

Public art is known to have many intrinsic benefits for communities, as they can help create place/spaces, inspire scholarship, and simply lighten the spirit. Installation and maintenance of public art pieces can be seen as an extension of the broken windows theory, which encourages positive community behavior by creating and maintaining a positive atmosphere.

However, even with a municipal arts agency, there are places in the city of Madison where there is a noticeable absence of art. As public art can also be seen as the government's interest in its citizenry's well being, there is work to be done.

The **vast majority** of the statues in the city of Madison occur within this frame. The City of Madison Arts Commission, comfortably housed in Capital Square, devotes its collection to the city's highlights: the capital (building and square), the Olbrich Botanical Gardens and the Elmside community.

It appears to effectively ignore other communities in the city which would benefit greatly from the presence of public art.



Where the Limelight Shines, Public Art in the City of Madison

