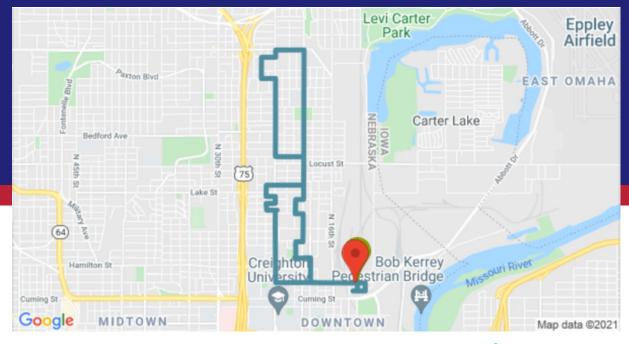
HEARTLAND Beycle

# PUBLIC ART BIKE TOUR

# NORTH OMAHA ROUTE



### DISTANCE

7.3 mi

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/314737



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

## <u>bit.ly/bcyclesoundcloud</u>







Stop 1

#### HOPE

Anthony Peña & Watie White

"HOPE," the striking mural by Anthony Pena and Watie White, was created during the pandemic and protests of summer 2020. The resulting "HOPE" mural at 13th and Nicholas Street is Peña's graphic representation of a Dalton Carper photograph of Zuri Jensen, taken at a protest at 72nd and Dodge Street on May 29.

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

Stop 2

#### The Keeper of Stories

Reggie LeFlore, Nicholas Miller, and norm4eva

The Keeper of Stories by Reggie LeFlore, Nicholas Miller, and norm4eva was completed the summer of 2019 and was one of the first public attractions in Millwork Commons– a neighborhood bustling with 140 year old buildings from Omaha's industrial past which are now being restored, blending the authenticity of the city's industrial roots with the vitality of today's innovators and creators. This piece is a collaboration between Millwork Commons and Amplify Arts, a nonprofit working with local organizations and businesses to promote and install public art. The three artists originally planned 3 separate pieces, however the artists agreed to work together on one mural showcasing the unique style of each artist. This Mural is a visual representation of "Legends, knowledge and wisdom" over the generations. Step around the back of the shipping containers to view the Lion on the North-facing side. This 25 foot wall conveys strength and hope.

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Stop 3

#### Hot Shops Art Center-Sculpture Garden

Leslie Bruning

Hot Shops, a living museum located on the corner of 13th & Izard, features approximately 20 different sculptures by Les Bruning, a founding member of the Hot Shops Art Center and of the

Omaha Creative Institute (now named Amplify Arts). This Sculpture Garden, seen on both the west and east sides of 13th street, is a 2nd place winner of Best Attraction in Omaha.

Continue looking at the sculpture garden as you make your way toward the East side of the building, walking toward 14th street, where you will find the next mural: We Don't Coast– We Create.

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Stop 4

#### We Don't Coast - We Create

Jenna Johnson

"We don't Coast- We Create" by Jenna Johnson honors the hard-working local artists and creatives that help make Omaha a great place to live. The 'We Don't Coast' mentality means working together to create a better place for everyone and the more than 80 artists at the Hot Shops Art Center do just that. These makers share their time and talents to help support and educate others in this living museum. The Hot Shops is a place to not only dream, but also to turn your dreams into reality by exploring, creating and sharing. This piece is located on the east side of Hot Shops on 13th and Izard.

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Stop 5

#### **Black Skies**

Aaryon Bird Williams

Located near the Great Plains Black History Museum, the 100-foot-long mural "Black Skies" by Aayron Bird Willaims depicts a group of African American World War II pilots. There were 21 Tuskegee Airmen with ties to Omaha that served as part of a segregated unit of the Air Force during the war, serving in Africa and later Sicily. They flew more than 15,000 sorties during World War II, destroying 36 German aircraft in aerial combat and 237 more on the ground. Despite their crucial work throughout the war, the Tuskegee Airmen were historically not celebrated as national heroes. This mural, created by Fliye Arts & sponsored by Omaha Economic Development Corporation and Step Up, recognizes the contributions the Tuskeege Airmen and the African American community had to this country, and continues to tell their story.

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#### Stop 6

#### Jazz Trio

Sculptor: Littleton Alston

The Jazz Trio, sculpted in Bronze in the Dreamland Plaza, features a jazz singer and musicians playing trumpet and saxophone. In 2003, the City of Omaha opened Dreamland Plaza, a park covering a single lot, as a tribute to North Omaha's jazz history. The nationally recognized sculptor, Littleton Alston, completed this sculpture in October, 2004 to place in the vestibule named after the Dreamland Ballroom.

During the 1920s, the Dreamland Ballroom gained a national reputation for being a hotspot along the tour route from Chicago to San Francisco. The Dreamland regularly featured famous big bands and jazz musicians, and was packed beyond its maximum with up to 600 attendees. The Dreamland Ballroom is now home to the Great Plains Black History Museum, honoring the ballroom as they share their collection of African American artifacts and stories with the community.

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

Stop 7

#### LOVE

Cey Adams

This mural is the work of the legendary graffiti artist Cey Adams, one of the founders of Def Jam records. "Love" was completed in 2014, while he was in Omaha as a resident at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Art. Adams worked with local artists Dereck Higgins, Ben Jones, Aaryon Williams, Olivia Groth, and additional support of students from Omaha-area high schools to realize the work. Adams speaks to how "LOVE" captures the hopes for the community's future while referring to the past, in the form of the famed North Omaha jazz musician Preston Love.

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#### Stop 8

#### The Ancestor, the Identity, and the Seed

Lead Artist: Reggie LeFlore Assistant Artist: Barber

Completed in the summer of 2018 and inspired by the three colors of the Pan African flag, The Ancestor, the Identity, and the Seed reflects the heritage and future of the North Omaha community. The Union for Contemporary Art and the Small business network partnered with the feedback of the community to bring this mural to life. Lead artist Reggie LeFlore and assistant artist Barber designed The Ancestors, the Identity and the Seed to capture the black history of North Omaha and the community that continues to make that history.

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Stop 9

#### **Altered Perspective**

Lead Artist: Destiny Palmer Assistant Artist: Barber

The North omaha mural project is an initiative by the Union for Contemporary Art to bring public art into the community. Lead artist Destiny and assistant Barber participated in a community feedback session prior to the creation of Altered Perspective, a mural wrapping the corner of 24th & Taylor.

Lead artist Destiny Palmer spoke to the mural's ability to build community, not just during the creation of it, but beyond. Palmer said "It makes you stand there, kind of in awe. I thought about that. This is a corner in which people can stop and be in awe. If people are coming together, to stop in awe together then you are really building community."

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Stop 10

#### CulxrHouse

The CulxrHouse is an innovative creative hub that focuses on providing artists and creatives a safe space to grow their talent and obtain access to resources necessary to turn their art into economic opportunities. It is located on the corner of 24th & Wirt with a mural spanning the front created by Tyler Emrey. Ja Keen Fox states the CulxrHouse is a "holistic" approach to community and economic development, with a focus on the importance of Black artists and activists having their work and their experiences centered in a creative space. Foz states "I wonder what it would be to just be able to create because you're free, you know what I mean?" ,explaining that Black artists often create work from the perspective of being an "other" rather

than being in a place of empowerment or belonging. The CulxrHouse is reversing that narrative. Feel free to dock your bike at the station in front of the CulxrHouse and continue exploring by foot, or continue along with the tour.

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

Stop 11

#### Doves

Lead Artist: Maggie Weber

"Doves" by Maggie Weber was created in the fall of 2015 as a partnership between The Hope Center and The Union for Contemporary Art. This mural can be found on the west wall of 2200 N 22nd Street. The founders of the Hope Center, Ty and Teri Schenzel, were in a fatal car accident after the artists began working on the mural. The project became an opportunity to process tragedy and honor the lives of Ty and Teri. The Hope Center is now named the Schenzel Community Center in their honor. The doves portrayed in the piece represent Ty and Terri with the eggs representing their kids and the future of the Center. The Schenzel children offered their favorite bible verse in the large egg.

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

This concludes the North 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



