

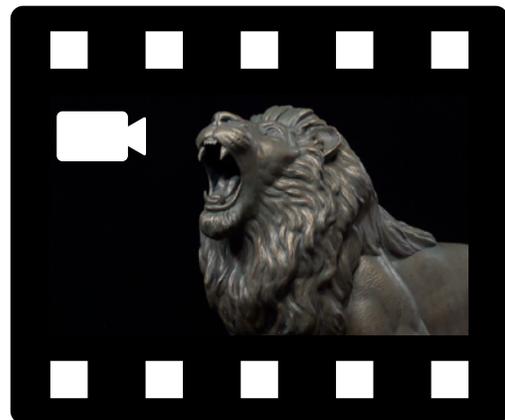
Los Alamos Justice Center Lion Sculpture Proposal

DANIEL BORUP SCULPTOR

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See a turntable video of
the sculpture design [HERE:](#)



Statement of Intent

To the Selection Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit a proposal to create a Lion sculpture for the Los Alamos Justice Center. In addition to the photos below, I have included a turntable video with this proposal for you to more accurately see my vision for this project. See the video at the following link:

<https://youtu.be/7WET0yctT7k>

My sculpture represents strength and protection and depicts a roaring lion ready to defend his pride. Lions are unique from other big solitary cats because they live in groups. The male lions are responsible for protecting and defending the pride and territory. Lions roar to communicate with their pride but to also establish and defend their territory. This sculpture will represent public safety workers as they strive daily to protect the citizens of Los Alamos.

This sculpture will be cast in bronze and stand 5 feet tall.

Sincerely,
Daniel Borup



Professional Artist
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Timeline

An accurate timeline greatly depends on the start date for the project, and the workload at the foundry. Below you will find an estimated timeline with my best guess on when the project might start and the current foundry availability. A final timeline will be developed during the contract/agreement stage.

April 2025

- Agreement signed.
- Invoice issued and payment 1 of 3 received
- Armature fabrication begins.

April 2026 - July 2026

- Sculpting the Lion.
- I will be in touch periodically about the sculpture progress.

July 2026

- Clay sculpting finished.
- Photos sent in for approval.
- Invoice issued and payment 2 of 3 received.
- Deliver sculpture to foundry.
- Foundry works to mold and bronze the sculpture.

October/November 2026

- Receive sculpture from foundry.
- Sculpture installation.
- Invoice issued and payment 3 of 3 received.

Materials

Bronze Statue

Dimensions

5 feet tall, 6 feet 8 inches long, 2 feet wide.

Fabrication

Statue will be cast at Art City Bronze Fine Art Foundry in Springville, Utah.

Budget

Artist Fee	\$5,500.00
Labor	\$3,850.00
Installation	\$500.00
Foundry/Bronzing	\$36,800.00
Clay	\$450.00
Armature	\$400.00
Misc Supplies	\$500.00
Travel and Shipping	\$3,000.00
Contingency	\$3,000.00
Insurance	\$1,000.00
TOTAL:	\$55000.00

Durability and Safety Design Considerations

Because this sculpture will be installed in a location where viewers can closely approach, touch, and interact with it, durability and public safety were primary considerations throughout the design process.

- To ensure stability the lion is designed with all four paws firmly positioned on the ground. The placement of the paws has been carefully engineered so the sculpture can stand securely on its own while maintaining a dynamic, natural, lifelike stance. Additionally, each paw will contain a stainless steel anchor bolt that will be securely fastened to the concrete foundation, providing enhanced structural integrity and long-term stability.
- The lion's tail presented another important structural consideration. Given its length and relatively slender form, it could be susceptible to bending or damage. To address this, the tail has been designed to loop back and connect to the leg, creating a reinforced anchor point within the composition. This structural solution significantly increases durability while also serving an aesthetic purpose. The curve of the tail forms a subtle leading line that guides the viewer's eye back toward the lion's head, and keeps the design interesting.

Installation

I will be overseeing the installation with my team. Bolts will be fastened to the underside of the sculpture and corresponding holes will be drilled in the concrete. The holes will be filled with industrial strength anchoring epoxy and the sculpture's anchoring bolts will be lowered into the holes. The end result is a permanently installed piece with no visible anchors on the outside of the piece. This is a process we have done many times and it always goes smoothly.

Proposal Images







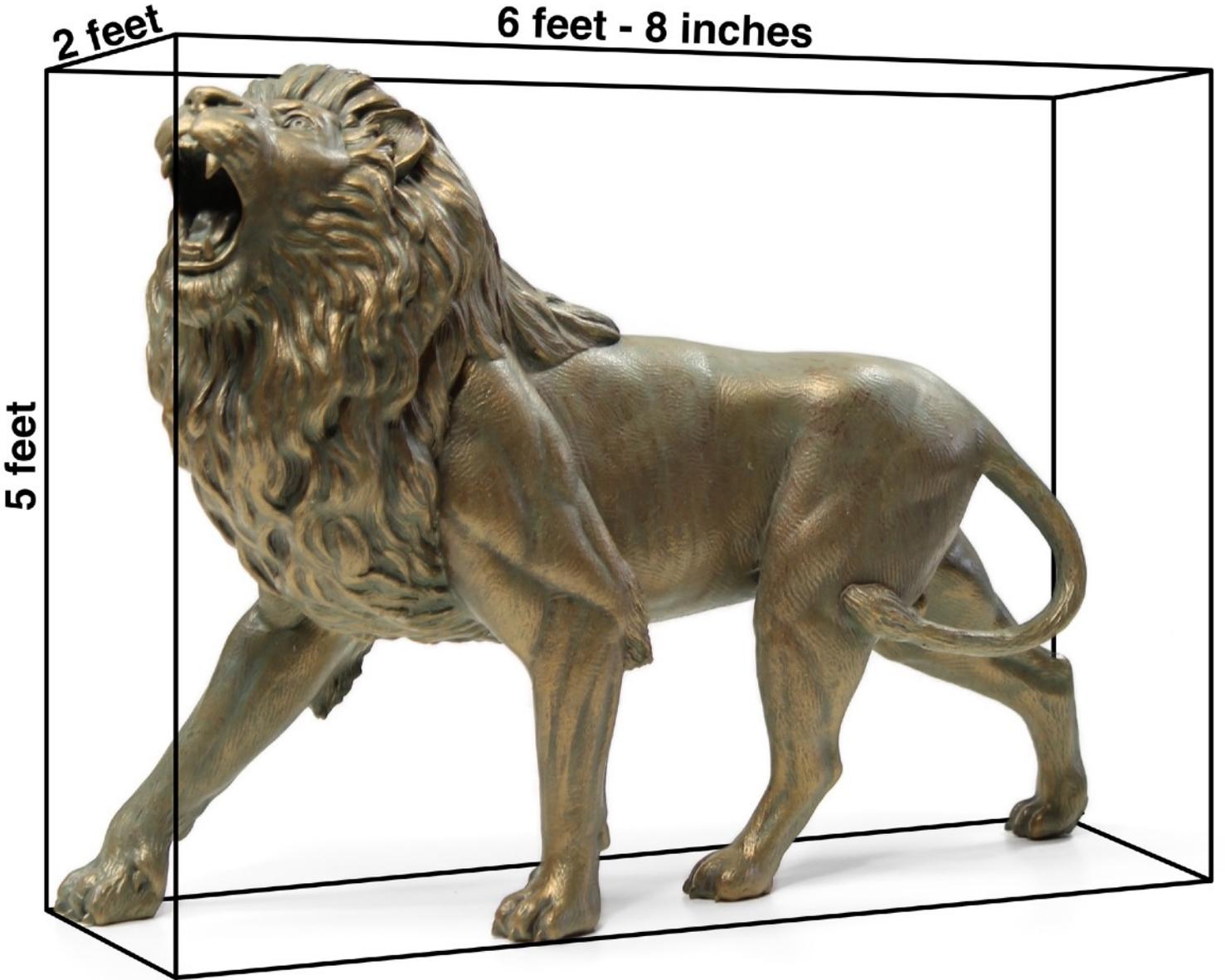






LOS ALAMOS
JUSTICE CENTER





2 feet

6 feet - 8 inches

5 feet

Recommended Bronze Maintenance Plan

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One of the wonderful things about bronze sculptures is that they need little care or maintenance and will last for hundreds of years.

Technically no maintenance is needed at all. With no maintenance the patina will gradually change and the bronze will develop a light green oxidation. Green oxidation is not a bad, and is often desirable. However in order to maintain the original patina and keep it better protected from vandalism and weather, there will need to be some routine maintenance.

The sculpture has been coated with a protective lacquer coating made by G. J. Nikolas & Co., Inc. specifically created to protect bronze sculptures. In addition to this, it has also been given a coat of wax. Together these will protect the bronze from the oxygen in the air and other natural elements. The wax also serves as a protective coating from vandalism. Yearly maintenance in the hottest part of summer is recommended. Although I am recommending yearly maintenance, waxing more than once a year would also be okay if you are feeling like it needs it. You might consider applying wax when it starts to warm up in the spring and before it gets too cold in late summer or fall.

Note: Sometimes newly applied wax can develop a whitish look and begin to flake slightly where it has been applied thick. This is normal. On hot days the wax will remelt and this will go away. If desired the wax can be melted with a heat gun or propane torch and the white flakes will quickly go away.

Step #1 Maintenance Identification

In spring or early summer check to see how well the wax is holding up. A good rule of thumb is that if water stops beading up on the surface then a new coat of wax is needed.

Step #2 Gather Materials

- Mild dish soap
- Small brush, like a toothbrush
- Dish scrubber brush
- Paste Finishing Wax
- Stiff bristle paint brush
- Rags
- Diluted Lime-A-Way or diluted CLR for hard water build up
- Heat gun or blow torch to melt wax if waxing on a cooler day.

Paste Finishing Wax is the recommended wax to use. It is also very easy to find in most hardware stores. Common brands are Minwax and Varathane. (I prefer Varathane because it doesn't smell as much.) A one pound tin of paste wax can be purchased for around \$15. Make sure you stay away from car waxes as they usually dry with a slight whitish color to it.

Step #3 - Washing the sculpture

Inspect the sculpture to see if there are any areas that need cleaned. The best cleaner to use is water with a little bit of mild dish soap and dish scrubber brush. Do not add too much soap as you do not want a soapy buildup on the sculpture. A small toothbrush and rag will help to clean areas that may have an abundance of filth such as dirt or bird droppings. If an oxidation light green patina is forming there is no need to worry about cleaning this off unless you want to. This is a natural and beautiful effect that weather has on bronze. When cleaning is finished allow it to dry before moving onto the next step.

If the sculpture is in an area where it receives spray from water, sprinklers, fountain, or something else, it may have a build up of hard water. Depending on the amount of buildup you may need to use diluted Lime- A -Way or diluted CLR for a few minutes and then thoroughly rinse. Be careful as these products could damage the patina. Also be careful with things that could scratch the surface such as steel wool.

Step #4 - Waxing

During the hottest part of the day in the hottest part of summer apply the new coat of wax. Use a stiff bristle paint brush to apply the wax. Make sure to get wax in all the cracks and tight places. Spread the wax evenly as possible making sure to not let too much build up in the crevices. The heat of the day will make this easier as the wax will melt and spread more evenly.

Step #5 - Polishing

Once sculptures are fully waxed take a clean polishing rag and polish the sculpture.

In case of Vandalism

The wax coating will help serve as a protection against vandalism, so keeping up on yearly maintenance should be your first defense. However depending on the degree of vandalism this may not be enough to fully protect the sculpture. Usually artwork is not the best target for vandals but it is possible so it is good to know procedures how to counteract it.

Light Vandalism

For light vandalism (such as writing with a sharpie marker) first try to wash it off with a mild soap and water mixture. If this doesn't work try a magic eraser available in the cleaning section of most retail or grocery stores. If this does not work try a solvent such as finger nail polish remover. If using a solvent be very careful to not damage the patina.

Heavy Vandalism

If heavy vandalism is done (Such as large amounts of spray paint) there is not much you can do to protect the patina. However, no amount of spray paint will be able to hurt the metal of the sculpture. Use a solvent to remove the paint. If a milder solvent like finger nail polish remover is insufficient you may need to use a harsher solvent such as paint stripper.

Once the paint is removed you will need to determine the damage to the patina. Get a professional opinion on how to apply a new patina. I will always be available to give my input.

Extreme Vandalism

It is possible to start fresh by sandblasting the sculpture with glass beads and apply a completely new patina. Also consult a professional on this.