

**title** *We Shall Know Iowa State by its Myriad Parts*

**artist**

**Sticks, Inc.**



**Location**

Hixson-Lied Student Success Center  
Atrium

**Media**

Carved wooden panels and  
acrylic paint

**Size**

80 panels, each 2' x 2'

**Date**

2007



## About the Panels

*Many educators and authors from disadvantaged backgrounds have written of the importance of learning to identify themselves as part of the academic world. To succeed, you must see yourself in this mural of work, joy, curiosity, dreams and achievement. Celebrate that you belong here. A university is known by its myriad parts.*

-Statement from Sticks, Inc.

Eighty wooden box panels, including designs incorporating each academic and athletic department at Iowa State University, are mounted to the walls of the Hixson-Lied Student Success Center. These panels, designed by Sticks, Inc. depict the vast range of work done by the students, faculty and staff of Iowa State. Sticks summarizes the mural in the following way:

*Student's academic success depends upon being able to identify themselves as part of the academic world. Each student entering the Hixson-Lied Student Success Center ought to be able to envision himself or herself as a part of this varied mural and the university it celebrates.*

Based on research of the 78 academic and athletic departments, this design allows each department its own distinctive style. In this installation, Sticks celebrates curiosity - the curiosity necessary to the success of current and future students. Also characteristic of Sticks art, this mural includes text within the "icon" boxes, as well as many other forms of language - from binary code to the symbols of the periodic table.

## About Sticks, Inc.

Sticks, a Des Moines company offering a distinctive line of furniture, accessories, and object art, was started by artist Sarah Grant in 1985. Sarah was born in 1953 in Rochester, New York. She was raised in Ames, Iowa and received her BFA in drawing and intaglio printmaking from the University of Iowa in 1976. Sarah also holds two MFAs in intaglio printmaking (1978) and painting (1980) from the University of Iowa. Sticks has enjoyed national recognition for the decorative art objects it produces. Sticks' furniture and artwork is currently displayed in over 100 galleries nationwide. Sticks has also evolved to include major interior installation projects for hospitals, libraries, schools, restaurants, and hotels. The works of art in the Hixson-Lied Student Success Center were made using a collaborative process that involved many artists within the Sticks studio.

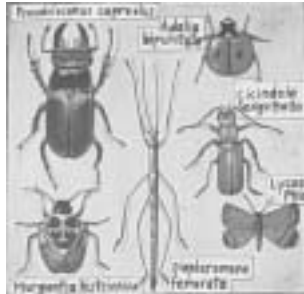
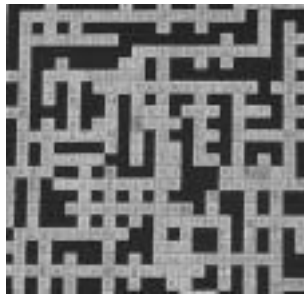
## About the Project

Public Art Philosophy Statement for the Hixson-Lied Student Success Center:

*The artwork of the Hixson-Lied Student Success Center should reflect the goals, aspirations, and diversity of Iowa State students. Themes should express reaching beyond adversity, developing opportunity, and achieving success in academics, spirit and competition. Growth through learning, discovery and engagement should be illustrated. Striving for dreams to build and enhance a foundation for life should also be represented.*

Sticks artwork can be found throughout the Hixson-Lied Student Success Center. In addition to the 80 icon boxes, Sticks specially designed study tables and other decorative furniture items to enliven study spaces and inspire students. Many themes were used, and all Sticks artists utilized research to determine the best way to portray Iowa State's unified diversity.

The Hixson-Lied Student Success Center is designed to help Iowa State students perform better in the classroom. The 33,500 square-foot building provides services to students in need of academic counseling, tutoring, and testing. It houses computer labs, counselor offices, testing centers, classrooms, study lounges, and other spaces designed to provide students with as many resources as possible to ensure their success. Three programs designed to facilitate student learning are located within the building. The Christina Hixson Opportunity Awards Program gives scholarships to Iowa high school graduates who are academically but not financially capable of attending college. The Rod and Connie French Athletic Academic Center serves student athletes that may need help balancing their academic and athletic responsibilities, and the Academic Success Center provides programs and services to help students reach their academic goals. *We Shall Know Iowa State by its Myriad Parts* is a celebration of college life and success in all of its forms, and provides inspiration to all who utilize the resources within the Hixson-Lied Student Success Center.



## *We Shall Know Iowa State University by its Myriad Parts*

Art on Campus accession number U2007.19

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[www.museums.iastate.edu](http://www.museums.iastate.edu)

**This information sheet is intended to be used in addition to viewing the Art on Campus. At no time should this sheet be used as a substitute for experiencing the art in person!**