

## Amanda Matthews



- Sculptor/Designer/Speaker/Filmmaker/CEO of PROMETHEUS Art
- Special Advisor, *Rituals in the Making*, George Washington University
- Chair, Kentucky Oral History Commission, KY State Government
- Governing Board Member/Advisor, Kentucky Historical Society
- President, Board of Directors, Artemis Initiative, IRS 501(c)(3) Public Charity
- Founding Member, Monumental Women of KY Commission, KY State Government

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### **Statement:**

Rooted in interconnectedness and social justice, process philosophy, and critical theory, my work aims to create sculptural symbols and icons that connect and awaken individuals and communities. My practice makes space for voices and stories that have been persistently silenced, inviting the public to witness, reflect, and participate in the alchemy of shared memory and collective healing.

We are ancestor *and* descendant, amoeba *and* mammoth, hawk *and* mouse, forest *and* wind, chaos *and* pattern, particle *and* wave.

### **Selected Works & Collections:**

2024 – 2025 Gatton Park on the Town Branch, *Watermark* Sculpture, Lexington, KY

Collection: Lexington Fayette Urban County Government Public Art Collection

2024 – 2025 Bronze Lifesize Sculpture of Justice Tom Emberton, Edmonton, KY

Collection: City of Edmonton, KY, Public Art Collection

2024 – 2025 Sharpsburg, KY Revitalization Community Center & Tobacco Sculpture, Phase 1

Collection: City of Sharpsburg, KY, Public Art Collection

2023 – 2024 St. Peter Claver Catholic Church Baptismal Font, Lexington, KY

Collection: Roman Catholic Diocese Collection

2022 – 2023 Kentucky COVID Memorial Monument - Frankfort, KY

Collection: Kentucky Capital Monuments Collection

2019 – 2022 *The Girl Puzzle* Monument, Roosevelt Island - New York City, NY

Collection: New York City Public Art Collection

2014 – 2022 110% Bronze Portrait, Nettie Depp – First woman honored with statuary in KY Capitol, Frankfort, KY

Collection: Kentucky Capital Monuments Collection

2019—2022 Carter Memorial Monument - Lexington, KY

Collection: Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, KY

2019 – 2020 Legacy Grove Park Monumental Ginseng Shade Sculpture - Winchester, KY

Collection: Greater Clark Foundation

2016 – 2019 115% Life-size Bronze Portrait of Alice Dunnigan - Russellville, KY

Collection: Historic Russellville, KY SEEK Museum, Member of the US Civil Rights Trail

2019 *John Lewis, Good Trouble* Tribute Wall, All Bronze Elements and Installation - Atlanta, GA  
Collection: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport Collection

2017 – 2018 Wellington Park - Phase 2 of 6 Children's Sensory Garden, Design and Install - Lexington, KY  
Collection: Lexington Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) Public Parks Collection

2016 – 2018 Katsina Sacred Dancer 6', Lexington Women's Recognition Garden - Lexington, KY  
Collection: Lexington Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) Public Parks Collection

2017 – 2019 Historic Fayette County Courthouse - Restoration/Conservation/Fabrication of Rotunda Railings/Medallions Fabrication of Cane Rail, Messer Construction - Lexington, KY  
Collection: Lexington Fayette Urban County Government

2015 – 2016 110% Bronze Portrait of Capt. Solomon Lee Van Meter, Pioneer Aviator - Lexington, KY  
Collection: Aviation Museum of KY & Blue Grass Airport

2015 Dorsey Alston Realtors Corporate Headquarters Bronze Architectural Signs - Atlanta, GA  
Collection: Dorsey Alston Realtors

2014 – 2015 Historic Gratz Park Sculpture Restoration, James Lane Allen Fountain - Lexington, KY  
Collection: Lexington Fayette Urban County Government

2014 Life-Size Ancient Greek Boxer Olympian - Montgomery, AL  
Collection: Jasmine Hill Museum

2013 Graves & Graves Construction, 5 Large Sculpted Municipal Bronze Plaques - Nashville, TN  
Collection: City of Nashville, TN

2013 North American Heritage Services, Bronze Angel Memorial - Lexington, KY  
Collection: The Lexington Cemetery

2012 Centenary United Methodist Church, Baptismal Bowl - Danville, KY  
Collection: United Methodist Church

2011 MarCor Construction, Sculpted Municipal Bronze Plaques - Linden, TN  
Collection: City of Linden, TN

2011 Portrait of Dr. George Zack, Conductor Laureate Lexington Philharmonic - Lexington, KY  
Collection: Singletary Center for Art, University of Kentucky

2011 Armillary Sphere Sculpture - Ft. Stewart, GA  
Collection: US Dept. of Defense

2011 Good Shepherd Cathedral, Bronze Baptismal Font, Friezes & Columns - Frankfort, KY  
Collection: Roman Catholic Diocese Collection

2010 Elrod Memorial Sculpture, 7' Bronze - Georgetown, KY  
Collection: Georgetown College

2009 St. Paul Catholic Church, Baptismal Font - Lexington, KY  
Collection: Roman Catholic Diocese Collection

2007 Water is Life, 210' Ephemeral Installation at the Louisville Zoo, an AAM Museum - Louisville, KY

2006 – 2007 Architectural Caduceus Sculpture - Louisville, KY  
Collection: Jefferson Veterinary Mgmt. Group, Inc. Hospitals

2004 The Muhammad Ali Center: *The Greatest is Yet to Come* Sculpture - Louisville, KY  
Collection: Green Hill Therapy

2003 Dare to Care Food Bank, Artist-in-Residence Dec. 2003-March 2004, Imagine Sculpture  
Collection: Jefferson Veterinary Mgmt. Group, Inc. Hospitals

2001 Corporate Mural, 9'10" X 50' - Louisville, KY  
Collection: Sign of the Times, Inc.

### **Selected Removal/Relocation of Confederate Monuments:**

2022 – 2024 Relocation of Jefferson Davis Confederate Monument from the Kentucky Capitol Rotunda  
Collection: Jefferson Davis State Historic Site, Fairview, KY

2018 – 2019 Removal of “Our Confederate Dead” Monument from downtown Winston-Salem, NC  
Collection: Winston-Salem, NC Cemetery

2017 – 2018 Removal of (2) Confederate Monuments from downtown Lexington, KY after deadly Charlottesville, VA riots. LFUCG Mayor Jim Gray commissioned.  
Collection: Lexington, KY Cemetery Collection

### **Selected Honors and Awards:**

2025 Portrait Induction/Installation, KY Women Remembered Permanent Portrait Exhibit honoring Trailblazing Women in KY, State Capitol Building, March 2025  
2024 Arts Connect Visual Artist Award  
2023 Kentucky Senate Commendation for Extraordinary Achievement as an Artist, Writer, Speaker, Businesswoman  
2022 Kentucky Governor's Award in the Arts, Artist Award for Lifetime Achievement  
2021 Small Business Association, Pacesetter Award for The Girl Puzzle Monument in NYC  
2019 *Southern Women: More Than 100 Stories of Innovators, Artists, and Icons*, Garden and Gun Publication  
2018 NAWBO, Woman Business Owner of the Year STRIVE AWARD, for KY/Southern IN Region  
2018 NAWIC, National Association of Women in Construction, *Bluegrass Award*  
2008 Artist in Residence, St. Francis School, Goshen, KY  
2007 NAWBO Woman Business Owner of the Year, Finalist, Louisville, KY  
2004 Best Design, Muhammad Ali Center, *The Greatest is Yet to Come*

### **Grants (29 to date):**

2024 Sherrod Family Film Production Grant for *The Last Time Your Name is Spoken*  
2023 Sherrod Family Film Equipment Grant for *The Last Time Your Name is Spoken*  
2022 Great Meadows Foundation Travel Grant, 2022 Venice Biennale  
2022 Gray Family Foundation Grant & (2) Gray Family Grants \$25K  
2017 LexArts Community Arts Grant  
2017 Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government  
2016 LexArts Community Arts Grant  
2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010 Grants C.A.I.P, Fayette County, KY Artemis Sculpture Gardens @ Prometheus Farm  
2016 E. Rhodes & Leona B. Carpenter Foundation Grant \$60K toward Alice Dunnigan Sculpture  
2015 Grant, KY Foundation for Women, Art Meets Activism Grant  
2014 Grant, KY Foundation for Women, Professional Artist Enrichment Grant  
2013 Grant, KY Foundation for Women, Professional Artist Enrichment Grant  
2012 Grant, Lexington Garden Club, Prometheus Grant for Sculpture and Botanical Gardens  
2012 Grants, (2) USDA Environmental Quality Incentive Program benefiting Prometheus Gardens  
2012 Grant, LexArts has provided support for Prometheus through its Fund for the Arts

- 2008 Grant, Kentucky Foundation for Women, Artist Enrichment Grant
- 2006 Grant, Sister Cities International, 2006 Kunst in der Stadt, *Kuenstlerarbeiten Public Exhibition at Gutenbergplatz*, Mainz, Germany

### **Selected Media Coverage and Publications:**

- CBS Saturday Morning National Feature<sup>i</sup>
- NBC News NOW National Feature<sup>ii</sup>
- New York Times<sup>iii, iv</sup>
- CNN<sup>v</sup>
- The Lily (The Washington Post)<sup>vi</sup>
- The Washington Post<sup>vii</sup>
- Smithsonian Magazine<sup>viii, ix</sup>
- NewYork.gov<sup>x</sup>
- Forbes<sup>xi</sup>
- Kentucky.gov<sup>xii, xiii, xiv, xv</sup>
- Southern Women Book, Garden and Gun<sup>xvi</sup>
- NPR, All Things Considered<sup>xvii</sup>
- BBC News World Service<sup>xviii</sup>
- USA Today<sup>xix, xx</sup>
- University of Louisville Alumni Magazine Cover/Story<sup>xxi</sup>
- Roland Martin Unfiltered, Daily Digital Show<sup>xxii</sup>
- Fodor's Travel<sup>xxiii</sup>
- WHAS ABC Nation/World News<sup>xxiv</sup>
- WEKU/NPR Member Station<sup>xxv</sup>
- The Handbook of the Anthropology of Death, Cambridge University Press, Upcoming 2025

### **Selected Public Speaking Presentations/Lectures:**

- 2025 Speaker for the launch of the [69<sup>th</sup> United Nations session of the Commission on the Status of Women](#) and Celebration of the [30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) in NYC, addressing UN Delegates from around the world. <sup>xxvi</sup>
- 2025 [Eastern Kentucky University Department of History, Philosophy, & Religious Studies](#), Keynote for 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Women Symposium, (In)visible Faces, March
- 2024 [University of Kentucky College of Education](#), March
- 2024 University of Louisville [Conference on Literature and Culture](#), February
- 2024 [KASA KY Association of School Administrators Keynote Speaker](#), January
- 2023 Central KY [American Association of University Women](#), November
- 2023 George Washington University, [Rituals in the Making](#), International Lecture, October
- 2023 [Woman's Club of Louisville](#) Keynote Speaker, October 2023
- 2023 KY Governor (Andy Beshear) [LEAD Conference, IMPACT Embracing a Culture of Inclusion](#)
- 2023 GSP, [KY Governor's Scholar Program](#), [KY COVID Memorial](#)
- 2023 Dedication of KY COVID Memorial, KY State Capitol, May
- 2022 United Nations Foundation Global Leadership Summit 2022, *Storytelling and Advocacy in Art*
- 2022 NYC Public Library 2022, *New Visions for Public Art in America*
- 2022 NYC Community Board 8 Manhattan, NYC, *New Visions for Public Art in America*
- 2022 Brearley Upper School, NYC 2022, *New Visions for Public Art in America*
- 2022 NY Mary Washington Colonial Chapter NSDAR 2022, *New Visions for Public Art in America*
- 2022 Radcliffe Circle (Women's Graduate Group) 2022, *New Visions for Public Art in America*
- 2022 Uniquely KY Podcast 2022<sup>xxvii</sup>
- 2022 Looking for Drinkable Water Podcast 2022
- 2021 Dedication of The Girl Puzzle Monument, NYC
- 2021 Portrettpodden Podcast, Norway 2021
- 2020 Presenter, RIOC Town Hall, New York City, Nellie Bly Monument, *The Girl Puzzle*
- 2019 Presenter, Truman Presidential Library, Lecture on Alice Dunnigan, American History TV – C-SPAN3<sup>xxviii</sup>
- 2018 Presenter, NAWBO Woman Business Owner of the Year Awards for KY/Southern IN
- 2018 Keynote Speaker, National Association of Women in Construction Annual Bluegrass Meeting

- 2015 *Dreamers and Doers: Voices of Kentucky Women*, Film<sup>xxix</sup>  
 2006 Keynote Speaker, *Professional Art Marketing*, Arts Council of Louisville

### **Selected Awards Short Film, *The Last Time Your Name is Spoken***

World Premiere, Official Festival Selection, April 10, 2025, FilmArte Festival, Berlin, Germany  
 International Premiere, August 8, 2025, Anatolia International Film Festival, Istanbul, Turkey  
 Winner Best Experimental Film, Best Editing, Best Producer, Cinema Carnival Film Festival, February 2026, Pisa, Italy  
 Winner, Best Featurette Movie Wallachia Int'l Film Festival, Bucharest, Romania  
 Winner, Silver Award for Short Narrative, March 2025, Mindfield Film Festival, Albuquerque, NM  
 Winner, Best Experimental Short Award, March 2025, Crown Point International Film Festival, Chicago, IL  
 Winner, Best LGBTQ+ Short Film Award, Feb. 2025, Athens International Art Film Festival, Athens, Greece  
 Winner, Best Artist Film Award, November 2024, Berlin Indie Film Festival, Berlin, Germany  
 Official Selection, Political Issues Category, Anticensura Film Festival, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
 Official Selection, UUCP Film Festival, Negros Oriental, Philippines  
 Official Selection/Honorable Mention, 2025, Power24 International Film Festival, Durban, South Africa  
 Official Selection, Best Short Film Category, 2025, New York-Istanbul Short Film Festival, Istanbul, Turkey  
 Official Selection, Erie International Film Festival, 2025, Erie, PA, USA  
 Semi-Finalist, Kraken International Film Festival, Milan, Italy  
 Honorable Mention, Absurd Film Festival, 2025, Milano, Italy  
 Honorable Mention, Vienna International Film Awards, 2025, Vienna, Austria

### **Solo Exhibitions:**

- 2008 *Water is Life*, Louisville Zoo, AAM Museum, 210' Environmental Sculpture Installation  
 2007 *Dryad, Spirit of Trees Maquettes*, Spalding University Gallery, Louisville, KY  
 2006 *Art Eco*, Wild Honeysuckle Gallery, Louisville, KY  
 2005 *Pathways*, Wild Honeysuckle Gallery, Louisville, KY  
 2005 *Imagine...a World without Hunger*, Wild Honeysuckle Gallery, Louisville, KY  
 2004 *New Works by Amanda Matthews*, Art Beat Gallery, Louisville, KY  
 2000 *Aesthetics and Art*, Shriner's Temple, Louisville, KY

### **Selected Group Exhibitions:**

- 2023 *Among Women* Exhibition, University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington, KY  
 2010 *Portrait of a Horse: The Exquisite Equine*, Anne Wright Wilson Gallery, Georgetown College  
 2009 *Sculpture in the Dell* Invitational, Yew Dell Conservancy Gardens, Crestwood, KY  
 2009 *Riverspan Sculpture Exhibition*, Cincinnati, OH  
 2008 *Sculpture in the Dell* Invitational, Yew Dell Conservancy Gardens, Crestwood, KY  
 2007 *American Founders Bank Woodland Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition*, Lexington, KY  
 2006 *Ausstellung der Kunstwerke am Rathaus*, Mainz, Germany  
 2006 *Kuenstlerarbeiten Public Exhibition at Gutenbergplatz*, Mainz, Germany  
 2006 *Heyburn Arts Exhibition*, Louisville Arts Council, Louisville, KY  
 2006 *Dinnerworks Exhibition*, Installation, Water Tower Art Museum, Louisville, KY  
 2005 *Energy and Nature*, Bluegrass Energy Expo 2005, Lexington, KY  
 2004 *An Evening of Art at the Water Tower*, Louisville Visual Art Association  
 2003 *93rd Water Tower Annual*, Water Tower Museum, Louisville, KY  
 2003 *Dinnerworks Exhibition*, Installation, Water Tower Art Museum, Louisville, KY  
 2002 *2002-2003 Opera Season Group Exhibition*, KY Center for the Arts  
 1989 *Drawings from Paris, France* Exhibition, Allen R. Hite Institute, University of Louisville

### **Previous Work History:**

2000-2009 Owner, Wild Honeysuckle Studios, Louisville, KY  
2002-2004 Faculty Member, Louisville Visual Art Association  
1998-1999 National Marketing Dir./Regional Principal, Tower Equities, NASD B/D (NASD Series 6, 26, 63, 65)  
1996-1997 Div. Vice President Mktg, Providian/Aegon, Fortune Global 500 Co. (NASD Series 6, 26, 63, 65)

### **Copyrights and Licensing:**

2024 Licensing by City Colleges of Chicago for 2 courses in Early American Feminism/Journalism based on The Girl Puzzle Monument and Website  
2024 Pau 4-245-737 *The Last Time Your Name is Spoken* (Script text, vocals, short film)  
2022 VA 2-330-969 The Girl Puzzle Website/Text/Audio Narration/*New Visions for Public Art in America*  
2022 VAu001-468-128 Team KY COVID Memorial Sculptures, *United We Stand Divided We Fall*  
2021 VAu001-436-635 The Girl Puzzle Logo  
2020 VAu001-400-413 The Girl Puzzle Technical Drawings/Sculptures

### **Education:**

1990 Bachelor of Arts, University of Louisville, Major in Studio Fine Art, Minor in Philosophy  
1989 Fine Art and Architecture, Paris, France, University of Louisville



## Bibliography

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- <sup>i</sup> Ruffini, Christina. 2021. "Monument Honoring Journalist Nellie Bly Opens: 'This Installation Is Spiritual.'" National Feature Interview of Amanda Matthews. CBS Saturday Morning. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/nellie-bly-monument-opens/>.
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- <sup>v</sup> Elamroussi, Aya, and Amy Simonson. 2022. "Kentucky Unveils Statue of Nettie Depp, the First Woman to Have a Permanent Large-Scale Monument inside the State Capitol." *CNN*, November 11, 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2022/11/10/us/kentucky-first-woman-statue-state-capitol/index.html>.
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- <sup>vii</sup> Guttman, Leslie. 2018. "The First Black Female White House Reporter Had to Pawn Her Watch Every Week Just to Eat." *The Washington Post*, September 15, 2018. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/retropolis/wp/2018/09/08/the-first-black-female-white-house-reporter-had-to-pawn-her-watch-every-week-just-to-eat/>.
- <sup>viii</sup> Nalewicki, Jennifer. 2020. "The Must-See Outdoor Art Installations of 2020." *Smithsonian*, February 3, 2020. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/must-see-outdoor-art-installations-2020-180974033/>.
- <sup>ix</sup> Machemer, Theresa. 2020. "Kentucky State Capitol Will Unveil Its First Statue Honoring a Woman." *Smithsonian*, August 20, 2020. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/kentucky-announces-plans-state-capitols-first-monument-honoring-woman-180975600/>.
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- <sup>xi</sup> Kravitz Hoeffner, Melissa. 2021. "Nellie Bly Monument to Open on Roosevelt Island." *Forbes*, December 7, 2021. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/melissakravitz/2021/12/07/nellie-bly-monument-to-open-on-roosevelt-island/?sh=4c37f40417a7>.
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