

Beaver's New Sculpture in Metal



About the Artist:

Founded in 1999 by Peter Michael Lambert, Millvale's Red Star Ironworks is Pittsburgh's premiere custom ironwork atelier combining the art and discipline of blacksmithing with the innovative process and technologies of modern metal fabrication. The firm produces custom architectural and decorative ironwork and looks to bring creativity, artistry and quality craftsmanship to every commission. Peter learned the craft by working in several other local metalworking shops over the years, but largely is self-taught in the more artistic/ sculptural elements of the craft.

An attractive hand-forged, fabricated steel sculpture adorns Beaver's newest office building in the heart of the Third Street business district, commissioned to celebrate the completion of this landmark structure, and as a permanent signature decoration further enhancing Beaver's ambience as a *Pittsburgh* magazine "Top 10 Neighborhood."

Measuring six feet, one inch wide by 10 feet high, and weighing 1,000 lbs., the sculpture's design is a collaboration of the building's architect Rob Pfaffmann and Red Star Ironworks metal artist Peter Michael Lambert. It symbolizes the bedrock values, beliefs and culture that have built the Cottrill Arbutina public accounting firm since its founding in 1984.

A close look reveals the swirling elements of a dollar bill design, emphasizing the importance of prudent financial management in today's society. It is embedded with icons of the firm and its beliefs — an intertwined "C" and "A," which is the firm's longstanding logo; a keyhole, representing the firm's aspiration to be a key to its clients' financial success; and "E4-12," a reference to the power of working together, from the biblical verse Ecclesiastes 4:12: *"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."* The cords also represent the different disciplines, experiences and perspectives the firm brings to its new home to positively impact clients.

The sculpture will be backlit in the evening, adding to its visibility and charm for passersby.

Said sculptor Lambert: "For this project I wanted the ironwork to be fun. It was important that the ironwork pushed off of the building and out into the street, inspired by the boldness of Spanish Ironwork of the 1920s and '30s."



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