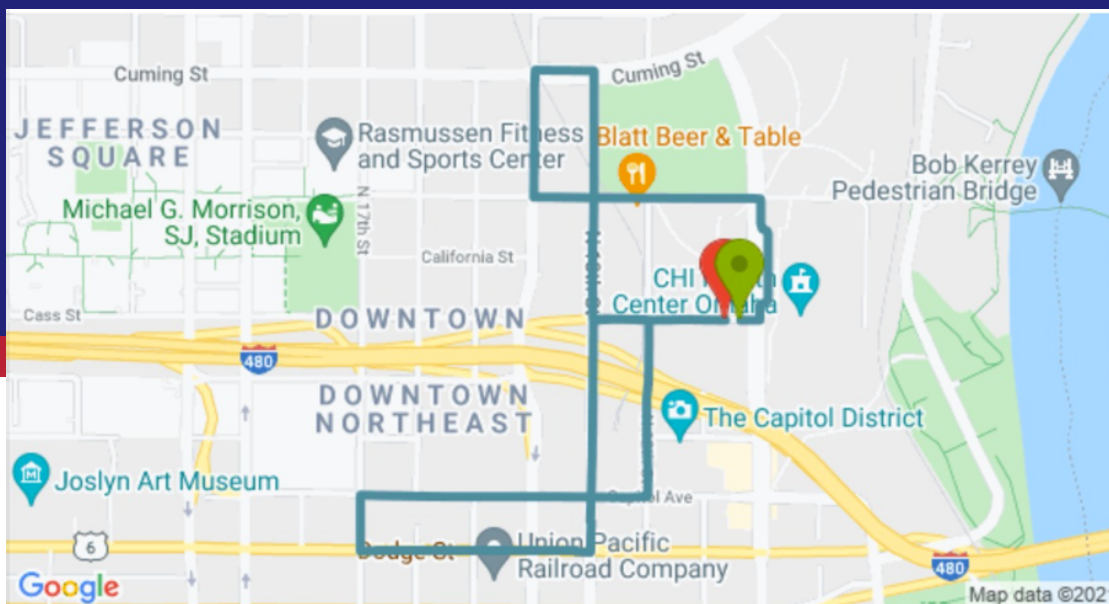


# HEARTLAND **B**cycle™



## PUBLIC ART BIKE TOUR

### DOWNTOWN OMAHA ROUTE



#### DISTANCE

2.4 mi

#### RIDE TYPE

Paved



Classic



Scan this code to start riding. Ride Spot will provide you with turn by turn directions along the route, or you can follow along with the cue sheet below.

[ridespot.org/rides/321653](https://ridespot.org/rides/321653)



Read the tour of each stop below or listen out loud with our SoundCloud playlists.

[bit.ly/bcyclesoundcloud](https://bit.ly/bcyclesoundcloud)



peopleforbikes

# RIDE SPOT



## DOWNTOWN OMAHA PUBLIC ART TOUR STOP GUIDE

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### Stop 1

#### ***ILLUMINA***

Matthew Placzek

Anchored by a magnificent, illuminated 35-foot stainless steel clock, “Illumina” by Matthew Placzek features six oversized bronze figures that vividly symbolize the arts and humanities events that take place at the convention center. Inside the lobby, an illuminated sculpture produces a state-of-the-art, energized light show in the evenings. Each year, hundreds of thousands of people interact with the sculpture’s carnival-like design. Featuring life-like, marvelously entertaining characters, “Illumina” has long been a beloved landmark for Omahans and visitors alike. Completed in 2007, located at the CHI Health Center Arena.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the Downtown Omaha Public Art Tour.

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### Stop 2

#### ***Learning to Fly***

Matt Lowe

Completed 2005 in partnership with Bemis for Contemporary arts. Learning to fly sits on a concrete platform surrounded by grass on the corner of the CHI Health Center.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the Downtown Omaha Public Art Tour.

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### Stop 3

#### ***Road to Omaha***

John Ljiba

The Road to Omaha sculpture by John Ljiba was a gift to the City of Omaha and Series fans from College World Series of Omaha, Inc. The Road to Omaha, sculpted in 1999, serves as a permanent testimonial to the enduring sports tradition.

The 1,500-pound bronze sculpture depicts four baseball players celebrating victory at home plate. It was originally dedicated on June 7, 1999, during Omaha’s 50th anniversary year as the home of the College World Series at Rosenblatt Stadium. In his comments at the dedication, CWS, Inc. President Jack Diesing said, “We believe this statue embodies the competitive spirit, the camaraderie and the pure excitement of the NCAA College World Series. We also believe

that 50 years from now, fans will continue to be captivated and players inspired by the sight of this magnificent statue.”

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the Downtown Omaha Public Art Tour.

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Stop 4

### ***Fertile Ground***

Meg Saligman

Measuring 70 feet tall and 465 feet long, the mural titled "Fertile Ground" is one of the largest murals in the country. Created by internationally acclaimed artist Meg Saligman, the 32,500 square-foot masterpiece tells the story of Omaha from historical references to present-day neighbors to the far-reaching dreams of the many children in the mural. Omaha's past and present come alive on this larger than life work of art located on North 13th street.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the Downtown Omaha Public Art Tour.

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Stop 5

### ***First National Pioneer Courage Park***

Blair Buswell and Ed Fraughton

The objective of First National Pioneer Courage Park created by Blair Buswell and Ed Fraughton is to tell the story of the many colonizers migrating through Omaha to the West. In 1863 the Kountze Brothers Bank and Edward Creighton came together to form the First National Bank. Installed in 2005 and 2009, Sculptors created Pioneer Courage Park with four pioneer families and their covered wagons departing, westward to Omaha. Visitors are encouraged to walk along with the larger-than-life pioneers and to envision what it must have been like to set off on a journey unlike any other. This sculpture park along with the First National Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness Park located across the street, create the largest installation of bronze and stainless steel work of art in the United States and one of the two or three largest in the world. The park begins with a wagon train heading west, causing a herd of bison to stampede. The bison emerge onto Dodge Street, where they flush a flock of Canada geese.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the Downtown Omaha Public Art Tour.

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Stop 6

### ***First National Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness Park***

Kent Ullberg

First National Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness Park is an attempt to capture the spirit of nature experienced by colonizers at the time. Kent chose to portray Canadian Geese, representing their beautiful flight pattern. Their powerful take-off and majestic aesthetic. The park is a contemplation of 67 sculptures, a fountain and landscaping. You can find sculptures at 15th and Dodge to 16th and Dodge, around the First National building.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the Downtown Omaha Public Art Tour

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Stop 7

### ***Dangos***

Jun Kaneko

A grouping of Kaneko's iconic ceramic sculptures is visible in the Hilton hotel's parking circle. Kaneko, a native of Japan, has employed abstraction to represent the inherent chaos that balances the natural world. Within the interplay of clay and form, surface and pattern, shapes emerge through eastern and western aesthetics to create visible harmony. Hand built and glazed ceramic, colored concrete pedestals and paving, approximately 9' high and 35' in diameter.

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**This concludes the Downtown Omaha Public Art Tour. Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet for directions back to a Heartland B-cycle station. Check out Heartland B-cycle's Ride Spot profile for more Public Art Tours across the Metro**

