



**Hamilton, Ohio, City of Sculpture, Inc.**

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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release: July 10, 2003

**Twenty Sculptures by J. Seward Johnson, Jr.**

*Exhibited on the Sidewalks of Downtown*

*Hamilton, Ohio, USA. ■ July, August, and September 2004.*

HAMILTON, OH, CITY OF SCULPTURE, INC. is proud to announce the upcoming traveling art exhibition of J. Seward Johnson Jr. In July, August, and September of 2004, twenty figures of this world-renowned artist will be showcased on the sidewalks of Hamilton's downtown central business district.

These life-sized bronze figures represent people of all ages engaged in day-to-day activities...a woman walking her dog; two people on a park bench; a child reading a book in the grass. By capturing human gesture in bronze, Seward Johnson creates a sculptural experience that everyone can enjoy. Their routine poses make them a novel yet natural selection for a public art display in the charming setting of downtown Hamilton. Each life-like sculpture displays intricate detail, from visible stitching on clothing to the drips on a child's ice cream cone.

Seward Johnson had the unusual experience of growing up as the heir to one of America's largest fortunes as the grandson of the founder of Johnson + Johnson. As someone who could have spent a life of leisure, Johnson is quite actively involved in both his art and an array of other interests. He is the President of a large oceanographic research institution in Florida, the publisher of a science magazine, and the founder of an off-Broadway theater in New York. He is the past President of the International Sculpture Center of Washington, DC, and remains a vital force in encouraging and assisting with young sculptors careers by having created the Johnson Atelier Foundry and Technical Institute. Seward Johnson was selected as the only sculptor to represent the United States at the World EXPO celebration in Seville, Spain. There was an exhibition of his life-size bronzes on display at the U.S. Pavilion and at the consulate's residence. The artist was selected by the United States Information Agency for this honor.

<http://www.sewardjohnson.com/overview/overViewIntro.html>

This exhibition will not be the first of Seward Johnson's work to be found in Hamilton. The Fitton Center for Creative Arts, 101 South Monument Avenue in Hamilton enjoys permanent public placement of two of Seward Johnson's Sculptures. These permanent pieces, installed prior to Hamilton's designation as the City of Sculpture by Governor Bob Taft on August 16, 2000, were among the first sculptures to be installed in Hamilton. "Spring" is a 2-figure, life-size bronze piece of two college-aged students situated in poses as if between classes studying. Created in 1979 and installed at Fitton Center in 1998, this placement was made possible through a gift by Richard J. Fitton. "First Ride" consists of two figures, a father and daughter. The girl, seated on a

bicycle, is attempting her first ride as her father stands right behind her, just letting go. This sculpture was a gift of the Carruthers Family and was unveiled in 1997.

Worldwide, approximately 200 of Seward Johnson's works are exhibited in permanent placements or on extended loan. The permanent purchase of one of his pieces can range from \$70,000 to \$300,000. The Santa Monica based firm, Sculpture Placement, Ltd., has arranged for the traveling, temporary exhibition of collections of 15 to 20 sculptures in major European Cities as well as in the US in recent years.



*First Ride by J. Seward Johnson Jr.*

**For more information, contact:**

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