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News Release

For Immediate Release

Art Museum, Drury request community input on sculpture

The Springfield Art Museum, Drury University's Art of Space collective and sculptor Blaine Whisenhunt are requesting community input to transform the large-scale, participatory sculpture, The Rhizomatic Grotto, installed on the Museum's east grounds.

The Grotto was built by community volunteers using over 500 stacked and corbelled shipping pallets last August. It has since resided on the Museum's grounds serving as a gathering place for neighborhood and community residents. By including Springfield residents in its construction, this work aims to illuminate the underlying interdependency we share with one another as members of a community.

Artist Blaine Whisenhunt and Drury's Art of Space Gerard Nadeau, creators of the project, have noted that "its current shape and form have had their time; we welcome input and ideas on how we might change or alter the structure so that it may take on a new form."

The Museum invites the public to submit proposals to alter, adjust, stuff, paint, wrap, or augment the existing structure. Proposals may be submitted to Sarah Buhr, Curator of Art, at the Springfield Art Museum. **The deadline for proposals is Jan. 15, 2014.** Proposals should remain in the spirit of participatory activity – involving volunteer support to create and complete. Potential alterations will be scheduled for February or March. Depending upon submissions, multiple proposals may be accepted. The Grotto will be de-installed in late Spring 2014.

For further questions please contact Sarah Buhr at the Springfield Art Museum at 837-5700 or sbuhr@springfieldmo.gov, Blaine Whisenhunt: jwhisenhunt@drury.edu or Gerard Nadeau: gnadeau@drury.edu