



# Engaging New Audiences

Dexter Mead

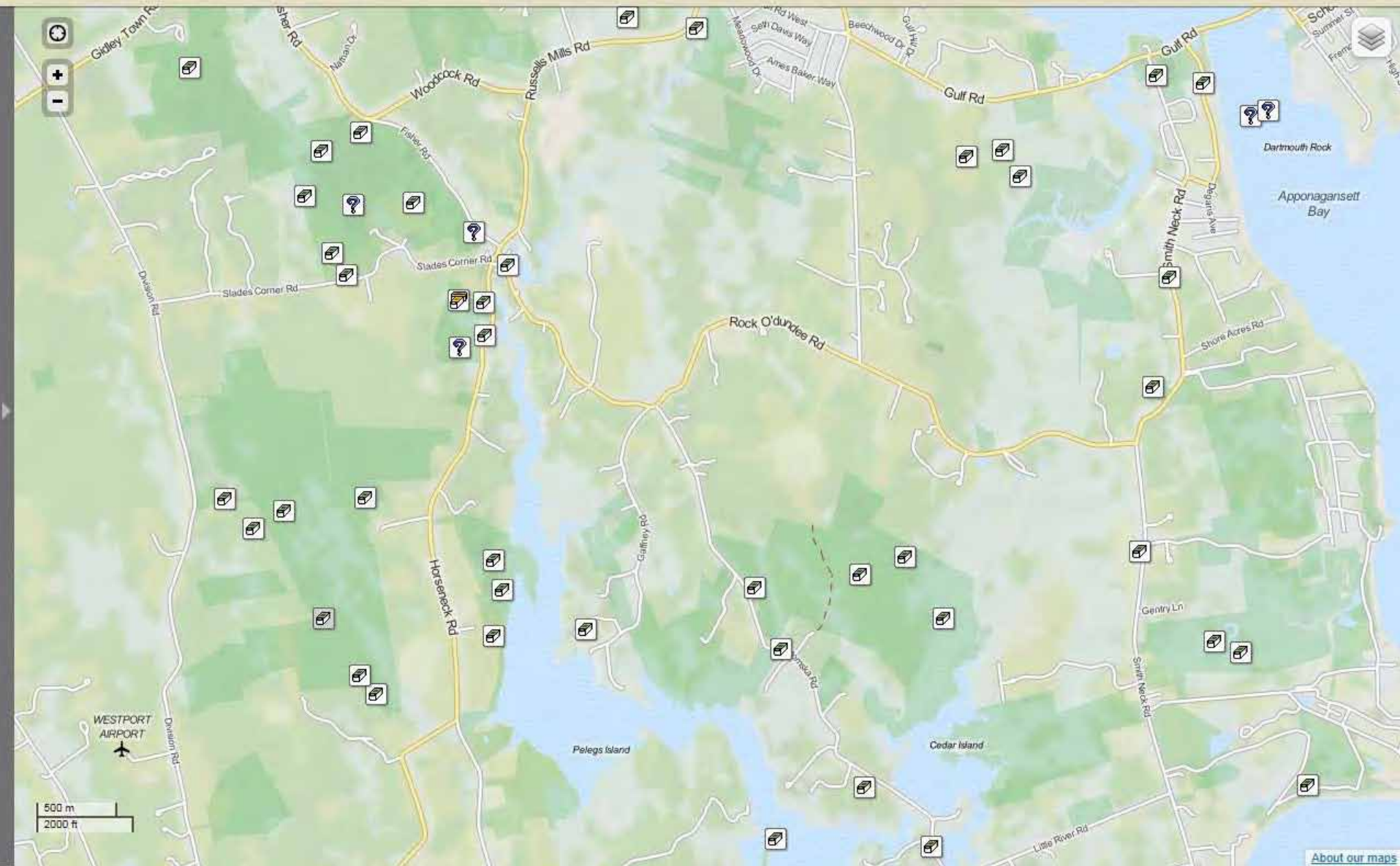
Executive Director

Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust



# GEOCACHING

You are logged in as **Dexter** at D... [Log out](#)



# DNRT

## Acres of Land Protected

Nearly 5,000 acres total, including ownership of 1,500 acres in 53 “Reserves” open to the public.

## Membership

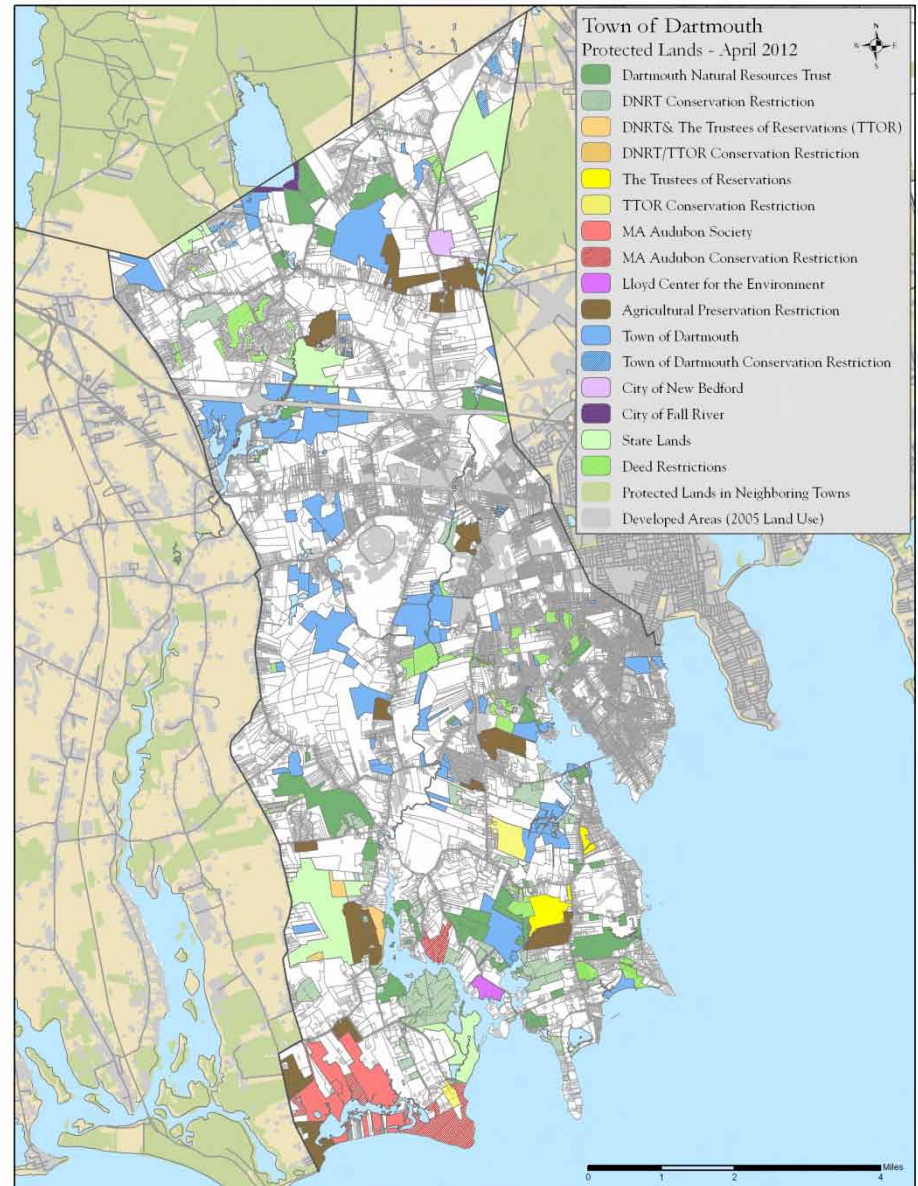
Approximately 800 individuals, families and businesses.

## Annual Operating Budget

Approximately \$340,000 (not including special land acquisition projects).

## Staff

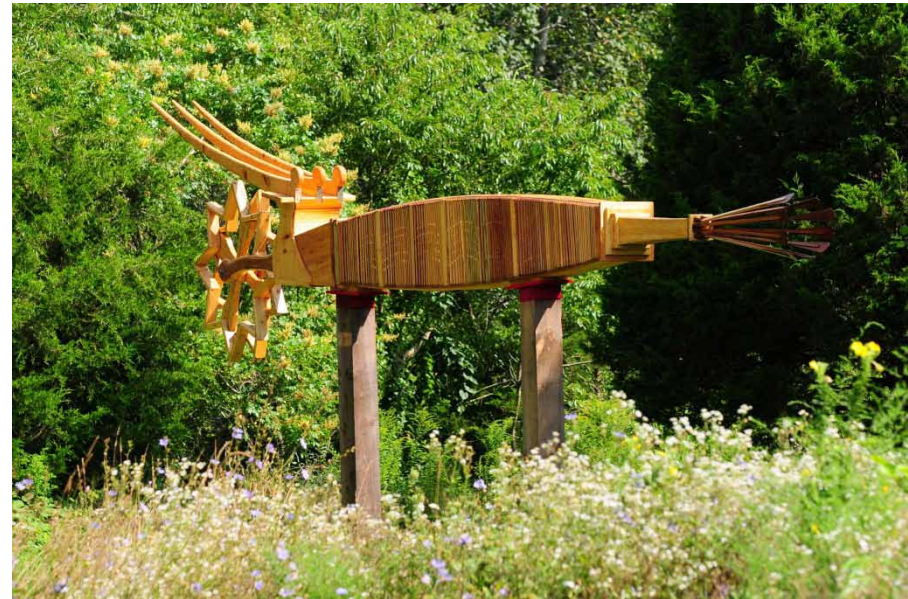
3 full-time and 2 part-time staff.



# The River Project



- “Sculpture inspired by the Slocum’s River Reserve”
- Explore “dialogue” between art & nature
- Site-specific sculptures



# The River Project



- 6 artists – each visited the property and selected a specific site

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 JIM COATES        | 4 STACY LATT SAVAGE  |
| 2 ERIC LINTALA      | 5 ELLEN LEWIS WATSON |
| 3 RICHARD CREIGHTON | 6 NANCY TRAIN SMITH  |

# The River Project



## GOALS

- Provide an inspirational and enjoyable free outdoor experience for people of all ages
- Increase public interest in and support for art & natural areas
- Stimulate a dialogue about art and nature and the connections between them

# The River Project



- First River Project:  
August 2009 – March 2010



- Second River Project:  
June 2012 – May 2013  
(committee formed in August 2010; artists selected in May 2011)





# The River Project Partnership

## -DNRT & The Trustees of Reservations

- co-own Reserve, co-host events
- TTOR provided design work for print materials
- 2012-13: DNRT raised \$25,000 to pay artists and pay for events & materials

## -Gustin Gallery

- hosted companion exhibit with drawings & models
- hosted opening

## -UMASS-Dartmouth

- 2009-10: Curator, Artists, Stipend
- 2012-13: Curator, Hosted Lectures



Elizabeth Dooher  
Mary "Mimi" Frank  
Bryan Nash-Gill  
Danielle Kromar  
Ron Rudnicki  
Steve Whittlesey [clockwise from top left]

 THE RIVER PROJECT  
ART & NATURE AT SLOCUM'S RIVER RESERVE



Sculpture inspired by the beauty of Slocum's River Reserve



# The Slocum's River Project: *Thoughts and Processes*



















**YOUR LAND TRUST**

**breathe easy**

Clean water. Rich and diverse wildlife habitat, working farms, and the opportunity to hike, fish, explore, and just enjoy the beautiful landscape of Dartmouth. DNRT is hard at work preserving these valuable resources for YOU.

**members matter**

Our members are vital to our success. By becoming a member of DNRT, you'll join hundreds of others committed to preserving the nature of Dartmouth for this and future generations.

**Join us today!**

[www.dnr.org](http://www.dnr.org)



take a hike

DNRT  
DARTMOUTH  
1971 - 2011

Family Fun Day

YOU ARE TRUST



WYOMING  
KILLIAN & SONS





Coats emerge from the forest in Ellen Lewis Watson's "Green Men," one of the art exhibits along the walking trails of the Slocum River Reserve.

HERALD NEWS PHOTOS JACK FLOYD

The wilderness is their canvas



WESTPORT, MASS. (Herald News) — A field of green grass is dotted with hundreds of red fish sculptures at the Slocum River Reserve in South Dartmouth. The sculptures are part of an exhibit by UMass Dartmouth's woodlands for inspiration. One student used tree branches to make a ladder to the top of the field.

PHOTO BY PETER PEREIRA/STAFF

# ART ALFRESCO

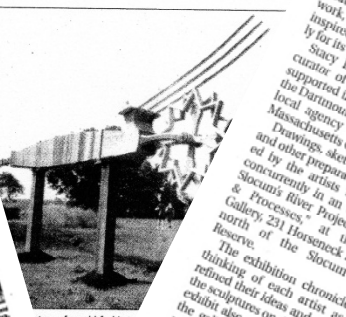
Sculptures greet visitors to walking trails at Slocum River Reserve



Linda Murphy Special to The Herald News

The two land parcels jointly owned by the state and the town of South Dartmouth.

Thirteen wooden ladders snake through the woods.



One of the six large-scale sculptures by Jim Coates, professor of fine art.

## Lessons learned far afield

By Peter Haggard

It's a beautiful day in the woods of South Dartmouth, Mass. The sun is shining through the trees, and the air is fresh. In the foreground, a large sculpture of a snake lies on the ground. In the background, a person is walking on a trail. The scene is peaceful and serene.

### Sculptures on exhibit at Slocum's River Reserve

DARTMOUTH — The Slocum River Reserve in Dartmouth is the inspiration and the setting for six large-scale site-specific sculptures that will be on display starting at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, as part of a collaboration between the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, Natural Resources Trust, The Trustees of Reservations and the Gustin Gallery. The sculptures will remain in place until March 13.

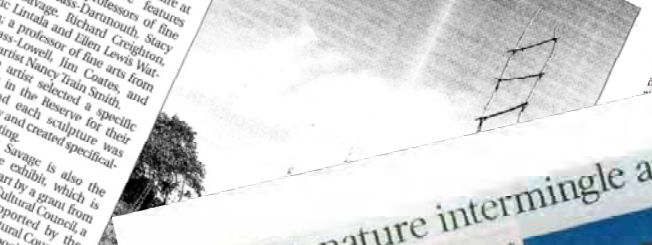
The River Project: Sculpture at Slocum's River Reserve features works by four professors of fine art at UMass-Dartmouth: Stacy Laté Savage, Richard Coates, Eric Linardi and Ellen Lewis Watson; a professor of fine arts from UMass-Lowell, Jim Coates; and local artist Nancy Train Smith. Each artist selected a specific location in the Reserve for their work and each sculpture was inspired by and created specifically for its setting.

Stacy Laté Savage is also the curator of the exhibit, which is supported in part by a grant from the Dartmouth Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and other preparatory work created by the artists will be shown concurrently in an exhibit, "The Slocum River Project: Thoughts & Processes," at the Gustin Gallery, 231 Hosenbeck Road, just north of the Slocum's River Reserve.

The exhibition chronicles the thinking of each artist as they refined their ideas and visions for the sculptures on the Reserve. The exhibit also opens at 11 a.m. and the gallery will host an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. through Nov. 6 and the sculptures at the Slocum's River Reserve will be up through March 13, 2010.

The 30-acre Slocum's River Reserve, which protects more than 3,000 feet of shoreline along the Slocum's river, is jointly owned and managed by The Trustees of Reservations and Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust.

The Reserve has two miles of trails and is open to the public for sunrise to sunset, year-round. More exhibits are available at the Reserve on thetrustees.org or sculptures.com/sculpture



One of the six large-scale sculptures by Jim Coates, professor of fine art.

### Art, nature intermingle at River Reserve

By Don Wilkinson

Imagined worlds are everywhere. The 37-acre Slocum's River Reserve in Dartmouth, Mass., is home to a landscape of imagination and art. The sculptures are part of an exhibit by UMass Dartmouth's woodlands for inspiration. One student used tree branches to make a ladder to the top of the field.

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Progress House by Charles Krueger is a delightful wood structure of woven logs and stone. The glass of the roof is made of woven logs and stone. The house is located in the woods of South Dartmouth, Mass. The house is a masterpiece of craftsmanship and design.



**“Magical, creative and spiritual surprise at every turn!”**

**“Extraordinary!”**

**“An amazing juxtaposition of nature and art!”**

**“Beautiful – what a great place to walk and see sculpture.”**

**“Magical place! The sculptures are breathtaking.”**

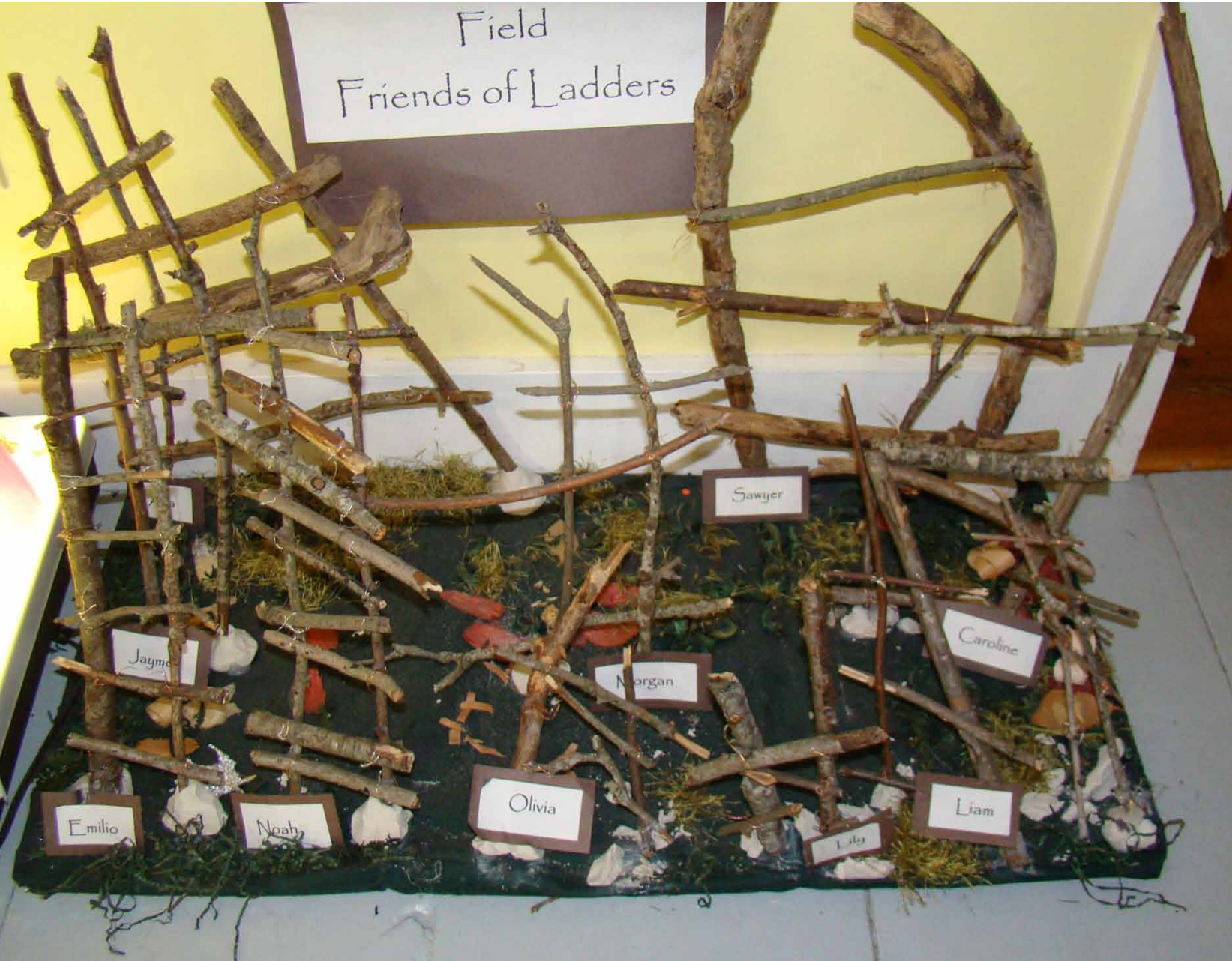
**“Stunning integration of material and landscape.”**



"I think it was meant to be a stage for people to perform on."  
"It might have been something for a king. Mama told me that."  
"We need to look through them because they have holes."  
"What do you see?"  
"We see each other!"  
"What did the artist use as materials?"  
"Wood and air."  
"They are two statues that are talking to each other."  
"I think there are mouths in this sculpture, but these two on the bottom didn't want to be friends."  
"They didn't like the way that they played together. They played differently."  
"I think that one was laughing at that one."  
"They both want to be friends with the rock, but they didn't want to be friends with each other, so they got mad."  
"Maybe they did both want to be friends with the rock, so they decided to do that. I was thinking they did not want to



# Field Friends of Ladders



Jayme

Emilio

Noah

Olivia

Morgan

Lily

Sawyer

Caroline

Liam





# The River Project

## Advice

### 1. Determine your goals

- try to measure success

### 2. Suit the site

### 3. Select a good “art” partner

- need someone who understands the art world
- choose artists carefully

### 4. Involve local schools

**Thank You!**

