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Newport art Commissioners make oranges top pick among potential sculpture exhibit additions

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Makes sense for Orange County: The Newport Beach Arts Commission's top pick for the next stage of Newport's rotating sculpture exhibit at Civic Center Park is a 9-foot-tall tower of orange wedges.

On Thursday, commissioners, with input from outside experts and a public online poll, selected 14 pieces of modern art — 10 finalists and four alternates — that they would most like to see in the exhibit, which is entering its fourth phase. They had 31 candidates to choose from.

Here are their picks, which will go to the City Council for consideration April 9:

- "Slices of Heaven" by Craig Gray — a stack of steel, stucco and concrete citrus slices in Technicolor orange and yellow. Gray also is the creator of "Popsicles," one of the works [currently in the park](#). "Slices of Heaven" was easily the top choice among the public.
- "Pinnacle" by Stephanie Bachiero — a 6-foot-tall abstract piece of engineered aerospace polymer and carbon fiber coated in white lacquer.
- "Hurricane" by Ray Katz — a 9½-foot-tall by 16-foot-wide jumble of
- "Chairman of the Board" by Steven Rieman — a 13-foot-tall stainless-steel pincer-like scoop. The artist created the currently displayed "Flight."
- "Mule Deer" by Michael Boyce — a roughly 5-foot-tall and 4-foot-wide bronze buck.



- “The Tot” by Richard Becker — a 32-inch-tall stainless-steel lad wearing swim trunks and goggles.
- “Spy Boy” by David Buckingham — a multicolored 6-foot-tall humanoid figure made from found scrap steel. It is the little brother to “Pretty Boy” from the [exhibit’s first phase](#).
- “Feathers in the Wind” by Alex G — a kinetic sculpture featuring three swirling blue steel feathers atop a 10-foot pole.

- “Delilah” by Benjamin Victor — a life-size bronze statue of the biblical . It is by the same artist who created the sculpture at the [1/1 Marines memorial](#) in Castaways Park.
- “Polished Stainless Steel Sculptures” by Lake Daffner —, a quartet of abstract steel figures.



The final selections will be installed this fall and remain on display for two years.