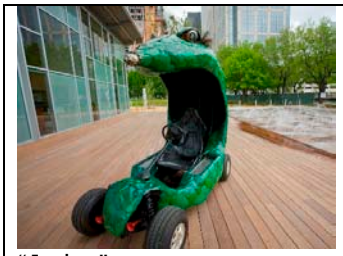
Art at Discovery Green

Artists, from talented high schoolers in Houston to internationally-acclaimed sculptors, have helped shape Discovery Green. Four fixed and two moving permanent works of art are located in the park. Please ask about our temporary art exhibits as well.

Please do not climb or mark the works of art. They are fragile and quite expensive to replace…..plus you can get hurt!

 Monument au Fantome:	The large free-form red-white-blue sculpture on Avenida de las Americas is the park's most well-known artwork and one of Houston's great treasures. Its title means "Monument to the Phantom" or imaginary city in French. There are seven individual forms that represent different features of this city, including a church, hedge, chimney, dog, phantom, tree and mast. It is by Jean Dubuffet, an internationally-known 20th century French sculptor who passed away in 1985 (two years after the sculpture was completed). He liked to freshly communicate ideas without reference to "cultural clichés." It is painted fiberglas over steel frames, and the tallest piece is 33 feet. The sculpture is part of his *Hourloupe* series, which has companion sculptures in New York, Chicago and Europe. It was donated by the Dan Duncan family, and it used to be at 1100 Louisiana on the other side of downtown Houston.
 Synchronicity of Color:	The "art boxes" were commissioned by Discovery Green, but the work was implemented by the Houston Arts Alliance and the city, which owns the largest two of the four-piece ensemble because they clad the two garage stair structures. Margo Sawyer, a professor of art at the University of Texas at Austin, conceived and fabricated the metal boxes, which are covered with paint used on drilling platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, while she was participating in the master planning for the park. The major pieces are "blue" and "red." Margo created two "echoes" that are part of the ensemble – an orange-themed vertical panel of boxes at The Grove and a mix of colors at HPL Express. Margo believed the park would benefit from color, and she delivered many times over. Her work offers some of the most popular photo spots in the park.
 Mist Tree:	This focal point of the Sarofim Picnic Lawn is by Doug Hollis, an artist from the San Francisco area who likes to work with natural phenomena, in this case water and mist. The mist is created by eighty nozzles that form a mist cloud in the bowl of the stainless-steel sculpture while a circular pan creates a rain curtain around the perimeter. The water is re-circulated and filtered, and wind meters turn it off when the wind threatens to scatter too much water.
 Listening Vessels:	With sound in mind, Doug Hollis created these two stone sculptures in the Wortham Foundation Gardens out of Alabama limestone. Their concave interiors focus sound waves, allowing you to speak very softly and be heard in the other vessel seventy feet away.

 “Jadee”:	“Jadee” is the creation of Mark Bradford, a well-known art car artist. Both are inspired by the Art Car Parade.
 The “Dragon Cart”:	The “Dragon Cart” is by a group of art class and Art Car Parade graduates from Waltrip High School whose teacher was Rebecca Bass. The carts are out of the weekend from 10am-6pm when the weather is nice, and they are location points for the park’s recreational equipment, which is lent out for FREE with a valid ID or DL. You can use bocce, croquet, shuffle board, putters & golf balls, hoola hoops & all kinds of other fun equipment! Please note that the Art Carts will not be on display during weekdays.