



Fuerza (Strength)

Fuerza means strength in Spanish. The word strength in our minds evokes other words such as power, grit, fortitude, will and tenacity. These words are what came to mind when studying this sculpture. It represents in my mind, our city, Fitchburg, rising to the occasion for rebirth while pushing all obstacles (those past and present) out of the way.

Fuerza stands in the midst of yesterday and tomorrow and represents our new beginning. Yes, we have struggled with our own unique issues in the past, yes, we have our problems and yes, we have our differences. However, in spite of all of those challenges, and in the face of those challenges, we have innovation, awakening creativity and ideals, entrepreneurship and a rich, diverse population that can choose to work cohesively and not separately. It represents no gender, no social class, no ethnic affiliation, no religious denomination – it is the phoenix rising out of the fire.

Fuerza's color of red fits nicely with the title of this piece, because red can be associated with strength, power and passion. Moreover, these are the very qualities that we need in our city to take it to the next level.

I wish that more people could see it.

Jordan Hughes
Fitchburg High School
Grade 12



Fides

The Symbol of Faith and Promise in Fitchburg

It is with great hope and pride for my hometown of Fitchburg to name this magnificent sculpture, Fides, which is the Latin word meaning faith, promise and confidence. As a fifth generation resident of the city, my family has always had great pride in Fitchburg. My great, great-grandfather immigrated from Italy, to find the land of promise for his family, having great faith that Fitchburg would be the place where his family would prosper for generations to come.

As we begin the year with a new mayor, a new state representative, who will be elected this week, and with fairly new leadership at the art museum, Fitchburg continues to hold great promise for the future. Fides is a symbol of this rebirth in our community: his arms outstretched, full of promise and confidence for the future of Fitchburg. Fitchburg has many gems, a world-class university, an award-winning art museum and many architectural masterpieces. With its rich history, it is time for our community to look toward the future with faith and confidence, which Fides will so proudly represent.

Anthony Mitchell
Middlesex School
Grade 10



The Struggles We Share

I believe that a sculpture such as this represents something deep within us. This feeling that we all universally share. This is why, with all things considered, I fancy naming this sculpture “The Struggles We Share.”

This sculpture depicts an anonymous figure coated in red. Despite its monumental size, its head remains low as it struggles to make one last push against the barriers holding it back. The sheer force of this push being clearly evident – almost as if this is the last push. The final push through pure determination escaping from its lurid life and winning the battle. I believe that this depiction is meant to represent us and our daily struggle. The total war we fight to overcome the difficulties of our lives. Everyday we go about our business. We pass by and meet new people not knowing what internal battles they go through. This battle is silent and faceless. Similar to the sculpture, we go through personal battles every day, yet we come out victorious. Even if the result is ephemeral, our will, spirit, and hard work keeps us going and it shows. Like everyone out there represented by this sculpture, it shows the struggles we share.

Vence Henry
Fitchburg High School
Grade: 9



Untitled

I've heard you need a name for your stunning beautiful new sculpture that is displayed at the Fitchburg Art Museum. Well, I have a name that you might like. The name I have chosen for your sculpture is Gartis Doug. It comes from the Latin phrase, "giggas fortis" meaning strong giant.

Which makes sense because your sculpture is very strong and it is also huge. So I mixed the words "giggas" and "fortis" and came up with with Gartis. I also wanted to incorporate the intelligent creator of the piece.....YOU!! So I added Doug to the last part to show who made it. This name (Gartis) shows your sculpture is strong, big and it shows the brilliant creator of this piece, too! That is why I think this is a really good name for your new sculpture. Thank You!

Martam Ashraf
Memorial Middle School
Grade: 7