

***Primordial Gardens*: Ceremony celebrates new public art on Texas Tech campus**

By
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The newest piece of public art on the Texas Tech campus is artist Adela Andea's colorful sculpture titled "Primordial Gardens."

Its dedication ceremony is slated for 4 to 5 p.m. Friday; the artwork is suspended from the ceiling in the El Centro gathering area at Tech's College of Human Sciences at Akron Avenue and Broadway.

Andea installed the piece last week.

Expected to speak at the ceremony are the artist; Linda Hoover, dean of the College of Human Sciences; and Michael Molina, vice chancellor for Facilities Planning & Construction at Tech.

The ceremony is open to the public at no charge.

This work by Andea is the latest in an ongoing project overseen by Emily Wilkinson, public art director at Tech. She has been approved to spend 1 percent of the university's overall construction budget on procuring and inducting public art, adding to the unique beauty of the Tech campus.

This particular project had a budget of \$89,000, Wilkinson pointed out.

Andea, said Wilkinson, "originally is from Romania, but has lived in Houston for several years. She applied for our public art project, but I had previously seen her work when she was at the Texas Sculpture Symposium hosted by Tech in January 2015."

The artist is known for uniquely illuminated sculptures.

"Primordial Gardens" consists of seven sculpted units created with an outer shell of colorful elements, LED lighting and exterior floating components of flex neon, coils and Plexiglas tubes.

The artist said the piece encourages inspiration and contemplation of the impact of human actions on the natural environment.

It can be observed by looking up inside the gathering area, and also viewed at eye level through second-floor windows.

Andea feels the piece rewards the El Centro area with newfound vibrancy and energy.

The artist has created installations in various Texas locations, using electronics, lights and plastic. Many more of her installations can be viewed on her website at adelaandea.com.