

ARTOWN PARTNERS WITH RENOWN TO BRING “LOVE” SCULPTURE TO THE HOSPITAL’S REGIONAL CAMPUS ON MILL ST.

The “LOVE” sculpture, designed by visionary artist Laura Kimpton and built by artist Jeff Schomberg, brings a powerful message to healthcare workers, patients and the community.

Reno, Nev. (April 16, 2020) – The “LOVE” sculpture, a one-ton, welded aluminum artwork with letters 10-feet tall and eight-feet wide, will find a temporary home at Renown Regional Medical Center’s main entrance at 1155 Mill Street in Reno, Nevada. Debuting at Burning Man in 2019, the free-standing structure is wired for illumination, has weighted steel base plates for anchorage and will be visible to vehicular and pedestrian traffic along the Mill Street and Ryland Street corridors.

“The overall footprint of the sculpture is 40-feet long by 4-feet deep,” says artist Jeff Schomberg, who has collaborated with artist/designer Laura Kimpton, to create 18 letter-based sculptures—including the popular “BELIEVE” piece at Civic Center Plaza in downtown Reno and the “HOME” sculpture for the Reno Aces at Greater Nevada Field. Each letter in the “LOVE” sculpture took Schomberg three to four weeks to build, and the piece takes on an added dimension when illuminated. “The sculpture is lit from within with color changing LED lights. The combination of the LEDs and the aluminum produce(s) a unique look at night,” Schomberg states.

Artist-designer Laura Kimpton, who is dyslexic, says creating monumental word art has been a powerful form of healing and expression. “I can’t tell you how beautiful it is that people will be able to see this work of art at the hospital, contemplate it and be inspired by it,” Kimpton emphasizes.

For Artown, inspiring community through the arts is paramount—especially at this moment. “Artown is extremely honored to be able to provide comfort through our partnership with Renown and this incredible work of art by Laura Kimpton and Jeff Schomberg,” says Artown Executive Director Beth Macmillan. “This piece of art and the message of *love* during these uncertain times, promises to help enlighten, engage and heal the spirits of patients, physicians, nurses and employees at Renown who are fighting the good fight. People passing by the hospital will be warmed and inspired by the art and this one word, LOVE! Now, more than ever, the power of art will provide something beautiful to focus on and restore our confidence.”

Providing *comfort* is in alignment with the non-profit healthcare provider’s mission “to make a genuine difference in the health and well-being of the people and communities we serve...” and is in-step with Renown’s awareness that “during a patient’s most difficult moments, art can be a source of inspiration, comfort and strength.”

Dr. Tony Slonim, president and CEO of Renown says, “I have so much respect for artists like Laura and Jeff, and the way they connect with people through their art. Creating and installing this LOVE sculpture is an act of love they are doing for others. Caring for others and their emotions is also an art. I am inspired by the many passionate caregivers today practicing the art of medicine with patients within the walls of our hospitals, practices and homes. I know this work of art will inspire them. My appreciation goes out to all who helped bring this LOVE sculpture and bright light into our world. Art has been an inspiration to me for a long time and I hope that its beauty helps to bring inspiration and comfort to everyone who gets a chance to see it.”

Members of the media are invited to attend the inaugural lighting of the LOVE sculpture, taking place on Thursday, April 16 at 8 p.m. at the artwork's new, temporary location at Renown. Due to social distancing, the lighting will NOT be open to the public, however, a live stream of the event will be available through Renown's [Facebook](#) page. In an effort to shine a light on our healthcare workers, several area businesses and neighborhoods are lighting up in conjunction with the LOVE sculpture lighting. Individuals are invited to do the same by placing an enclosed candle or light outside their home.

The installation of the "LOVE" sculpture was funded by generous donors and the Renown Health Foundation. The sculpture will be on display from April 16-July 16 at Renown's Regional Medical Center, located at 1155 Mill Street, Reno.

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About Artown

Artown is a non-profit organization whose mission is to strengthen Reno's arts industry, foster its civic identity and enhance its national image, thereby creating a climate for the cultural and economic rebirth of our region. The month-long summer arts festival features approximately 500 events produced by more than 150 artists, cultural organizations and businesses in locations citywide. For more information, go to artown.org.

About Renown Health

Renown Health is a locally governed and locally owned, not-for-profit integrated healthcare network serving northern Nevada, Lake Tahoe and northeast California. Renown is one of the region's largest private employers with a workforce of more than 7,000. It comprises three acute care hospitals, a rehabilitation hospital, the area's most comprehensive medical group and urgent care network, and the region's largest and only locally owned not-for-profit insurance company, Hometown Health. Renown has a long tradition and commitment to continually improve the care and the health of our community. For more information, visit renown.org.