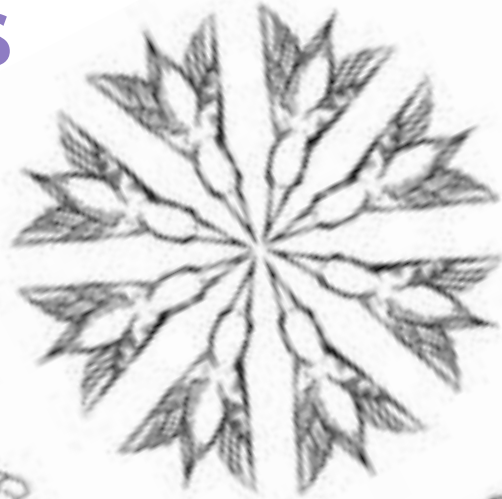


Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada

Aug. 8, 2024





About the Artist

Xavier Cortada

Over the past three decades, Florida Artists Hall of Fame inductee **Xavier Cortada** has created art at the North and South poles and across 6 continents, including more than 150 public artworks, installations, collaborative murals and socially engaged projects.

The Cuban-American artist has been commissioned to create art for CERN, the White House, the World Bank, the Florida Turnpike, Port Everglades Miami City Hall, , and Frost Art Museum among many other art, science, and government venues.



HOUSING
LIBERTY SQUARE



HOUSING
PINEIRO APARTMENTS



TRANSIT
WEST PALM BEACH PLAZA



TRANSIT
PORT EVERGLADES



PARKS
BETTY T. FERGUSON AQUATIC CENTER



HOUSING
JOE MORETTI APARTMENTS



HOUSING
STIRRUP PLAZA I



HOUSING
STIRRUP PLAZA II



TRANSIT
FT. DRUM PLAZA



TRANSIT
TURKEY LAKE PLAZA



HOUSING
COLLINS PARK APARTMENTS

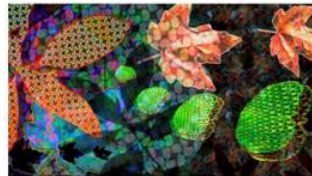


HOUSING
SOUTH MIAMI PLAZA

Public Art



PARKS
CURTIS PARK PLAZA



GARDENS
FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS



GOVERNMENT
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HALL



GOVERNMENT
PINECREST VILLAGE HALL

Public Art



HOUSING
DANTE FASCELL APARTMENTS



GOVERNMENT
MURRAY E. NELSON GOVERNMENT
AND CULTURAL CENTER



GOVERNMENT
MIAMI CITY HALL



MUSEUMS
FROST ART MUSEUM



UNIVERSITIES
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SHALALA
STUDENT CENTER



GOVERNMENT
COUNTY MAYOR'S OFFICE



GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER



UNIVERSITIES
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI HERBERT
BUSINESS SCHOOL

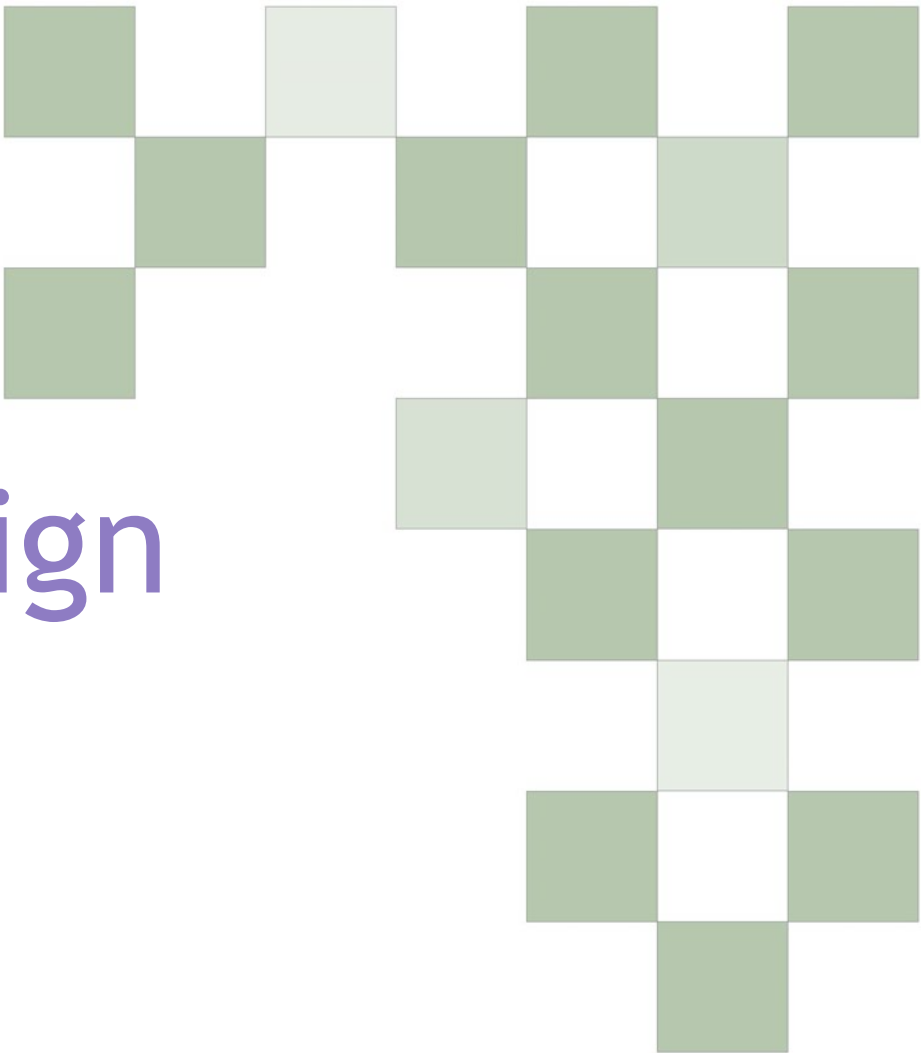


HOUSING
LIBERTY SQUARE

Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada

Design



Pollinator Flower

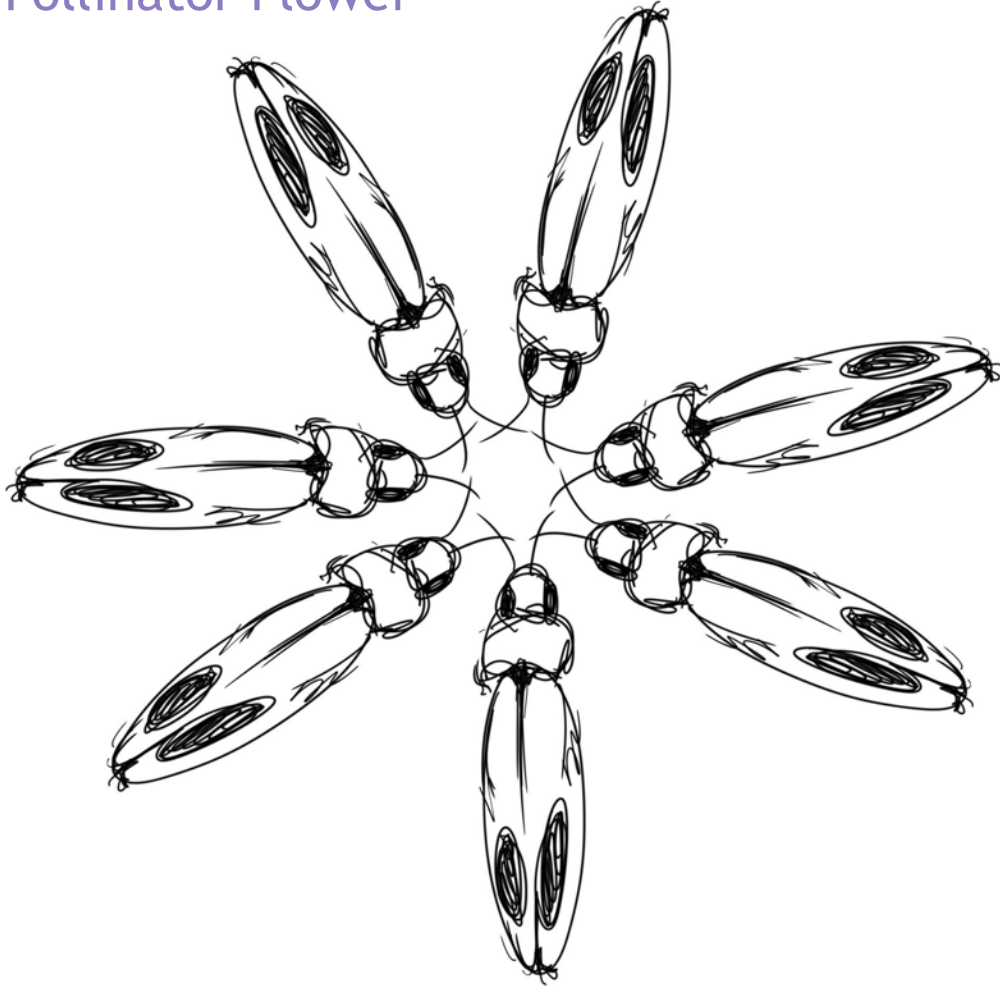


The Pollinator

Miami Blue Butterfly
(*Cyclargus thomasi*)



Pollinator Flower

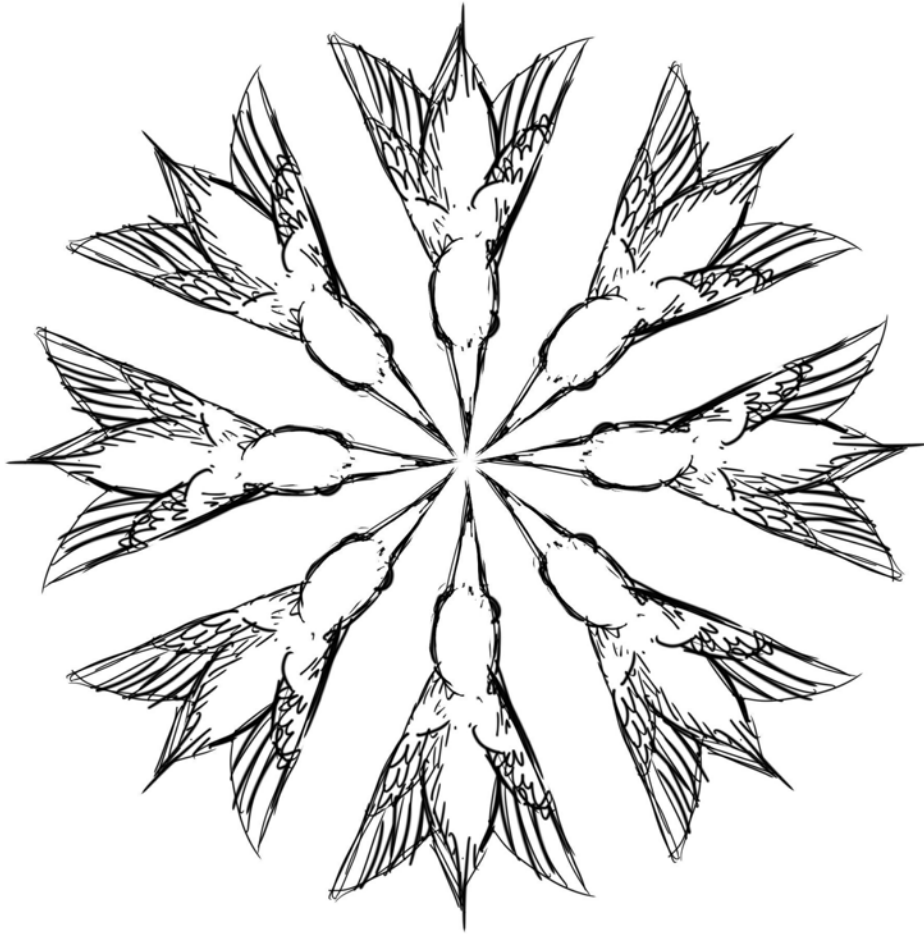


The Pollinator

Goldenrod Soldier Beetle
(*Chauliognathus pensylvanicus*)



Pollinator Flower

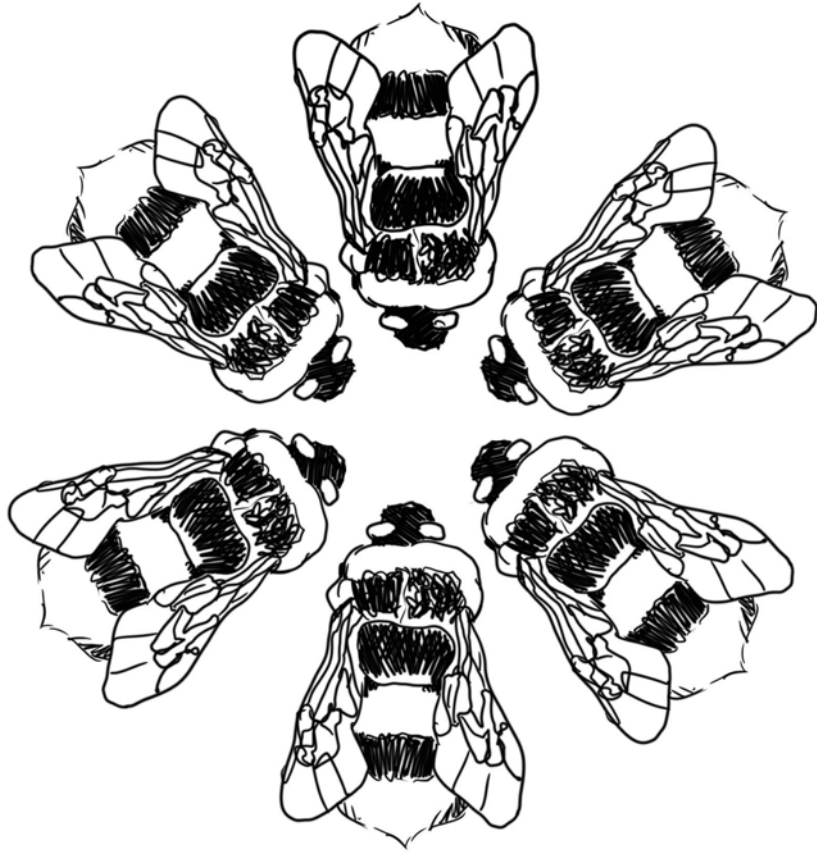


The Pollinator

Ruby-Throated Hummingbird
(*Archilochus colubris*)



Pollinator Flower

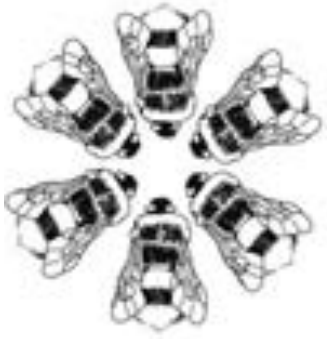


The Pollinator

American Bumblebee
(*Bombus pensylvanicus*)

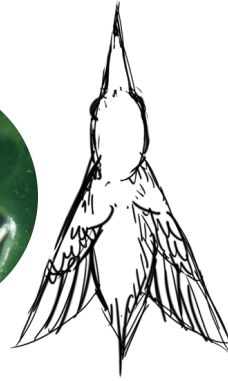
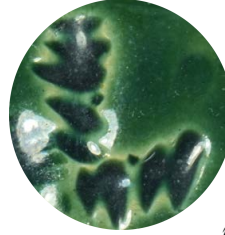


Pollinator Flowers



The Pollinators

Ruby-Throated Hummingbird
(*Archilochus colubris*)



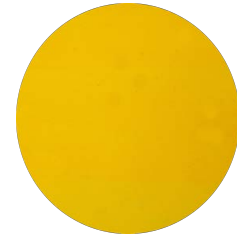
Miami Blue Butterfly
(*Cyclargus thomasi*)



Goldenrod Soldier Beetle
(*Chauliognathus pensylvanicus*)

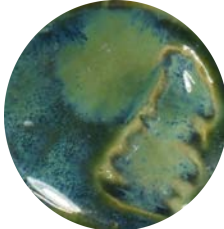
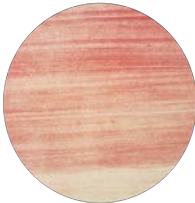
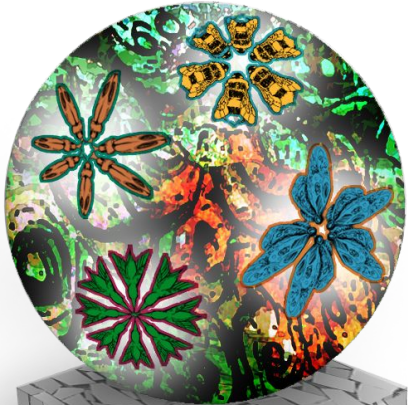


American Bumblebee
(*Bombus pensylvanicus*)



Each flower will be created with patterned pollinators.

Glaze Samples



From Design to Finish (Past Examples)



Each design is carefully rendered and enhanced as the project progresses.



This is an initial sketch for the finished bas-relief ceramic tile sculpture to the right. Each design is created and then meticulously worked to create complex textures. Finally, the carved clay is fired and glazed to achieve stunning permanent colors.



Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada

Proposal

Hand-carved, hand-painted, **bas-relief ceramic tile sculpture** representing the importance of pollinators within the ecosystem. The proposed sculpture will be installed in the entrance of the Coral Gables Garden Club Butterfly Garden at the Coral Gables Public Library.

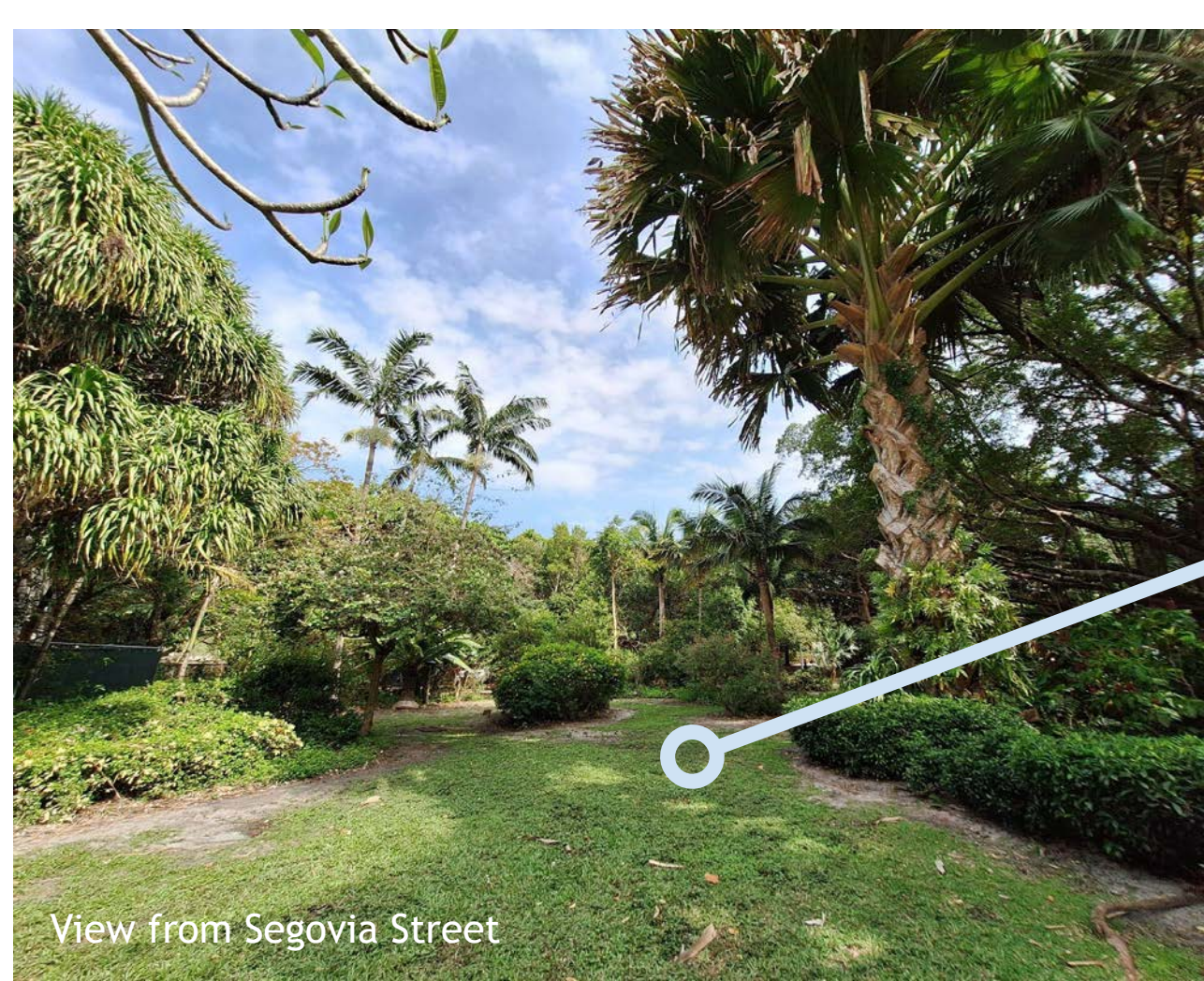


Project Proposal

I will create a unique site-specific sculpture in celebration of the Coral Gables Garden Club's centennial anniversary. This project, inspired by the rich history and vibrant community of the Coral Gables Garden Club, aims to commemorate this milestone through the beauty of public art while highlighting the importance of supporting pollinators within our shared ecosystem.

Drawing inspiration from the pollinators being supported at the Coral Gables Library Butterfly Garden, I plan to create a spherical orb clad in hand-carved ceramic tile to represent the pollen these animals help to disperse. The tiles will be carved and arranged to depict pollinators such as **Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*)**, **American Bumblebees (*Bombus pensylvanicus*)**, **Goldenrod Soldier Beetles (*Chauliognathus pensylvanicus*)**, and **Miami Blue Butterflies (*Cyclargus thomasi*)** forming the very flowers they help propagate. These flowers will be created in an assortment of colorful hues set against a verdant background. This design will not only reflect the flourishing spirit of the Coral Gables Garden Club but also add a visually captivating element to the community space. **The sculpture will provide visitors an opportunity to learn more about the species the garden serves and inspire them to plant the same type of garden in their backyards.** The entire 151” circumference (50 square feet) of the sphere will be clad with a hand-carved ceramic tile mural of pollinators arranged into flowers and broken hand-made tiles of colorful textures. This visual aesthetic ensures that the artwork fully integrates with its surroundings (presumably a garden your members will plant), transforming the space into an immersive art experience that celebrates the club's 100 years of gardening, community, and environmental stewardship.

The proposed budget for this project will total **\$62,600**



View from Segovia Street





Xavier Cortada, ***“Planting Pollinators: Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Coral Gables Garden Club,”*** 66” x 48” x 48”, glazed ceramic on concrete, 2025.

Project Specifications

Total Height: 66"

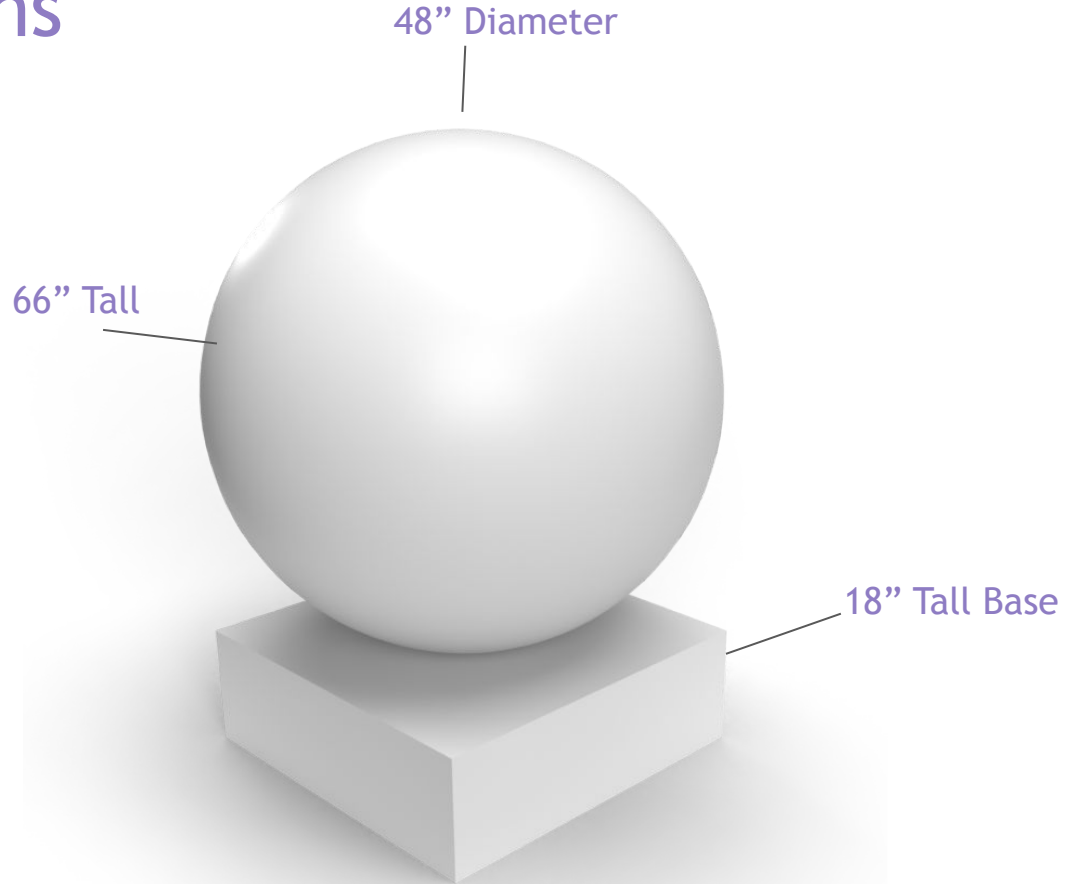
Orb Height (Diameter): 48"

Base Width: 36"

Base Height: 18"

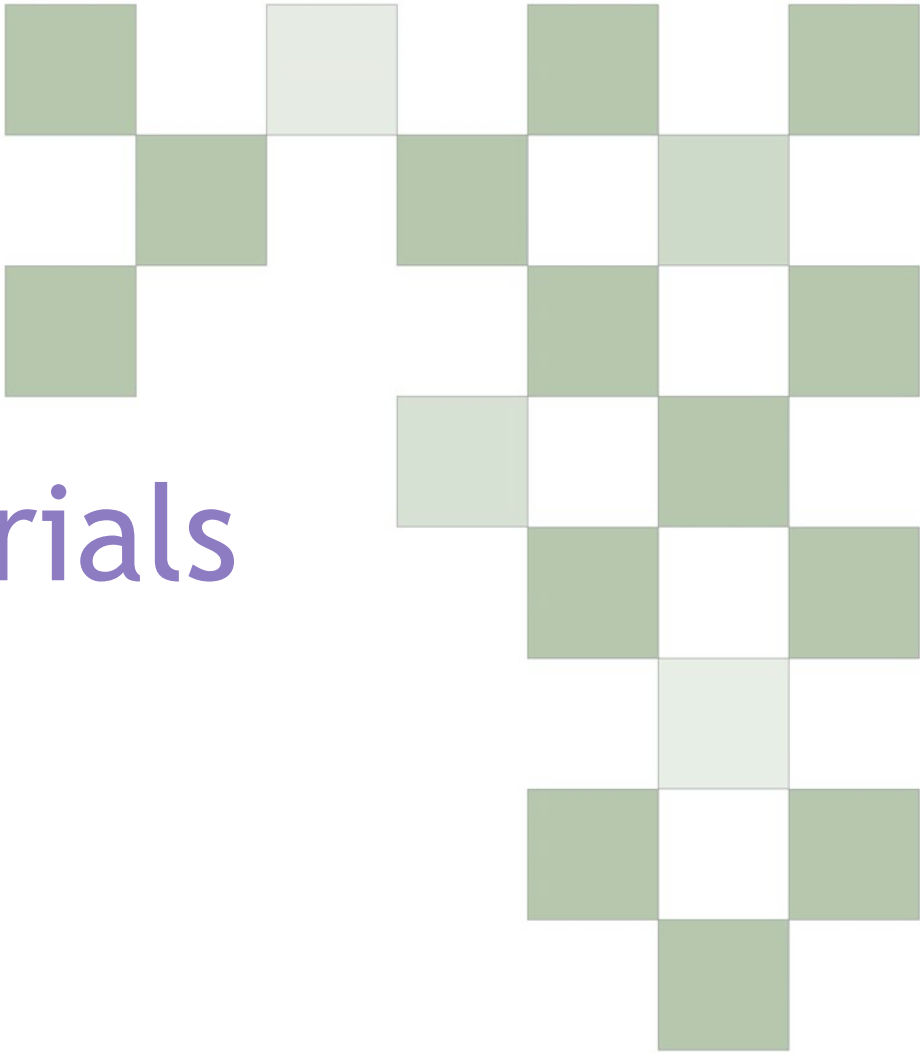
The underlying structure will be created using rebar and poured concrete.

A concrete base will be raised from the ground to help protect the work from maintenance and landscaping work.



Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada



Materials

Construction Material

1. Poured Concrete Foundation
2. Rebar



1



2



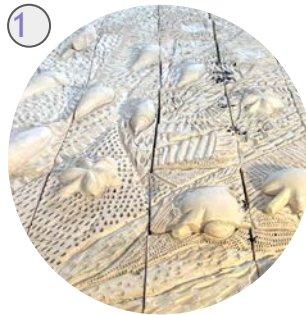
Bas Relief
Sample Image

Bas Relief Ceramic Mural Materials

1. Hand-crafted and carved (Standard Co.) Cone 6 Stoneware sculpture tiles
2. Amaco Potter's Choice mid-fire artist's glazes
3. Amaco Velvet Underglazes

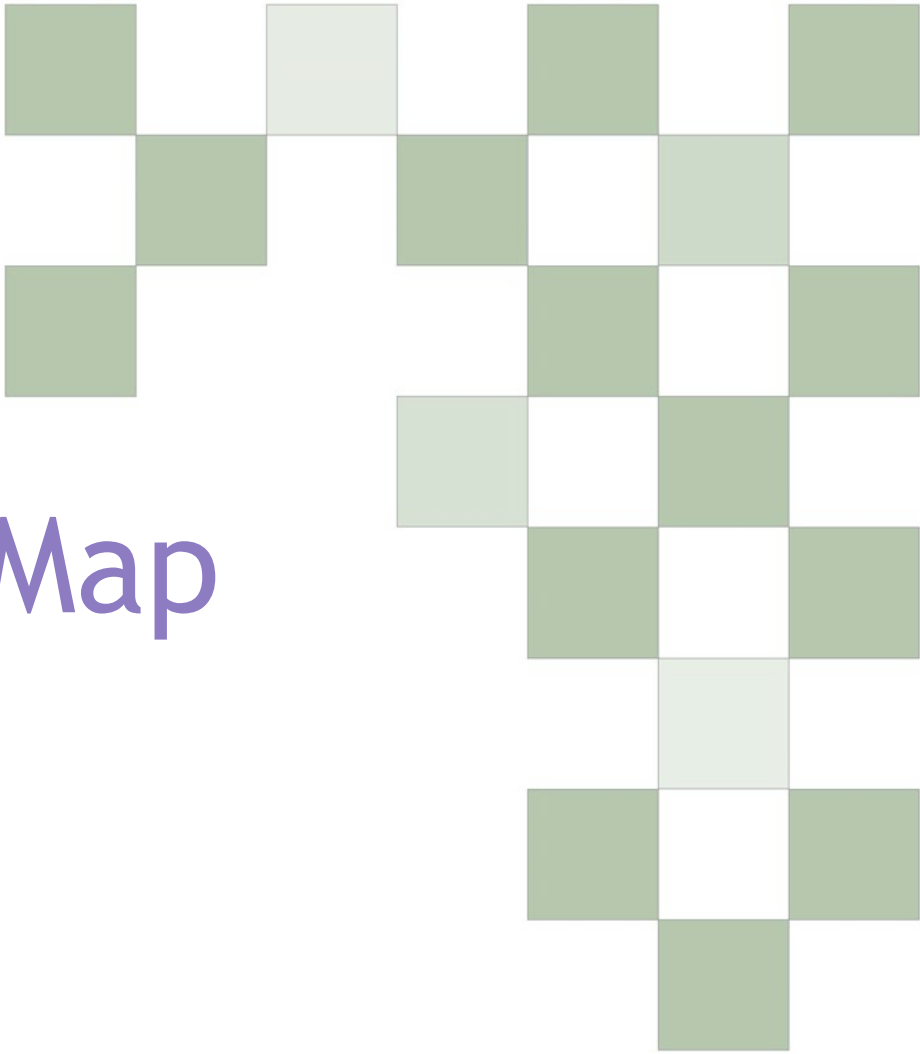
Finishing Materials

1. Mapei Ultraflex LHT Heavy-tile Thinset
2. Mapei Ultracolor Polymer Grout



Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada



Site Map

Proposed Installation Site:

The sculpture will be nestled in the North Western portion of the Butterfly Garden a few yards East of Segovia Street and the sidewalk.

Visibility:

The sculpture will be visible from Segovia Street, University Drive, and from multiple points within the garden (indicated by arrows)

Placement:

The structure will be angled toward Segovia Street to enhance visibility. This is outlined in red on the map.

The structure will also act as a beautiful and welcoming gateway into the butterfly garden for the visitors of the Coral Gables Public Library.



Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada

Examples of similar work
Bas Relief Ceramic Sculptures



FLOWER FORCE

Xavier Cortada, "Flower Force," hand painted ceramic and tile, 8' x 4' x 4', 2021.



DIATOM FOUNTAIN



Xavier Cortada, "Diatom Fountain," 16' x 8' x 8' hand-carved, hand-painted ceramic and mosaic on concrete, 2017. (Smathers Plaza | Little Havana, Miami-Dade Housing Authority)



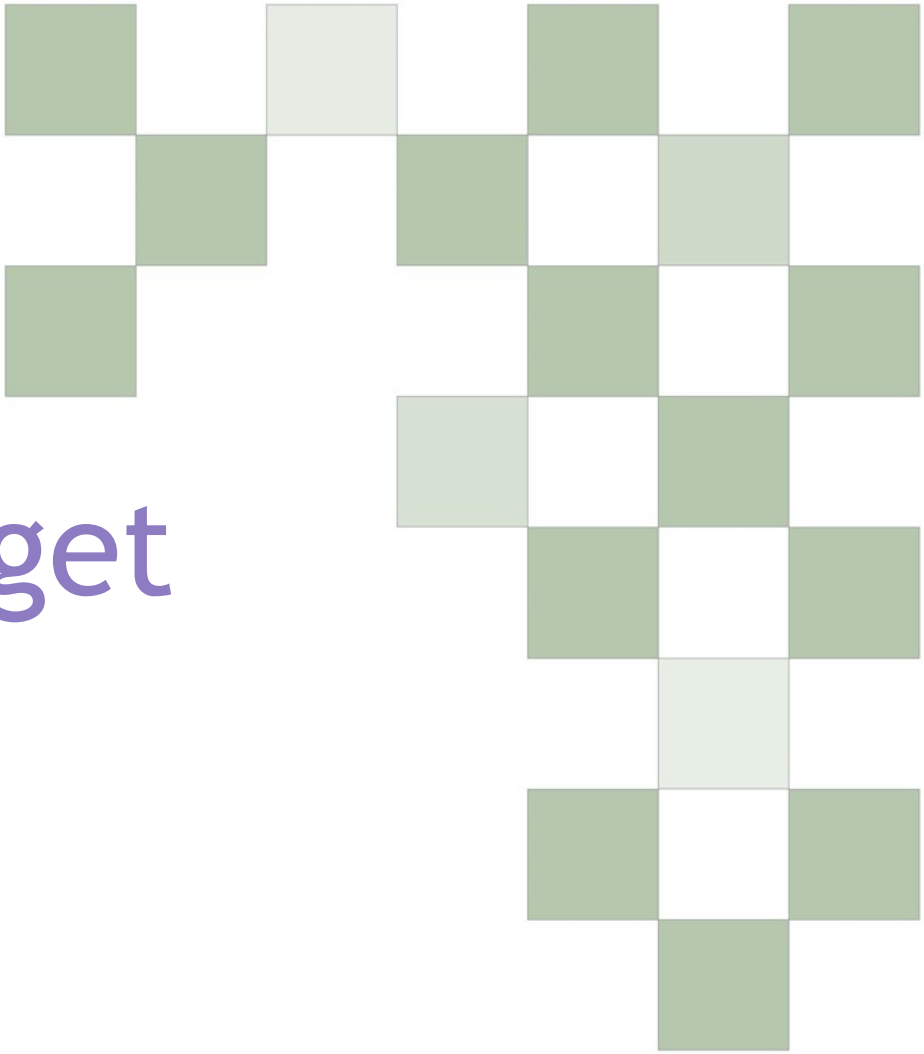
DIATOM COURT

Xavier Cortada, "Diatom Court," hand-carved and hand-painted ceramic tile on coral rock, 2018. (Pinecrest Gardens, Pinecrest, FL)



Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada



Budget

Budget: \$62,600

- **Artwork Creation: \$30,000**

Includes artist fees for designing and creating 50 square feet of hand-carved, hand-painted and hand-glazed ceramic tiles that will encapsulate the sphere.

- **Construction of the Sphere and Concrete Base + Installation : \$28,000**

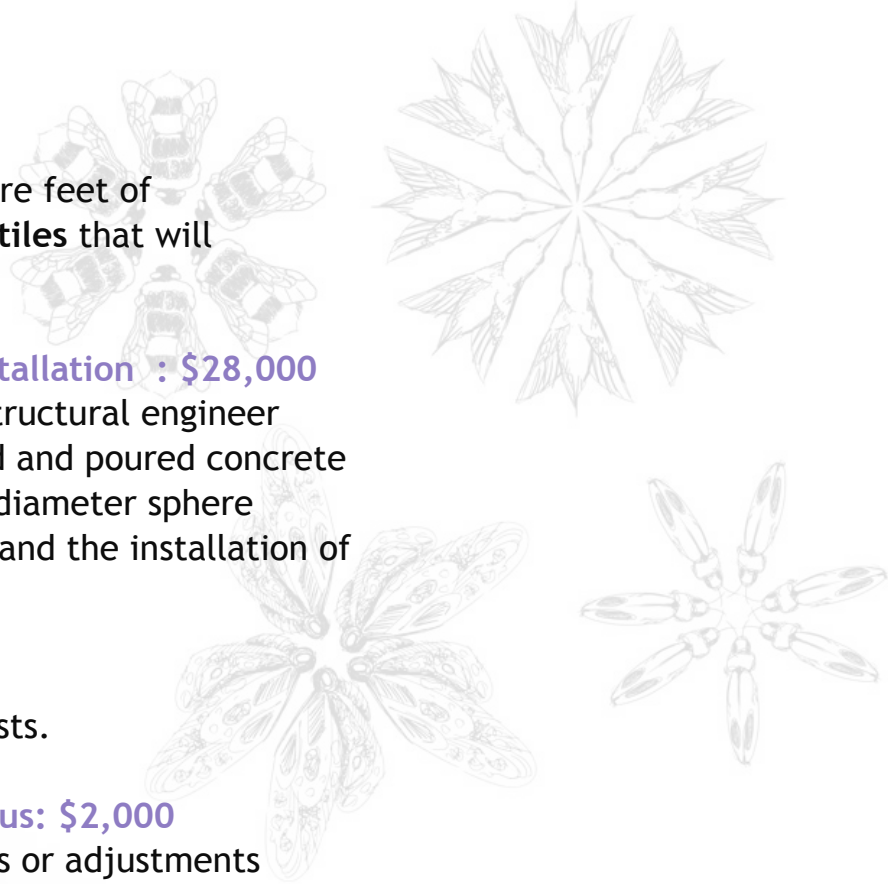
Estimated costs for materials, labor, architect fees, structural engineer consultation, permits, and construction of the molded and poured concrete structure. It also includes the preparation of the 48” diameter sphere surface and the 18” x 36” x 36” base for installation, and the installation of the tiles themselves.

- **Administrative: \$2,600**

Covers all project management and administrative costs.

- **Contingency, Photo Documentation and Miscellaneous: \$2,000**

A reserved budget to address any unforeseen expenses or adjustments needed during the project's execution.



Planting Pollinators

Coral Gables Garden Club's 100 Years
by Xavier Cortada

Engaged Art



Visual Art Rooted in Environmental Action



FLOWER FORCE

A PARTICIPATORY ECO-ART PROJECT BY XAVIER CORTADA



CELEBRATING FLORIDA'S FLOWERS: CORTADA'S EVOLVING BODY OF WORK



Artist Xavier Cortada, Secretary of State Ken Detzner, and Jeff Caster from the DOT plant the first FLOR500 garden dedicated to the indigenous people of Florida outside the R. A. Gray building at Capitol Hill, Tallahassee, FL.



FLOR500 is a participatory art, nature, and history project created by Miami artist Xavier Cortada to commemorate Florida's quincentennial in 2013. The project marks the importance of the moment when the history of our state changed forever and gives us a glimpse of what its landscape was like 500 years ago.

500 flowers

A team of scientists selected the 500 native flowers- the same ones that grew in our state when Juan Ponce de Leon landed in 1513 and named it "*La Florida*"—from "*flor*," the Spanish word for flower.

500 artists

Five hundred Floridians were then invited to depict 500 native wildflowers. The artwork, was showcased online and across the state in various exhibitions.

500 gardens

A team of historians selected individuals who helped shape Florida history. Florida schools and libraries (across the 67 counties and 8 regions) were encouraged to plant 500 wildflower gardens, dedicating them to one of 500 important Floridians selected by a team of historians. These 500 new native habitats will help support Florida's biodiversity.

Learn more at www.cortada.com/flor500



FLOWER FORCE



Xavier Cortada, "FLOR500 Region 6 Tiled Drawing," 60" x 60", Arches paper, charcoal, acrylic paint, 100 plastic bags, 100 clips, 100 Coreopsis wildflower seed packets, and 100 garden dedication cards, (2013).

Participate by following these steps:

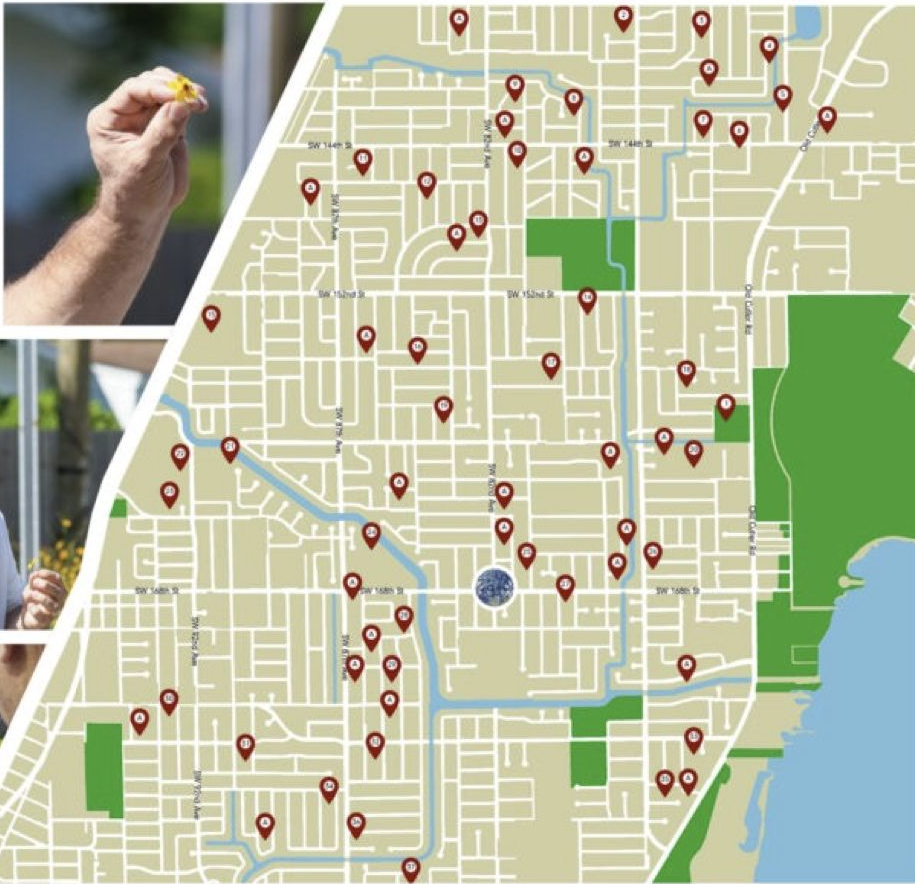
1. Plant native wildflowers in your yard.
2. Dedicate the garden to a Floridian who is special to you (e.g., a historic figure, an inspiring individual).
3. Take a photo of (you in) your new garden.
4. Upload photo and info in the form below.

**CELEBRATING FLORIDA'S FLOWERS:
CORTADA'S EVOLVING BODY OF WORK**



FLOWER FORCE





FLOWER FORCE

A PARTICIPATORY ECO-ART PROJECT BY XAVIER CORTADA

MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY



"FLOWER FORCE"
PUBLIC ART SCULPTURE



FOUNDING MEMBERS

- 1) Deering Estate Foundation
- 2) Howard Drive Elementary School
- 3) Bonnee B
- 4) Mayor Karyn Cunningham
- 5) Pamela G
- 6) Dunia A
- 7) Bev G
- 8) Laurie B
- 9) Jane C
- 10) Dita T
- 11) Diane Q
- 12) Maria N
- 13) Leopoldo L
- 14) Terri S
- 15) Patricia P
- 16) Melissa A
- 17) Nancy S
- 18) Councilwoman Donna Underwood
- 19) Desiree B
- 20) Vanessa L
- 21) Alina F
- 22) Melissa S
- 23) Debra A
- 24) Laura V
- 25) Cindy H
- 26) Elaine W
- 27) Frank L
- 28) Natalie S
- 29) Cindy M
- 30) Barbara B
- 51) Brandi G
- 52) Masve M
- 53) Rene P
- 54) Dana O
- 55) Marsol L
- 36) Jeanine B
- 37) Patsy R
- A) Anonymous Participants



Xavier Cortada

Flower Force

CELEBRATING FLORIDA'S FLOWERS: CORTADA'S EVOLVING BODY OF WORK



FLOWER FORCE

A PARTICIPATORY ECO-ART PROJECT BY XAVIER CORTADA



Xavier Cortada

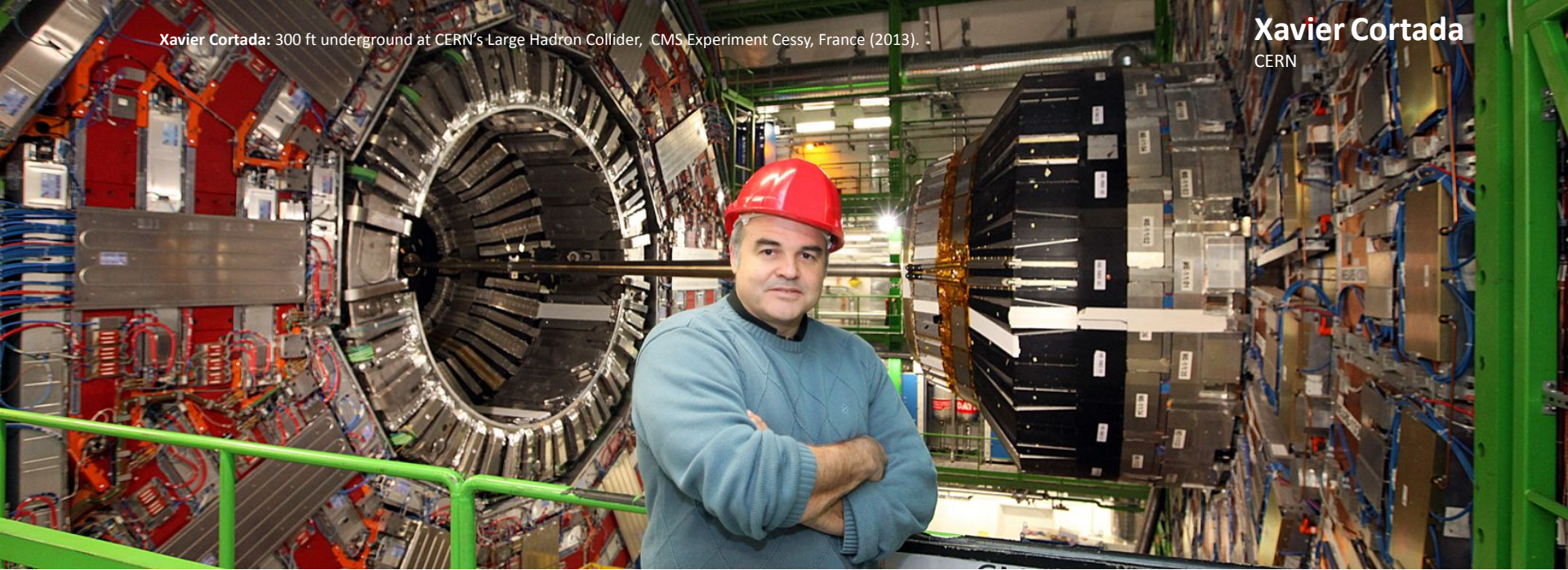


Xavier Cortada, ***“Planting Pollinators: Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Coral Gables Garden Club,”*** 66” x 48” x 48”, glazed ceramic on concrete, 2025.

Xavier Cortada: 300 ft underground at CERN's Large Hadron Collider, CMS Experiment Cessy, France (2013).

Xavier Cortada

CERN



CORTADA

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