

The Cultural Commons

An Interactive Garden and Education Space

Project Title: The Cultural Commons: An Interactive Garden and Education Space

Our Vision Statement

Our vision is to create a garden and education space within Pfiffner Park to serve as an interactive and dynamic educational experience for all people. This space will establish a natural *point of beginning* along the Wisconsin River, leading to a greater understanding of and connection to our community's past, present, and future multicultural heritage.

Founding Organizations

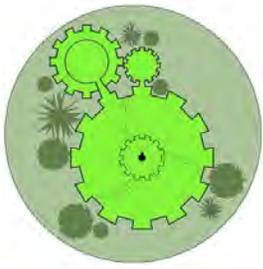
The Rotary Club of Stevens Point, the Partner City of Estelí, Nicaragua, the Sister Cities of Gulcz, Poland and Rostov Veliky, Russia, along with support from the UWSP community, have joined together to conceptualize, create, and dedicate an attractive and enduring reflection of our collective role in the culture of Stevens Point.

Why is this project being proposed?

The gardens will honor our community's history and heritage and the long-term international relationships with the people of Rostov Veliky, Russia, Gulcz, Poland, and Esteli, Nicaragua. The gardens will be a strong and visible statement of commitment to the idea that we in Stevens Point, Wisconsin are indeed part of a wider world.

Objectives

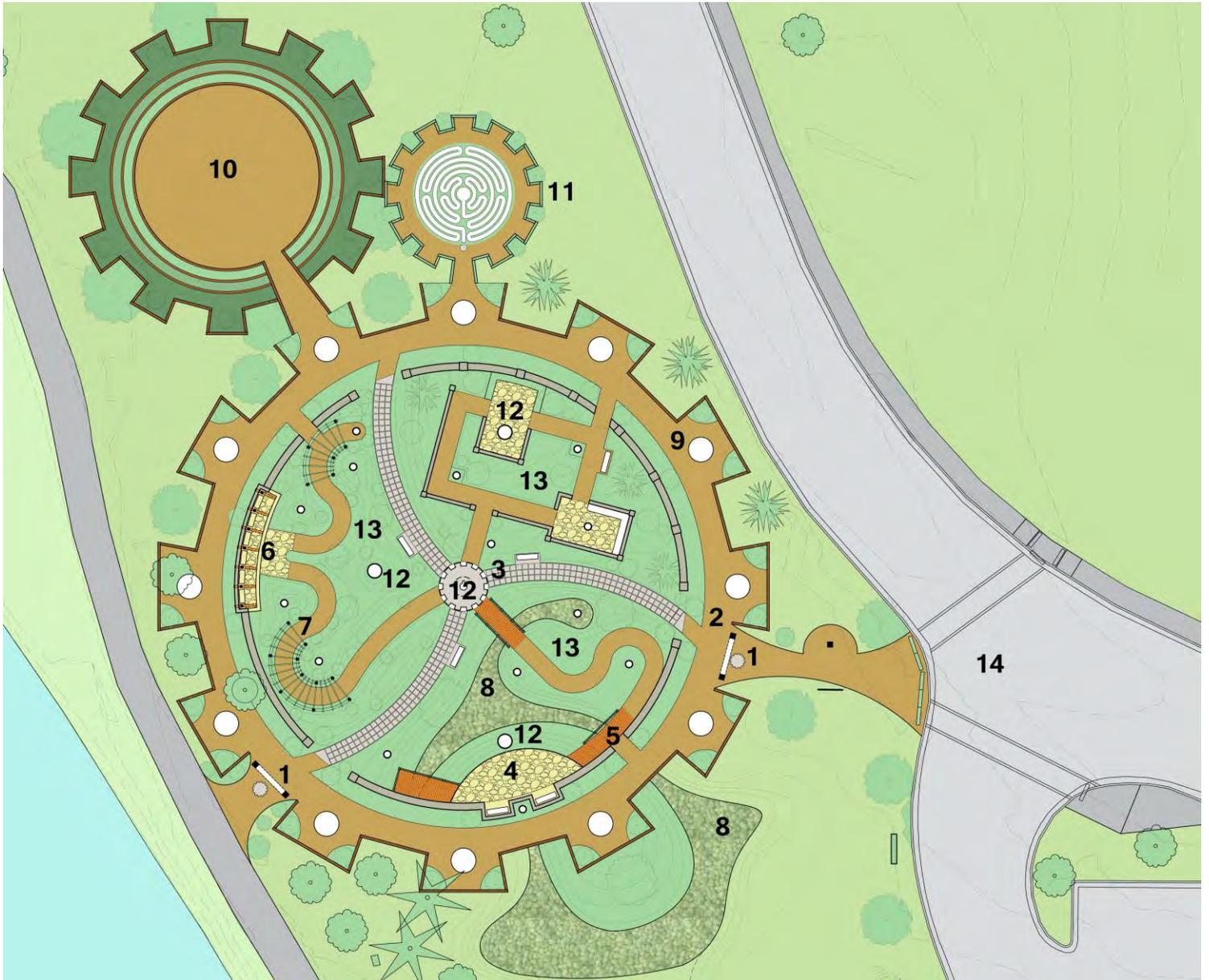
- **Represent** the different cultures of the three sister/partner cities through native plantings, shade structures, and walking paths as well as through an interactive smart phone application.
- **Educate** about local and regional heritage and culture via initiatives, tourism, activities and events as well as historical facts linked by phone app, and as experienced within the gardens.
- **Celebrate** multicultural relationships through unique sculptures and other site features.
- **Create** an outdoor place for people to come together for celebration, education, and learning through a variety of experiential spaces such as an outdoor classroom amphitheater, a reflective labyrinth, and flexible community organization exhibit areas.
- **Develop** greater awareness and appreciation of other cultures, local heritage, and international relationships.
- **Enhance** aesthetic and functional enjoyment of the Riverfront.
- **Promote** cultural tourism
- **Support** health and wellness through the gardens' proximity to existing natural areas such as the Wisconsin River and the Green Circle Trail
- **Encompass** sustainable design through native plantings, natural materials, and wildlife habitat
- **Live** as an enduring multicultural, multigenerational, fully accessible space as linked to a vibrant community life.



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Proposed Site Plan and Features



1. Entry Gate and Kiosk; 2. Cultural Commons Exhibit Spaces and Path; 3. Specialty Donor Pavers; 4. Flagstone Paving; 5. Wooden bridges/decking; 6. Veranda shade structure and seating; 7. Pergola; 8. Rain Garden “Riverscape”; 9. Community Exhibit Space; 10. Outdoor Classroom; 11. Labyrinth; 12. Specialty Sculptures; 13. Themed Garden Plantings; 14. Accessible Crosswalks.

ROTARY CLUB OF STEVENS POINT

PARTNER CITY OF ESTELI, NICARAGUA ● SISTER CITY OF GULCZ, POLAND ● SISTER CITY OF ROSTOV VELIKY, RUSSIA



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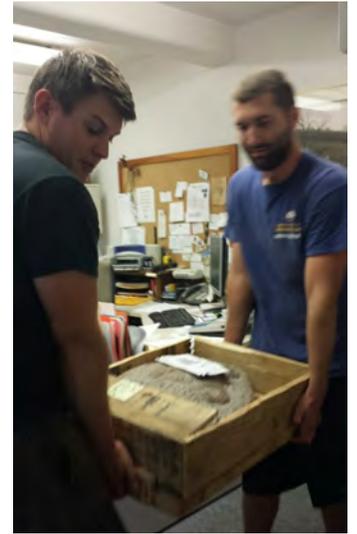
Inviting Alberto Gutierrez to be part of The Cultural Commons Project





Next step.....getting stone from Managua, Nicaragua to Stevens Point, Wisconsin





...and the sculpture gets one step closer.....