SPONSORED CONTENT

FROM TOP LEFT: BLACK STEEL ROOT, PAINTED STEEL BY STEVE TOBIN.

AMERICAN FREEDOM FIGHT-ERS AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD. MURAL ON DISPLAY AT THE KSAT YOUNG MASTERS WALL THROUGH SUMMER 2021 BY ARTIST HABIB FALL IN COLLABORA-TION WITH THE EASTON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB.

LATE BRONZE ROOT 2009. BRONZE ROOT CASTING BY STEVE TOBIN.

MUSICAL PATH. STAINLESS STEEL CHIMES AND CORTEN STEEL. CREATED BY A PARTNERSHIP OF LAFAYETTE COLLEGE FACULTY, STUDENTS, AND EASTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

BACKGROUND: SITE LINES, ONE OF 19 PIECES MADE OF CONSTRUCTION MESH NYLON FABRIC ALONG THE KSAT IN 2018/2019 BY RACHEL BROOKE HAYES; FORE-GROUND: NITROGEN & HY-DROGEN, PATINAED STEEL BY DAVID KIMBALL ANDERSON.

UNTITLED (ARCH FOR THE KARL STIRNER ARTS TRAIL). PAINTED STEEL ON CONCRETE BASE BY KARL STIRNER.















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Karl Stirner Arts Trail

THE KARL STIRNER ARTS TRAIL (KSAT) is a sculpture park and recreational trail that opened in 2011 and follows the Bushkill Creek for 1.6 miles as it winds through Easton, Pennsylvania. Through the placement of artwork in a natural setting, the KSAT presents itself as a "green museum" that seeks to stir the public's imagination and to create a sense of transcendence and possibility. The unique setting advances civic dialogue in the areas of health and wellness, as well as our mutual responsibility for the stewardship of the natural environment.

The KSAT represents the nexus of Easton's natural and built environment, serving as the setting for a mix of visionary work including many internationally recognized artists. The works along the KSAT are chosen to enhance the understanding of the interrelatedness of nature's processes to environmentally sustainable urban practices.

The KSAT is named in honor of sculptor and longtime Easton resident Karl Stirner, who spent decades convincing aspiring artists to move to the area. A signature piece by Stirner is located along the Trail, along with pieces by Stephen Antonakos, Patricia Meyerowitz, Steve Tobin, Stacy Levy, Loren Madsen, Willie Cole, and others. The Trail's "Musical Path", a sculptural chime installation that allows visitors to run along the chimes and play Ludwig van Beethoven's Für Elise, was the result of a 3-year collaboration between Lafayette College faculty, students, and community members. A recent addition to the Trail is a stone labyrinth measuring fifty feet in diameter and made from approximately 150 tons of bluestone and red crushed stone, which will be the basis of health and wellness programming focused on mindfulness, meditation, and holistic fitness practices.

Year-round programming includes the Young Masters Wall, an 80-foot-long mural wall where a rotating array of community groups are invited to paint their own masterpieces in response to themes like "What do you love about Easton?" or "Paint a message of hope"; the "Movies Along the Trail" outdoor film series; the "Walk-and-Talk" program where participants walk the Trail with experts in tree identification, birding, or other nature-related fields; the annual "Artful Dash" 5K walk/run; and an annual Winter Solstice celebration.

KSAT and its partners are in the early stages of planning a large-scale expansion of the Trail to include portions of a 14-acre tract located just across the Bushkill Creek from the Trail. The vision calls for connecting this area to the main Trail through rehabilitation of a former railroad trestle and the addition of new areas for artwork displays and programming opportunities.

Located just 73 miles west of New York City and 71 miles north of Philadelphia, the KSAT has become a destination for art and nature lovers throughout the Northeastern US. Anchored by Lafayette College's Williams Arts Campus and the mixed-use redevelopment of the sprawling former Simon Silk Mill, the KSAT is the backbone of Easton's thriving creative economy.

The KSAT is free to the public and is open from dawn-to-dusk 365 days/year.