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"I don't know what lies around the bend, but I'm going to believe the best does." Anne of Green Gables - L.M. Montgomery

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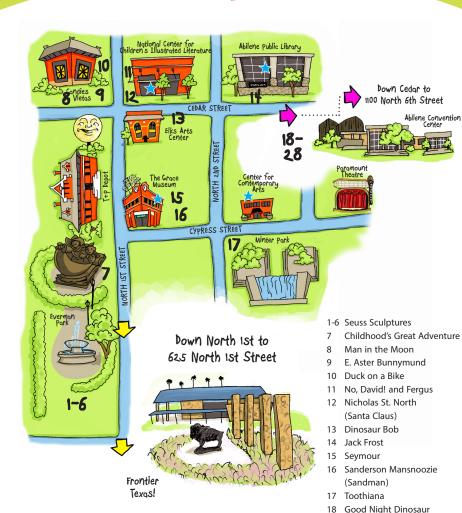


Storybook Sculpture Project

Downtown Abilene

The Abilene Cultural Affairs Council commissioned the first storybook sculpture in 1996. "Childhood's Great Adventure" is based on the William Joyce book "Santa Calls," which was set in Abilene, Texas. Joyce was the inspiration behind the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature. More sculptures followed over the years. Today, Abilene is home to the largest public collection of storybook sculptures in the U.S. New sculptures are added each year during the Children's Art & Literacy Festival. The mission of the Storybook Sculpture Project is to create 3D art that brings children's literature to life.

Storybook Sculpture Map



Down South 11th Street to 2070 Zoo Lane



22 Charlotte and Wilbur 23 The Three Bears 24 Marcel and Wilfred

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- 25 Mr. Tiger
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Abilene Zoo

Childhood's Great Adventure

Installed: 1996 Book: "Santa Calls"

Author/illustrator: William Joyce

Sculptor: Rick Jackson

Santa Claus mysteriously summons three children to visit him at the North Pole by sending them a flying machine they call the Yuletide Flyer.



Installed: 2000

Book: "Dinosaur Bob and His Adventures with the Family Lazardo" Author/illustrator: William Joyce Sculptor: Bob "Daddy-O" Wade

Dinosaur Bob plays with an orange Volkswagen in this sculpture created for the 20th annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition.

Seymour

Installed: 2013

Books: "Can You See What I

See?" series

Author/Illustrator: Walter Wick Sculptor: Randy Gilman

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

Look for Seymour, the little toy man made of colorful beads! He hides amongst the objects assembled in search-andfind stories.



Dr. Seuss



The Lorax

Installed: 2013

The Lorax speaks for the trees and warns of the dangers of disrespecting the environment.

Yertle the Turtle

Installed: 2013

Yertle the Turtle, the king of the pond, stands on his subjects in an attempt to reach higher than the moon.

The Grinch

Installed: 2013

A cold, heartless green recluse, The Grinch tries to sabotage Christmas in Whoville



LOCATION: Everman park SCULPTOR: Leo Rijn

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR: Dr. Theodore Seuss Geisel



Green Eggs and Ham

Installed: 2013

Sam I am says try green eggs and ham! In a boat or with a goat, here or there or anywhere!

Horton Hears a Who

Installed: 2013

When Horton the elephant hears a small speck talking to him, he vows to protect it because "a person's a person, no matter how small."

Cat in the Hat

Installed: 2012

The Cat in the Hat turns a boring rainy day into unexpected fun with the help of Thing 1 and Thing 2.



Guardians of Childhood



Man in the Moon

Installed: 2014

Book: "The Man in the Moon" Sculptor: Pedro Rivera

A little boy becomes the Tsar Lunar, the first Guardian of Childhood. He watches over the dreams of the children of Earth.

E. Aster Bunnymund

Installed: 2014

Book: "E. Aster Bunnymund and the Warrior Eggs at the Earth's Core!"

Sculptor: Steve Neves

A philosophical warrior rabbit skilled in martial arts, he is also a chocolatier and a Guardian of Childhood best known as the Easter Bunny.

Nicholas St. North

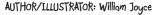
Installed: 2014

Book: "Nicholas St. North and the Battle of the Nightmare King"

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Before he was Santa Claus, he was a daredevil named Nicholas St. North. Now he is one of the Guardians of Childhood.

Sculptures





Jack Frost

Installed: 2014 Book: "Jack Frost" Sculptor: Steve Neves Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

Able to manipulate snow and ice, Jack Frost is the Guardian of Fun. He helps the other Guardians battle Pitch, the Nightmare King.

Sanderson Mansnoozie

Installed: 2014

Book: "The Sandman: The Story of Sanderson Mansnoozie" Sculptor: Steve Neves Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

This former captain of a shooting star is the Sandman, Guardian of Dreams.

Toothiana

Installed: 2014

Book: "Toothiana: Queen of the Tooth Fairy Armies"

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

All those teeth she collects? They contain memories. The forgotten memories of childhood ... including the memories of how to fly.





Duck on a Bike

Installed: 2015

Book: "Duck on a Bike"

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

Author/illustrator: David Shannon

One day on the farm, Duck gets the wild idea he can ride a bike. Soon, the other animals want to ride, too!

Adamson-Spalding Storybook



The Three Little Kittens

Installed: 2017

Book: "Three Bedtime Stories"

Author: Golden Books Illustrator: Garth Williams Sculptor: Steve Neves

Mama Cat is not happy when her three little kittens lose their mittens. Unless they find their mittens, they shall have no pie!

Good Night Dinosaur

Installed: 2016

Book: "How Do Dinosaurs Say

Good Night?"

Author: Jane Yolen Illustrator: Mark Teague Sculptor: Steve Neves

Dinosaur doesn't throw his teddy bear about when it's time to turn the lights out. He tucks in his tail and whispers, "Good night!"

No, David! and Fergus

Installed: 2015

Book: "David Gets in Trouble" Author/illustrator: David Shannon

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

Everywhere David goes, he seems to get in trouble. Now he is eating Fergus' dog treats! No. David!





Stuart Little

Installed: 2017 Book: "Stuart Little" Author: E.B. White Illustrator: Garth Williams Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

Adventure follows this mouse wherever he goes, from sailing a boat in Central Park to saving a friend from Snowball the cat.

The Three Little Pigs

Installed: 2017

Book: "Three Bedtime Stories" Author: Golden Books Illustrator: Garth Williams

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

Three little pigs with three different houses all encounter one big, bad wolf!

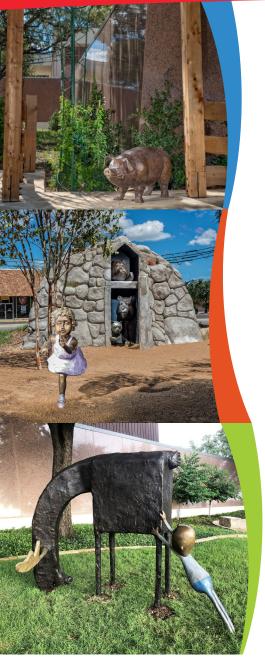








Adamson-Spalding



Charlotte 8 Wilbur

Installed: 2017

Book: "Charlotte's Web" Author: E.B. White

Illustrator: Garth Williams Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

Charlotte weaves astonishing words into her spider's web to save her best friend, a pig named Wilbur.

The Three Bears

Installed: 2017

Book: "Three Bedtime Stories" Author: Golden Books Illustrator: Garth Williams Sculptor: Steve Neves

Three bears return home to find someone sat in their chairs, tasted their porridge and laid in their beds and that someone is Goldilocks!

Marcel & Wilfred

Installed: 2018

Book: "This Moose Belongs

to Me

Author/illustrator: Oliver Jeffers

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Marcel has trouble following Wilfred's rules, such as going where the boy wants to go. Perhaps Wilfred's pet doesn't quite realize that he belongs to anyone.

Storybook Garden

Mr. Tiger

Installed: 2019

Book: "Mr. Tiger Goes Wild" Author/Illustrator: Peter Brown

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick

+ Schoefer Art Bronze

Mr. Tiger gets bored with being proper all the time and decides to loosen up. When his friends are not supportive, he runs away to be wild.

Otis the Tractor and Calf

Installed: 2021 Book: "Otis"

Author/Illustrator: Loren Long

Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Schaefer Art Bronze

When a big new tractor arrives and Otis is cast away behind the barn, who will save Calf when he gets stuck in the mud?

Winnie

Installed: 2022

Book: "Finding Winnie" Author: Lindsay Mattick Illustrator: Sophie Blackall Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Schaefer Art Bronze

Before she was Winnie the Pooh, Winnie was a real black bear adopted by a World War I veterinarian. At the London Zoo, she meets Christopher Robin.





Evan and His Dog

Installed: 2023

Book: "The Rough Patch"
Author/illustrator: Brian Lies

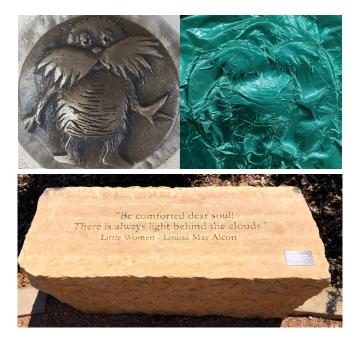
Sculptor: Steve Neves

Bronze casting: Schaefer Art Bronze

Evan the fox and his dog are best friends who do everything together. When the unthinkable happens, a garden and a new friend help Evan through his rough patch.

Follow the Art Adventure Trail!

Abilene is home to nearly 80 limestone benches with storybook quotes! Look for the benches with bronze medallions and create an embossing with a foil kit from the NCCIL or T&P Depot.







Storybook Audio Tour

Here's what you do:

- Download the free app Storybook Sculpture Audio Tour for iPhone.
- Stand within a few feet of the sculptures in the Adamson-Spalding Storybook Garden.
- The app will recognize that you are near the sculptures.
- The app will allow you to play a 2-minute reading from the book associated with the sculpture as well as offer details about the sculpture and book.

Special thanks to Rebecca + Eric Armstrong



Seymour Passport



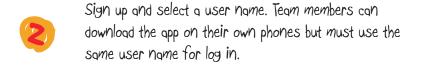
Pick up your free passport and start finding Seymour! He is hidden in six locations around downtown Abilene and in the gift shop of the Abilene Zoo. Once you find him, have your passport stamped and receive a special sticker. No admission is charged to find Seymour.

The Seymour Passport Project started with the 2013 Children's Art & Literacy Festival, which celebrated the work of artist Walter Wick. Seymour is a toy man hidden in the pages of Wick's "Can You See What I See?" book series. Seymour, and his passport, can be found at the Abilene Zoo, Abilene Public Library, Center for Contemporary Arts, Frontier Texas!, The Grace Museum and the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature.

Storybook Sculpture Hunt

Here's what you do:





Join the game by searching for Storybook Sculpture Scavenger Hunt.



Complete as many missions as possible by submitting creative photos within the app.



Do not climb on the sculptures to take photos.



Earn a Storybook Capital button for completing the missions! Pick up your button at the T+P Depot. 1101 N. 1st St. Open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.

Sponsor:





3D Dragon Mural

Art at the Abilene Zoo

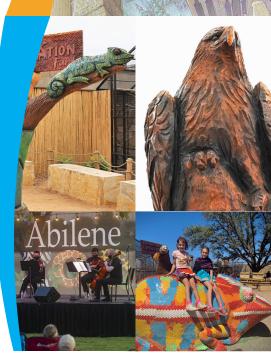
Flight of the Dragon

Pose on artist Kurt Wenner's 3-Dimensional "Flight of the Dragon" mural and it will appear that you are standing on a castle or sitting on the dragon's neck as it flies over a city! Located on the floor of the pedestrian tunnel behind the T&P Depot in Everman Park.



Art at the Abilene Zoo

The Abilene Zoo is home to nearly 130 animal species and a place to experience art and entertainment. Climb and draw on the Madagascar Chameleon Sculpture by Steve Neves, listen to Abilene Philharmonic zoo concerts and enjoy storm damaged ash trees that were transformed by a chainsaw artist.



Live Children's Theater





Children's Performing Arts Series

Paramount Theatre, 352 Cypress St. www.cpasabilene.org

Live professional theater presented by national touring companies for Abilene's youngest audiences!

Each year, CPAS brings a new season that includes a combination of theater productions highlighting literature, music, STEAM and much more! Tickets are \$10 for single shows or packages that start at \$30. Tickets on sale now!









Young Audiences of Abilene

Every summer, Young Audiences partners with the downtown Abilene Public Library for a series of children's programs.



Young Audiences Arts for Learning

All performances are FREE! Show times are 10:45 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Abilene

Little Bat: The Musical

June 20, 2023

Little Bat can't wait for his first night of school! He's excited about everything – new school supplies, learning, and making friends. But when he finally arrives, his world turns upside down in this new musical from McMurry University Theatre based on the Brian Lies book, Little Bat in NightSchool. Original music by Penelope Ferris. Written by Matthew Lamar. Directed by Neena McLain.

Mark Shelton Presents: The Strike, Scrape & Shake Show

July 11, 2023

Entertaining and education! This high energy, one-man show treats children to world-class percussion music. Children will enjoy the sounds of snare drum, rhythm bones, hammered dulcimer, handpan, electronic percussion and more. The audience will get into the act as Mark teachers about the history of percussion while demonstrating music.

Margaret Clauder Presents: Hooray for the USA!

July 18, 2023

Hooray for the USA is a feel-good-about-America program that will have your audience bursting with pride in the good old USA. Children will learn about Ellis island and how millions of immigrants went through there on their way to becoming a U.S. citizen. They'll learn about the Statue of Liberty, her history and about her twin sister who stands on the Seine River in France. Puppets such as Uncle Sam will delight with patriotic songs while children learn the history of our flag from the first flag made by Betsy Ross to our current Old Glory.







Free Family Entertainment

ArtWalk

Second Thursday each month s-8 p.m. Hosted by the Center for Contemporary Arts www.center-arts.com Monthly downtown festival with free museum entrance, art activities, live music and performances, food trucks and more.

Abilene Public Library

Main Library, 202 Cedar St. South Branch, Mall of Abilene Mockingbird Branch, 1326 N. Mockingbird Ln. www.abilenetx.gov/apl Baby Steps (Ages 0-1)
Play & Learn (Ages 1-3)
Wiggles & Giggles (Ages 2-3)
Toddler Time (Ages 2-3)
Preschool Storytime (Ages 3-6)
Super Storytime (All ages)
Stories & More (All ages)
Family Fun (All ages)
Stories in the Park (All ages)
Make & Take (All ages)
STEM programs (All ages)
Historias en Espanol y Ingles (Anos 3-6)
Dungeons and Dragons Club (Teens)





All Events Are Free!

More Children's Activities



The Grace Museum

102 Cypress St. 325.673.4587 www.thegracemuseum.org

Spark is a newly renovated, fully interactive space at The Grace Museum on the second floor. Children and adults are invited to explore over 30 new exhibits created to expand your knowledge of art and local history. There are wide open areas as well as cozy nooks to draw, build, paint, act, dance and make music.

Museum visitors can also enjoy problemsolving games and art activities in the Create Lab. This area offers families with children a separate space to get creative using various art mediums and a selection of projects with self-guided instructions.





Paramount Productions & Movies

Historic Paramount Theatre, 352 Cypress St.
Paramountabilene.com

This historic 1930 theater is an entertainment showcase for West Texas featuring family entertainment year-round, including movies, live theater, ballet, opera and concerts. See website calendar for full schedule.

National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature



Current Exhibit Brian Lies Jun. 8 - Sep. 26, 2023 Upcoming Exhibit LeUyen Pham Summer 2024

For 25 years, the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature (NCCIL) has collaborated with award-winning illustrators to produce exhibitions of their artwork that are distinctive, appealing to museum visitors of all ages and are of the highest quality. In addition to this unique artistic partnership, following its debut at the NCCIL gallery, each exhibition travels to museums, public libraries and galleries nationwide. The mission of the NCCIL is to exhibit, tour, collect, preserve and promote original art from the finest children's literature. For the local community, the NCCIL offers opportunities to meet visiting artists, free Saturday family art activities, Monthly Art Adventure for pre-schoolers, exhibition tours for students, workshops and book signings. The museum also has a bookstore stocked with books signed by artists who have exhibited at the NCCIL.

102 Cedar St. 325.673.4586 www.nccil.org Hours: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday

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Children's Art + Literacy Festival (CALF)







CALF 2024 FEATURED ILLUSTRATOR

LeUyen Pham

The four-day festival kicks off Thursday afternoon with the free Storybook Parade, Storybook Sculpture unveiling, Garden Party and Sketch with the Artist event. Register for Friday and Saturday and wear your festival pass and collect CALF buttons as you listen to dramatic readings, have fun at live performances featuring a balloon artist, marionettes, puppets, comedians, musicians and more. Free art activities after each reading. The Abilene Philharmonic Instrument Petting Zoo offers handson experiences. Extras you can add on to your registration: Workshops, Storybook Characters Breakfast, Young Audiences Enchanted Eatery and cool merchandise!

See the festival website for a full schedule of events. Registration opens in February.

Every CALF is a new experience and you will want to make this a yearly tradition!



Start Planning Your Storybook Adventure Now!

In Abilene, characters from your favorite children's books come to life.

Write your own stories!



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