



NEWS RELEASE

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ARTIST-DESIGNED BOOK SHARE STATIONS TO HAVE MONUMENT CIRCLE LAUNCH. INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE PROJECT PARTNER.

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – July 20, 2015 –The Public Collection, a new public art and literacy project aiming to increase access to books and art, will hold its official launch event on Thursday, August 27, 2015, at 12:00 noon, on Monument Circle in Indianapolis. The project has been developed by Rachel M. Simon to improve literacy, foster a deeper appreciation of the arts, and raise awareness for educational justice in our community.

Through a curated process, Indiana-based artists are in the process of installing eight unique book share stations—lending libraries—in public spaces around Indianapolis. Each book share station will hold a varied selection of books for diverse audiences and age groups. The Public Collection stations are free and available to everyone. Passersby will be able to borrow and return books at their leisure.

The Indianapolis Public Library has committed as project partner. The library will donate the books for the project and ensure an ongoing supply. Library volunteers will stock the book share stations on a weekly basis. All stations will be stocked with an initial supply of books for the launch date.

The Public Collection installation at Monument Circle, where the launch will take place, is *Monument, 2015* by Brian McCutcheon. McCutcheon's book share station, which puts a contemporary twist on civic monuments of the past, supports a 3-D rendering of a relevant quote from Mark Twain: "A public library is the most enduring of memorials, the trustiest monument for the preservation of an event or a name or an affection; for it, and it only, is respected by wars and revolutions, and survives them."

The following book share stations will also be installed and fully stocked by August 27.

- *Play Station* by LaShawnda Crowe Storm – Indianapolis Museum of Art
- *Cool Books, Food for Thought* by Tom Torluemke – Indianapolis Museum of Art
- *Evolution of Reading* by Kimberly McNeelan – White River State Park
- *Untitled* by Katie Hudnall – Eskenazi Health

- *The Answer is in the Question* by Phil O'Malley – Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center
- *Table of Contents* by Stuart Hyatt and S+Ca – Horizon House
- *Untitled* by Brose Partington – Indianapolis City Market
- *Topiary* by Eric Nordgulen – Southeast Corridor of the Cultural Trail

About The Public Collection

The Public Collection is a public art and literacy project developed by Rachel M. Simon, with support from the Herbert Simon Family Foundation. It is managed in partnership with the Central Indiana Community Foundation and Mindy Taylor Ross of Art Strategies LLC. Visit www.ThePublicCollection.org for information on the artists, book share stations, and other updates.

About The Indianapolis Public Library

The Indianapolis Public Library enriches lives and builds communities through lifelong learning. Its vision is to be a center of knowledge, community life, and innovation for Indianapolis. The library is pleased to extend this vision through participation in The Public Collection project. More information on The Indianapolis Public Library may be found at www.indypl.org.

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