



**For Immediate Release  
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Chicago 2016 and City of Chicago Host Beijing Olympic Sculpture Exhibit Opens October 23 and will be on view through November 3.

Gateway Park at Chicago's Navy Pier will play host to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Landscape Sculpture Exhibition. The 110 Finalist Design Award Winners will be on view October 23 through November 3. The outdoor exhibit, which is free to the public, is a visual treat and exciting messenger of the Olympic spirit.

Inspired by the immortal sculptures of ancient Athens, Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG) organized an international competition in 2005. On August 8, 2005 artists from around the world were invited to submit their sculpture designs depicting some aspect of the Olympic Games or the Olympic Movement. More than 2,000 entries from 90 countries were received and in 2006 a panel of judges narrowed the submitted sculpture designs to 110 finalists, including 10 designs submitted by American artists.

***On October 23 at 12 p.m., an opening ceremony will take place at Gateway Park*** and will feature a line and dragon dance, red ribbon cutting ceremony and remarks from Maggie Daley, the First Lady of the City of Chicago, the Consul General of China, and representatives from the BOCOG and the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Sponsored by the BOCOG, the exhibit aims to bring the essence of Olympic spirit to the world by presenting a wide range of Olympic-inspired works of art. The exhibit began traveling around the world in mid-2006 and first arrived in the United States in July 2007. The exhibition has been on display in Barcelona, Spain, London, England, Sydney, Australia, Seoul, South Korea, Rome, Italy, Lausanne, Switzerland and Los Angeles, California. It is also slated to travel to New York City later this year.

The exhibit will also be on display in Beijing's Tiananmen Square during the Olympic Games, which take place August 8-18, 2008. Following the conclusion of the Olympic Games, twenty-nine sculptures, symbolizing the XXIX Olympiad, will be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals. The winning sculptures will become a part of the urban landscape in Beijing to commemorate the Olympic Games.

For more information, please contact the USOC Media and Public Relations Division (719/866-4529).

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