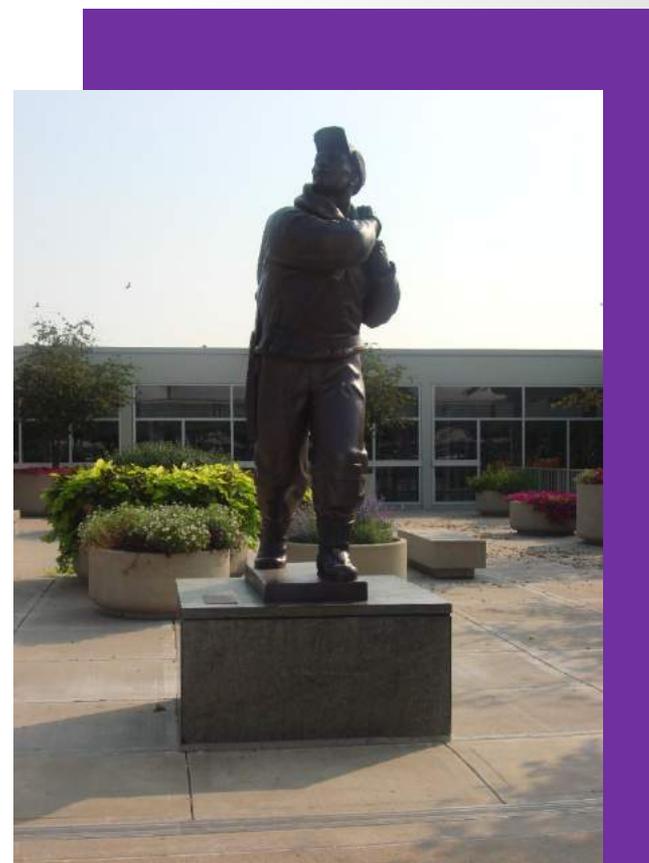
# Morning Mission

This statue is located outside the Center Concourse and is a replica of a smaller version titled “Morning Mission” by Robert Weinman, U.S.A.A.F. The original was completed in 1947.

During World War II, 16,000 young men of the United States and Allied Nations received flight training at the Tulsa Municipal Airport and subsidiary fields. Of these, 14,000 were trained by the Spartan School of Aeronautics and 2,000 by the United States Army.

This statue is gratefully dedicated in memory of these gallant gentlemen, particularly those that lost their lives in combat.

It was a gift of Georgia H. Lloyd Jones on November 16, 1961. The original sculpture is located in Schwab Hall.



# Oklahoma Scissor-Tailed Flycatcher

This statue is located just past the security checkpoint in the Center Concourse and was installed in 2015 . Sculptor Bryce Pettit's roughly 10-foot-tall "Flycatcher" is the 26th heroic-size wildlife monument to be commissioned and donated to a Tulsa area public venue by NatureWorks patrons. The artwork comprises about 450 pounds of bronze with a 150-pound stainless-steel base.

Positioned on roughly a 5½-foot rotating base, the sculpture stands about 16 feet high.

The sculpture depicts two scissor-tailed flycatchers — Oklahoma's state bird — in their well-known habit of flying close together during breeding season.



# Joy

This statue is located in the Sculpture Garden, just outside of Baggage Claim A.

It was sculpted by Artist Dominic Benhura, a Zimbabwean born in 1968. Benhura began his career in sculpture at the age of ten. He quickly excelled and sold his first piece professionally to architects at the age of twelve.

His work is bold and daring. Nature, family, and the relationships with his children are his main inspiration for his sculptures. Benhura has an exceptional ability to portray human feeling through form rather than facial expression, as showcased in both his Joy sculpture and Energy sculpture.

The sculptures included in the garden were donated by the Dr. Simon and Rita Levit family in 2014.



# Energy

This statue is located in the Sculpture Garden, just outside of Baggage Claim A.

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# Positive and Negative Tree

This statue is located in the Sculpture Garden, just outside of Baggage Claim A.

It was sculpted by Artist Menashe Kadishman, an Israeli born in 1932. He is a sculptor and painter best known for his large-scale metal and iron simplistic urban sculptures.

In his adolescence, Kadishman worked as a Sheppard in Kibbutz, a communal community in Israel that was customarily based on agriculture. His experience with nature, sheep, and shepherding had a significant impact on his later artistic work and career.

The sculptures included in the garden were donated by the Dr. Simon and Rita Levit family in 2014.



# Embedded Lens

This statue is located in the Sculpture Garden, just outside of Baggage Claim A.

This piece, titled Embedded Lens, was created by artist Jonathan Prince. It is made of corten and chromium stainless steel, and stands at 168 x 173 x 46 cm.

This sculpture was donated by the Levit family in April 2022.



# Will Rogers

This bust of humorist Will Rogers, Oklahoma's Native Son, is located in Schwab Hall next to the entrance doors. The life study of Will Rogers was created by Jo Davidson and presented to the Tulsa Municipal Airport, and City of Tulsa by S.N. Goldman in 1953.



# Wiley Post

This bust of Wiley Post, famed American Aviation and friend of Will Roger's, is located in Schwab Hall near the entrance doors. The life study of Wiley Post was presented to the Tulsa Municipal Airport and City of Tulsa by S.N. Goldman in 1961.



# PFC Albert E. Schwab

The statue depicts Albert Schwab, Medal of Honor Recipient, as he's saying goodbye to his younger sister, JoAnn. She was only fourteen years old when he headed off to war, but he left an indelible imprint on her life. She never saw him again after that goodbye.

The statue form was crafted in the artist's studio in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma and transported to the Lands End Foundry in Paonia, Colorado to be cast.

The statue was dedicated at Tulsa International Airport on June 3, 2011 and placed at the main entrance to Schwab Hall.



Mark C. Parsons worked with students in Sue Park's pre-advanced placement (AP) biology class at Tulsa's Central High School. The students had been told that Parsons used his art to express certain ideas about science through his own personal experiences. To take a closer look at the intersection of art and science, Parsons began with a slide show about his own sculpture and printmaking, as well as his travels by sailboat to ports in foreign lands. His slides illustrated how different character traits are a part of different people in different countries. He brought many different ways of thinking and a world view that the students had never been exposed to.

Parsons continued his work with students Alger Middle School in Grand Rapids, Michigan and Arlington Arts Center in Arlington, Virginia. Brown patina castings were created by students in Grand Rapids, green patina castings were created by students in Arlington, and the blue patina castings were created by the Central High School students in Tulsa. *FreeField* (2008-2011) was commissioned by VSA, the international organization on arts and disability, a program of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. *FreeField* was installed at Tulsa International Airport on November 22, 2013.

## Free Field



# Murals & Photography

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# Imagine

Local artist, Carmen Taylor created the vibrant 11'6" tall by 48' long mural titled, "IMAGINE" is located outside on the Departures roadway, across from the American and Delta ticket counters.

The mural features three children seated on the backs of scissor-tailed flycatchers soaring through the air in front of the word "IMAGINE". The kids are engaged in whimsical play as they throw paper airplanes, fly a toy airplane and wave the Tulsa flag. The "G" in "IMAGINE" is designed to meld into the shape of Oklahoma with a heart indicating where Tulsa is. The design signifies community, playfulness and wonder. The purpose of this mural is to inspire kids and adults alike to think about the endless possibilities that life has to offer.

This mural is the first completed project funded by a Tulsa Creates Together Grant. Tulsa Creates Together is a site-specific art campaign presented by Living Arts of Tulsa in partnership with the George Kaiser Family Foundation.



# Oklahoma Welcomes You

*Oklahoma Welcomes You* is an artistic interpretation of the State of Oklahoma's new brand. Featuring a color palette from Tulsa-based multidisciplinary artist Alexander Tamahn's signature vibrant portfolio, the mural figuratively incorporates the state logo as the sun resting in the hills, nestled among the billowing clouds. The artist's intentional choice of the phrase, "Oklahoma Welcomes You" personalizes the state and endears it to residents and guest.

The mural is located in the Concourse B exit lane.

*A project of the Oklahoma Arts Council's Art in Public Places program in partnership with the Office of Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, and the Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust.*



# The Smithsonian Institution Hall of Petroleum Mural

**Artist: Delbert Jackson**

The Smithsonian Institution Hall of Petroleum Mural is located in Concourse B Baggage Claim. Originally given to the Smithsonian Institution, the mural was acquired by the City of Tulsa under the auspices of Gilcrease Museum in 1997. Thanks to the generosity of Amoco Foundation and The Helmerich Foundation, the mural was restored and installed at Tulsa International Airport on June 26, 1998. The Tulsa Airport Authority, Tulsa Arts Commission, and Lucille C. Jackson assisted with the project. Herb Fritz was the architect who designed the installation. Perry Huston & Associates of Fort Worth, Texas completed the restoration.

The mural measures 13 feet tall by 56 feet wide and portrays the operations and equipment of the petroleum industry circa 1966. It features almost every phase from exploration through drilling, production, refining, transportation, and final distribution to the consumer. Of the 44 persons in the painting, 24 can be recognized as actual Oklahoma oilmen, with two others in associated fields. These men are depicted - for the most part - working at the jobs they performed at the beginning of their industry careers. At least two of the persons in the painting were local members of SPEBSQSA (Barbershop Harmony Society), which was founded in Tulsa.



Walter H. Helmerich, II, Chairman of the Board at Helmerich & Payne, Inc., was an early enthusiast and promoter of the mural idea and assumed the responsibility for contacting others in the oil industry about participating in the sponsorship of the project. The ten companies which sponsored the production of the mural in 1966 and donated it to the Smithsonian Institution were Litton Industries, Dowell Division of Dow Chemical Co., Helmerich & Payne, Inc., Oilwell Division of the United States Steel, Hughes Tool Co., Flint Engineering and Construction Co., Sunray DX Oil Company, and Williams Brothers Company.





# Centennial Park Murals

Two photomurals taken in Centennial Park of the Tulsa skyline were photographed by Tulsa Airport Authority employee, Michelle Evans. The murals were installed in August 2007 on the backside of the elevators located on the lower level at the end of the tunnels from the rental car garage.



# Tulsa History – Frank Gohlke

There are two remaining photo murals from a series of murals that were taken by internationally known photographer Frank Gohlke in the Tulsa area in 1979-1980. The photomurals were purchased with 1% art funding from a 1978 construction project at the airport.

One mural represents Tulsa as it was once known, the “Oil Capital of the World”. Tulsa was home to several operating refineries on the west bank of the Arkansas River during the early 1900’s. The pipelines are typical of the maze that carries petroleum products throughout the country.

The other mural, depicting Tulsa’s highway expansion throughout the 1970s and 1980s, is located on the upper level above Concourse A Ticket Counters and shows the construction of the Inner Dispersal Loop encompassing Downtown Tulsa.

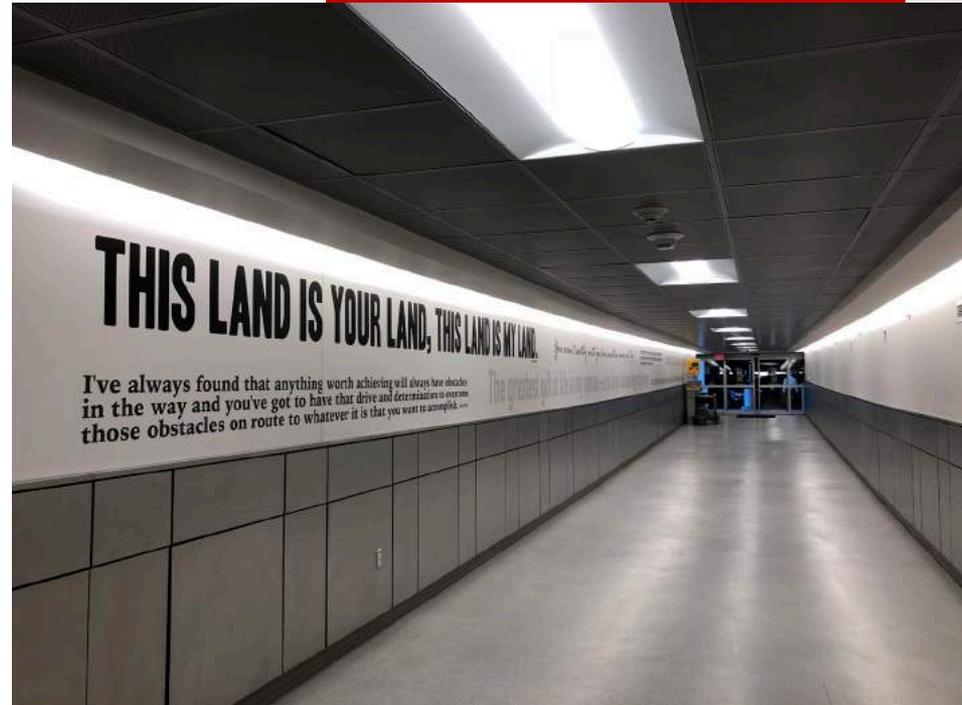


# Famous Oklahomans Pedestrian Tunnels

The pedestrian tunnels leading passengers from the airport parking garage to the concourses feature quotes from famous Tulsans and Oklahomans. The quotes were designed by local Tulsa artist, John Hammer, and printed on vinyl wall wraps that adhered directly to the tunnels.

Concourse A features quotes from Woody Guthrie, Chuck Norris, Garth Brooks, Kristin Chenoweth, and more.

Concourse B features quotes from Will Rogers, Carrie Underwood, Mickey Mantle, and more.



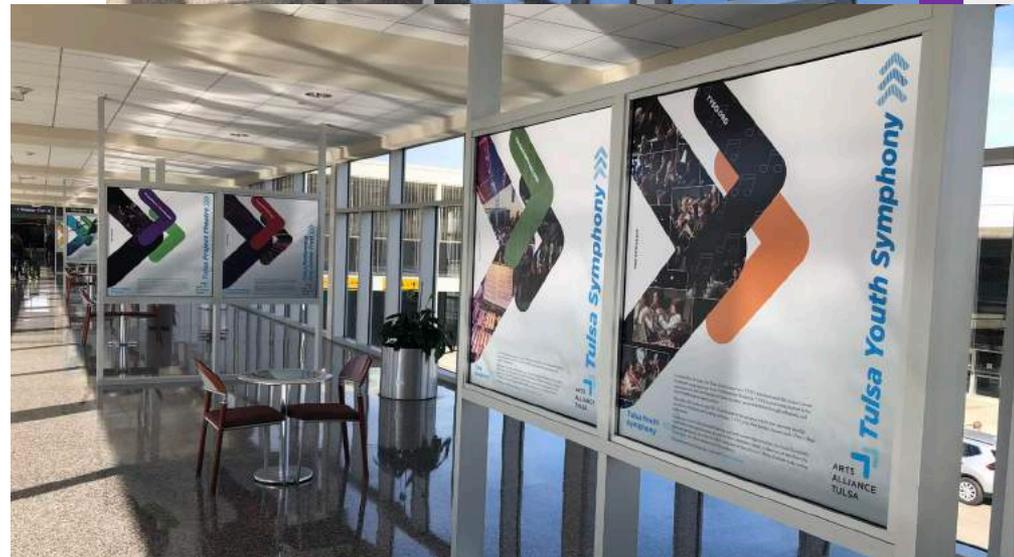
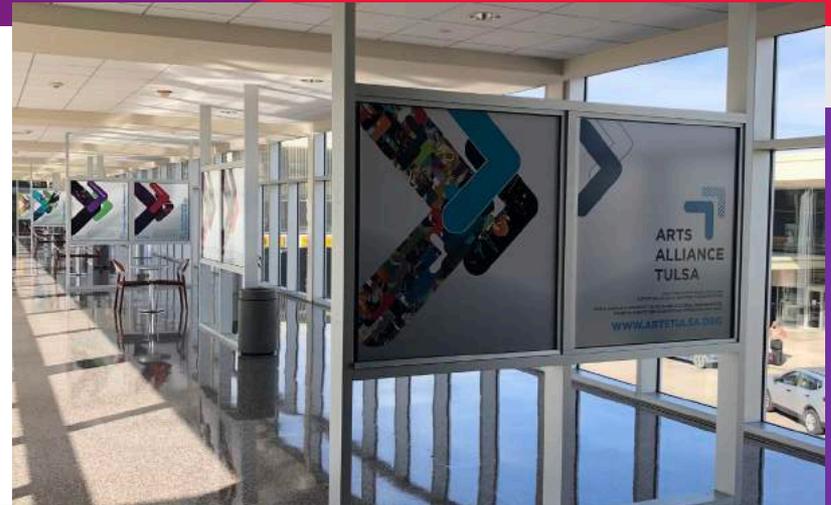
# Arts Alliance Passenger Bridge

Arts Alliance Tulsa has created an Arts and Culture Walkway between the baggage claim areas at Tulsa International Airport.

The walkway, which has 44 signs promoting the organization's 40 nonprofit Arts Alliance members, is a collaboration between the airport and Alliance.

Travelers can view the signs and also enjoy the recently dedicated Levit Sculpture Garden located outside the building's front windows.

The signs are designed to inform travelers of each of the 40 organizations' mission and purpose.



# Artifacts & Displays

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# Flight #918

*Temporary Exhibit on Display until January 2023. Located in the Concourse A Waiting Area.*

This exhibit features the work of local artist, Ralph Weidling and includes four unique sculptural steel and abstract chemical steel canvas pieces that represent a city and state full of natural resources and rich history.

They focus on Tulsa's Art Deco, extensive oil history, and Native American representation. The pieces include *Tulsa Time Deco*, featuring black and gold art deco style, *Yanasi*, featuring a buffalo and Native American representation with the word hello in the Five Civilized Tribes languages, *Black Gold*, a piece with oil images and the Tulsa skyline, and lastly, *Tulsa Way*, a scene of Tulsa roadways showing a finished Gilcrease Expressway.



# Billy Parker Pusher Plane

The Billy Parker Pusher Plane is located in the right entrance to Schwab Hall. Parker's pilot's license, no. 44, was approved and signed by Orville Wright.

Parker modeled his planes from the designs of the Wright Brothers and Glenn Curtis, and constructed this plane in 1914 when he was only 16 years old. He built a total of 10 planes, and today only two are still in existence. One was donated to Tulsa International Airport, and the other is on display in the Phillips 66 Corporate Museum in Bartlesville, OK.

The plane's frame is constructed from wood and wire, and the skin is made of denim fabric. It was originally powered by a French 50 H.P. engine. The fuel tank was mounted above the engine to take advantage of gravity to feed the engine.

Parker worked for Phillips Petroleum in Bartlesville, OK and developed Phillips Petroleum's aviation department. He was responsible for developing the first controllable pitch propeller, which controls the angle of the propeller as it moves through the air, enabling propeller airplanes to fly over 300mph and as high as 30,000ft. Charles Lindbergh, Wiley Post, and General Hap Arnold were among Parker's closest friends.



# A Piece of the Great Wall of China

This stone piece from the Great Wall of China was given to the people of the United States of America during a meeting of the China-U.S. Liaison Committee for International Enterprises. The People's Republic of China gave this artifact in 1988 and it is currently being stored in Tulsa Airport Authority offices.



# Model of Tulsa International Airport's Terminal

This scale model of the passenger terminal at Tulsa International Airport was dedicated in 1996 by the Tulsa Airport Authority. It is located in the waiting area for Concourse B.



# Runway Cut Out

This piece is a cutout of the main runway at Tulsa International Airport. The cut out allows passengers to see the different levels of a runway from the sub-base to the groves on top of the pavement.

It is located on the Upper Level to the right of the Security Checkpoint.



# Model Aircraft Displays

There are two displays of model aircraft from The General Edward McFarland Collection at Tulsa International Airport. One is located in Baggage Claim A and the other in Baggage Claim B.

The models in the displays are part of a much larger collection owned by the Tulsa Air & Space Museum located on the north side of the airport.

