

NILES NEWS



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Village of Niles Unveils New Public Art Sculpture: “Open Symmetry” by Internationally Acclaimed Artist Virginio Ferrari

The Village of Niles Public Arts and Culture Council is proud to announce the unveiling of *Open Symmetry*, a monumental sculpture by world-renowned artist Virginio Ferrari at Niles Village Hall Plaza. Village officials invite the public to join for the unveiling ceremony on Friday, October 24 at 10:00 a.m.

The sculpture stands as a centerpiece of Niles’ growing public art program—a reflection of the community’s commitment to creativity, connection, and cultural vibrancy. Located outside Village Hall (1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles), *Open Symmetry* is a striking circular form crafted in stainless steel. The piece symbolizes the pursuit of unity and harmony within the individual and society. As viewers move around the sculpture, its shifting perspectives evoke movement and transformation—a visual metaphor for human energy and collective growth.

“Public art plays an essential role in shaping the identity of our community,” said Mayor George D. Alpogianis. “*Open Symmetry* brings beauty, reflection, and inspiration to all who pass by. It represents our shared commitment to the arts and to fostering a welcoming and dynamic community environment here in Niles.”

Ferrari, an Italian-born sculptor with over 30 monumental works in Chicago and installations worldwide, draws inspiration from nature, science, and the interconnectedness of human experience. *Open Symmetry* was inspired in part by physicist Yoichiro Nambu’s Nobel Prize-winning theory of spontaneous symmetry breaking, which describes how patterns of movement and cooperation emerge from collective behavior—much like the life of a community.



“The active forms in *Open Symmetry* represent the energy and persistence within every community,” said Ferrari. “The sculpture reflects our natural desire for balance and oneness—a harmony that is both personal and universal.”

The *Open Symmetry* installation is funded through the Village’s Appearance and Arts Fund, a dedicated program that allocates a portion of non-residential building permit fees toward public art, ensuring that creative investment remains an economic and cultural driver in Niles.

About the Artist:

Virginio L. Ferrari (b. 1937, Verona, Italy) is an internationally acclaimed sculptor whose monumental works appear across the globe — from Chicago to Florence, from Shanghai to Los Angeles. Over his six-decade career, Ferrari has exhibited in more than 50 solo shows and 150 group exhibitions, integrating art into urban life and architecture. He was awarded the Officer–Order of Merit of the Italian Republic and has been recognized for his enduring contributions to the vitality of public spaces.

Commissioned by:

The Niles Arts and Culture Council

in collaboration with Mayor George D. Alpogianis and the Niles Board of Trustees

For more information, visit www.vniles.com or www.virginioferrari.com.

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Open Symmetry, 2025, Stainless Steel, 13 x 12 x 4 ft, Virginio Ferrari.

