

URBAN Forest



The aim of this exhibition is to bring nature to those who might not always take time to appreciate it. It will also bring to question the role of humans in nature and the human definition of nature. Upon arriving at the gallery, the visitor will be standing at a higher elevation than the gallery below. Live trees will be installed in the gallery so the visitor can look upon the artificial forest from above and then journey down the stairs to get a closer look. These trees will be Wisconsin native and tagged with their common name and scientific name. Among the trees will be small pots of soil, placed by visitors. These pots of soil will originate on a table in the front of the room where visitors are encouraged to pick out a provided seed packet, make a label, plant the seed in the pot, and place it somewhere in the forest. These seeds will all be Wisconsin natives and any plants that happen to germinate during the exhibition will eventually be planted in a restoration project in the wild.

Not only will this exhibition bring awareness of the kind of biodiversity Wisconsin holds, but it will also allow visitors to interact with nature in a way they never have before. They have the chance to pick out any plant they like and see the seed in their hand. This seed holds the potential to become a part of real nature after its time in the artificial nature created in the gallery is over.

-Laura Aprill

