
The Underline

Public Art & Cultural Master Plan





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theunderline.org
[@theunderlinemia](https://www.instagram.com/theunderlinemia)

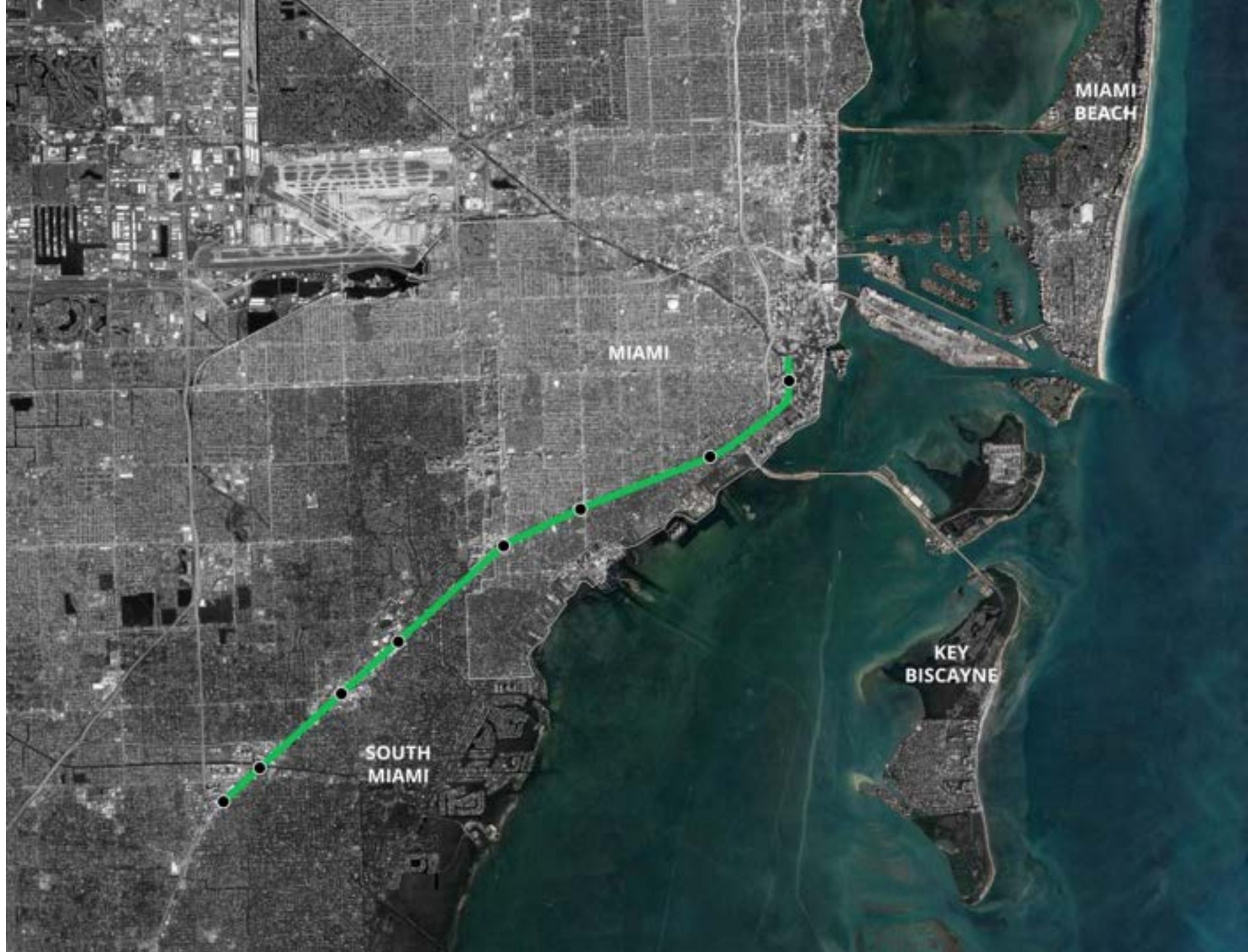


The Underline is a groundbreaking project that is transforming the underutilized land below Miami's Metrorail into a destination 10-mile **linear park, urban trail,** and **showcase of public art.**

Grand bicycle and walking paths will be intertwined with engaging, mood-boosting works of art. Miamians and visitors alike can expect to play the park like an instrument, muscle up in gyms, quiet down in meditation, and enjoy street theater, concerts, poetry battles, choral sonatas, and many more site-specific community-building interventions.



Starting on the south side of the Miami River, The Underline is a vein that flows 10 miles through the heart of Miami from Brickell to Dadeland South.





THE UNDERLINE FEATURES

10-mile linear park from Brickell to Dadeland South.

Bicycle and walking paths intertwined with engaging, mind-boosting works of art, gathering spaces and park destinations.

- 120-acres of native landscaping
- 4,000 trees and urban reforestation
- 30,000 native trees and plants in Phase 1
- Brickell Backyard
- 100,000 native trees and plants in Phase 2
- Hammock Trail
- 10 miles of pollinator parks
- 24 microforests

FUNDING

The total construction and design budget is \$140 million, and nearly all the construction funding is in place.

The implementation of the Public Art & Cultural Master Plan is estimated to be \$7 million with \$1.5 million raised to date.

Operations, maintenance, programs and art is estimated to be \$750,000 - \$900,000 per mile annually.



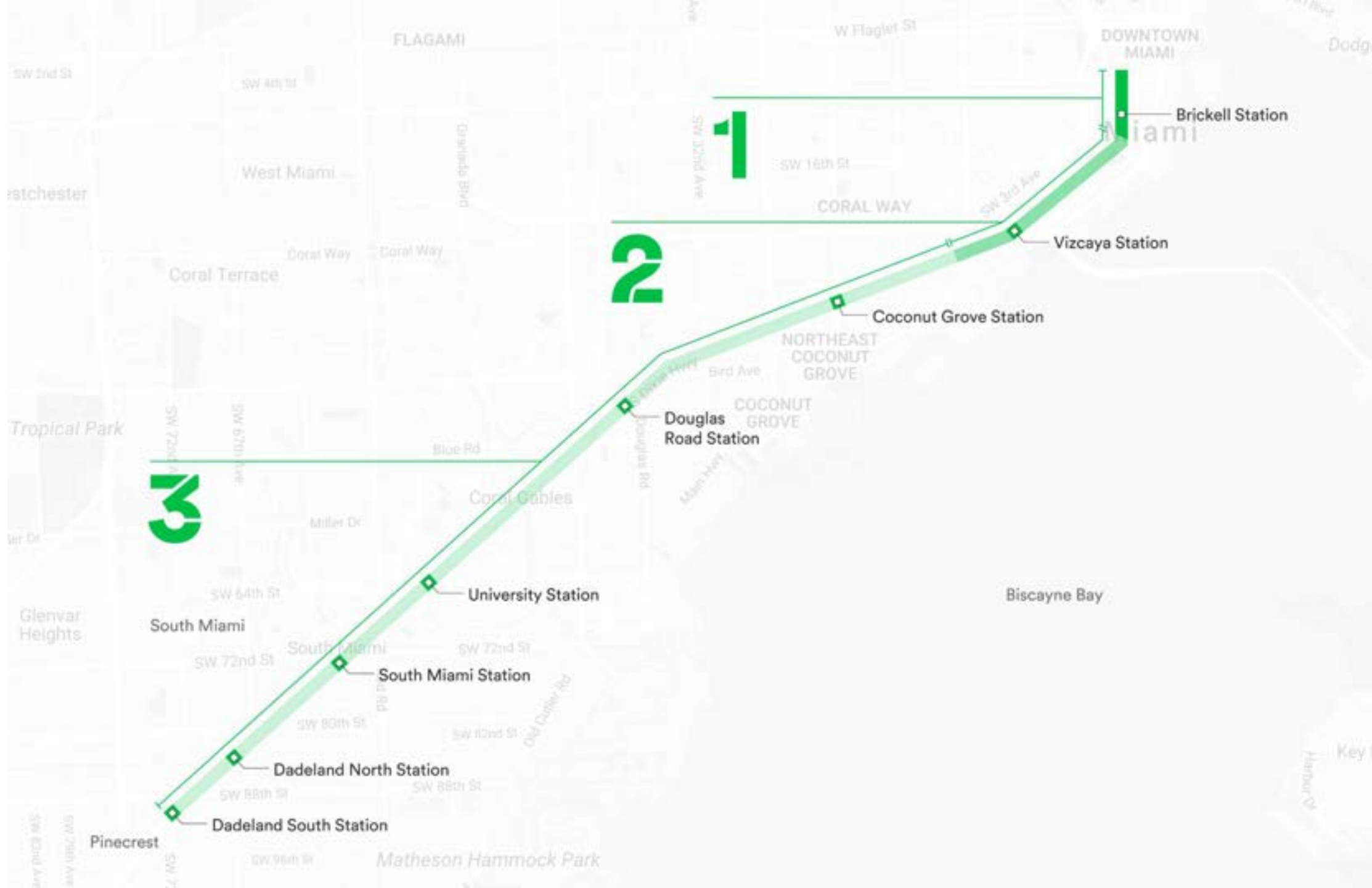


TIMELINE

Phase 1:
Brickell Backyard
opened 2021

Phase 2: Opened
2024

All Phases:
To be completed by
2026





BEFORE

Previous conditions in
Brickell Backyard





AFTER

Rendering of bike path and garden in the Oolite Room, Brickell Backyard
© James Corner Field Operations.
Photo ©Sam Orberter





BEFORE AND AFTER



Previous conditions in Brickell Backyard



Current conditions in Brickell Backyard



BEFORE AND AFTER



Previous conditions near Vizcaya Station



Current conditions in Vizcaya Station



FRIENDS OF THE UNDERLINE MISSION

To deliver and activate a 120-acre, world-class linear park spanning 10-miles below Miami's Metrorail that will transform regional mobility and celebrate diversity, culture and lifelong learning. Through innovative urban trails and creative programming, we are connecting people to their environment and each other to create a safe, healthy, equitable, and sustainable community.

FRIENDS OF THE UNDERLINE CORE VALUES

The Underline is a 120-acre park in Miami's urban core that unites and inspires a world-class city celebrating:

- Diversity and Inclusivity
- Innovation
- Health & Wellness
- Sustainability
- Safety and Mobility
- Connectivity
- Fun

Public art on The Underline is being coordinated in partnership with Miami-Dade County Art in Public Places, a program of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and through collaboration with The Underline Art Advisory Council (UAAC).





WHY IS THE PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL MASTER PLAN IMPORTANT?

A master plan is unique to place.

The Underline Public Art & Cultural Master Plan serves to complement and augment The Underline design framework and master plan by James Corner Field Operations. It features:

- sites dedicated to public art placement
- spaces for community engagement and cultural programs
- incorporation of landscape design with environmental art and technology
- inspiration from surrounding areas in both nature and built environments
- opportunities to connect people to their stories and each other, capturing the spirit of the community



1. **Economic Growth and Sustainability.** 70% of Americans believe that the “arts improve the image and identity” of their community.



2. **Attachment & Cultural Identity.** Culture and aesthetics are some of the top characteristics why residents attach themselves to a community.



3. **Artists as Contributors.** Artists are highly entrepreneurial and contribute to the community. They are 3.5 times more likely than the average person in the work force to be self-employed.



4. **Social Cohesion & Cultural Understanding.** 73% of Americans agree that “art helps to understand other cultures better,” reinforcing social connectivity with others.



5. **Public Health & Belonging.** Public art addresses public health and personal illness by reducing stress, providing a sense of belonging, and addressing stigmas toward those with mental health issues, and is shown to improve moods.



THE UNDERLINE ART ADVISORY COUNCIL (UAAC)



Debi Wechsler, *Chair*
Director, Braman
Family Foundation



Hank Willis
Thomas
Artist



Amanda Sanfilippo Long
Curator and Artist
Manager
Art in Public Places
Miami-Dade County Dept.
of Cultural Affairs



Catherine Cathers
Coral Gables Arts and
Culture Specialist



Jane Wooldridge
Miami Herald



Ira Leesfield
Leesfield Family
Foundation



Franklin Simans
Director, Pérez Art
Museum Miami



Joan Blackman
Art Advisor



Mohsen Mostafavi
Architect and Educator
Professor of Design,
Harvard University



Patricia Romeu
Chief, APP Program
Art in Public Places
Miami-Dade County
Dept. of Cultural
Affairs



Galia Solomonoff
Principal, Solomonoff
Architecture Studio
Assoc. Professor,
Professional Practice,
Columbia University



Brandi Reddick
Executive
Director, The
ReefLine



Jennifer Farah
Knight Foundation
Director of Arts



NATURE MEETS ART

Native plants are central to The Underline. They form a connective tissue throughout the park and are a living, breathing reminder of the tropical ecosystem found in the middle of a metropolis.

The entire 10 miles of The Underline is a pollinator park providing habitat and food for butterflies. Many of the plants serve as hosts and nectar sources for a number of butterfly and moth species.





NATURE MEETS ART

Even in the rock, water is ever-present. Most of the surface geology of Miami-Dade County is comprised of Oolite, a variety of limestone. The rock is comprised of small grains, called ooids, which are coated in layers of tiny bits of shell or sand. Over time, water currents pushed up the ooids into a long ridge, creating solid rock, which undergirds this region's Atlantic Coastal Ridge.

Oolite rock is integrated into The Underline design and celebrated as a feature along the 10-mile corridor.





HISTORY MEETS ART

The Underline connects our past, present, and future.

The Public Art & Cultural Master Plan encourages exploration of the city's rich **history** through special projects, commissioning site-specific artwork, and collaborations with local cultural institutions.



The Mayaimi tribe lived along the shores of Lake Mayaimi (now Lake Okeechobee) for many centuries before the Spanish arrived in Florida in the 1500s. Named for Lake Mayaimi, which was said to mean “big water,” these Native Floridians lived in the area until the 1700s.

In the 1800s, their name was applied to the **Miami River**, which had been known by many names until then. In 1896, when Miami incorporated as a city, the voters chose this historic name for their new municipality.

Today, The Underline starts at the Miami River and tells the story of the city’s future while honoring its past.

The mouth of the Miami River at Brickell Point, 1935
William A. Fishbaugh Collection at the State Library and
Archives of Florida, Florida Memory program





Through the lens of urban development, we can use art as a tool to ask ourselves:

What **was** here?

What **is** here?

What **will be** here in the future?

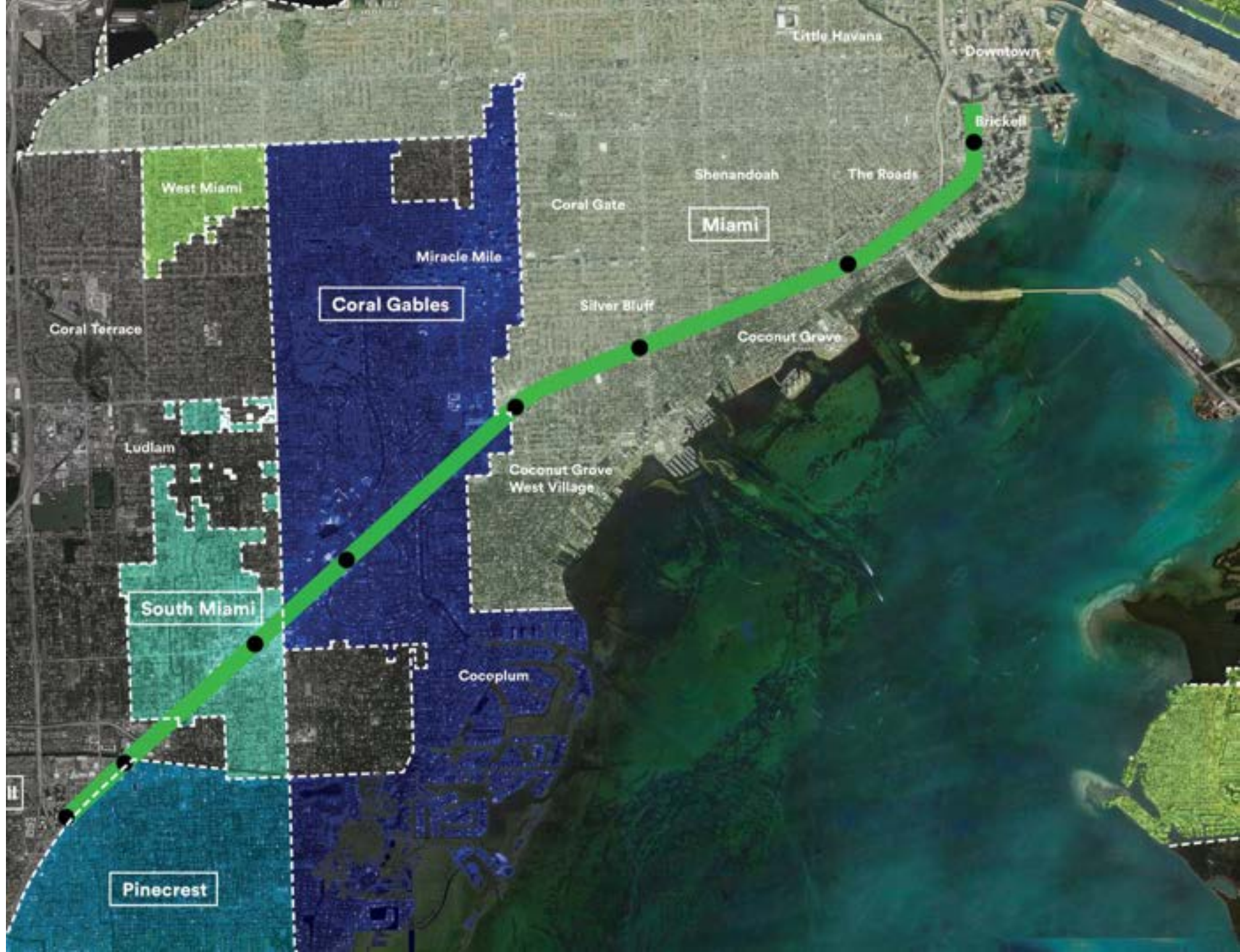


The Miami River today



COMMUNITY MEETS ART

The Underline's Public Art & Cultural Program will serve as a gateway to the diverse adjacent **communities** by tapping into the unique identities of each adjoining neighborhood, celebrating their histories, and providing distinctive programs.





The artwork placed on The Underline will reflect the diverse communities that Miami is known for.

With a rich history rooted in Caribbean, South American, and European immigrant experiences, the city is a constant source of inspiration for artwork and programming that deal with issues of identity and cultural policy.





PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM

WHO

- Friends of The Underline is developing the Public Art & Cultural Program with the support of The Underline Art Advisory Council (UAAC) and Miami-Dade County Art in Public Places

WHY

- Create an inclusive platform for a diversity of voices through **playful** and **innovative** projects that invite the public to interact with the work and each other
- Feature artwork that is **immersive, participatory, and accessible** to all visitors of the park.
- Contribute to the enrichment of civic life

HOW

- Commission artists to propose new site-specific work
- Conduct a series of Calls to Artists as opportunities for both public art installations and cultural programming
- Partner with local cultural institutions to create collaborative programs



ANCHOR ARTWORK

helps define the narrative of The Underline along the entirety of the park. These artworks will create landmark moments and become defining for Miami.

TEMPORARY ARTWORK

plays an important role in defining cultural moments. Part of a rotating program, these works allow for conversations around current issues in the public sphere.

CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

is at the heart of the master plan. Sites dedicated to programming and community engagement initiatives tap into various neighborhoods along the park.

HOW MUCH?

Over \$1,500,000 has been raised for public art placement and cultural programming to date in part thanks to the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and ArtPlace America.

Naomi Fisher, *#PUZZLED* (left), 2016
Nicholas Lobo, *Brutal Workout* (right), 2016

Temporary installations and performances supported by ArtPlace America, Brickell Metrorail Station





PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM: PAST



Pioneer Winter Traffic
Intervention, 2019

Performance near Douglas
Road Metrorail Station



GeoVanna Gonzalez
PLAY LAY AYE – ACT III, 2019

Temporary modular sculpture
and performative activation





PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM: PRESENT

O, Miami, *Poems at The Underline*, 2021

Cultural Programming





Hank Willis Thomas
Duality, 2023

Anchor Artwork
Bronze sculpture, River Room





PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL
PROGRAM: PRESENT

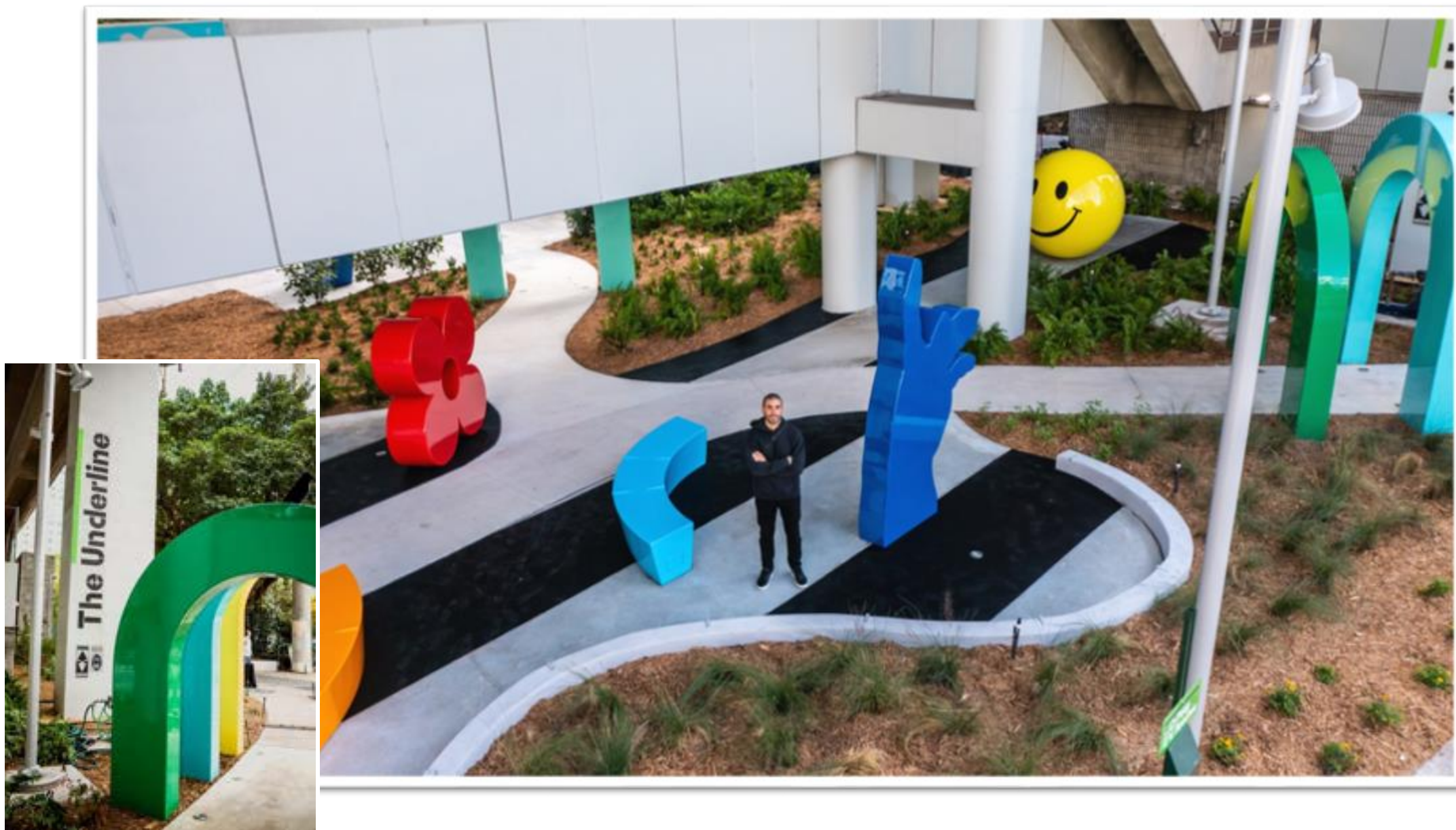
Cara Despain, *Water/Tables*, 2021

Anchor Artwork
in the Promenade





PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM: PRESENT



Type
Type Sculpture Garden
2023

Temporary Installation
in the Fern Room



Edny Jean-Joseph
The Allegory, 2021

Temporary mural
in the Oolite Room

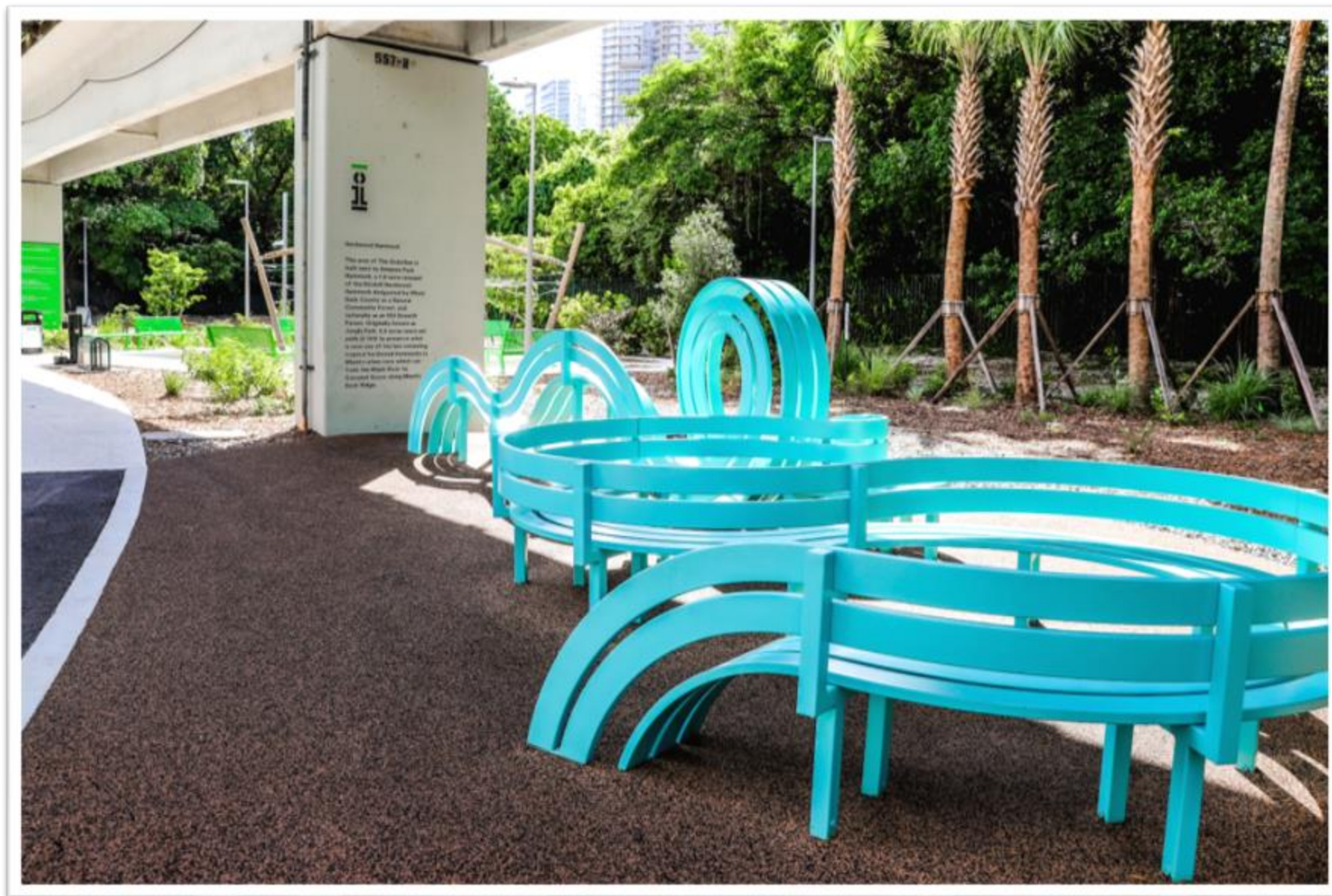


Athena Tacha, *Leaning Arches*, 1984

Achor Artwork
Hammock Playground

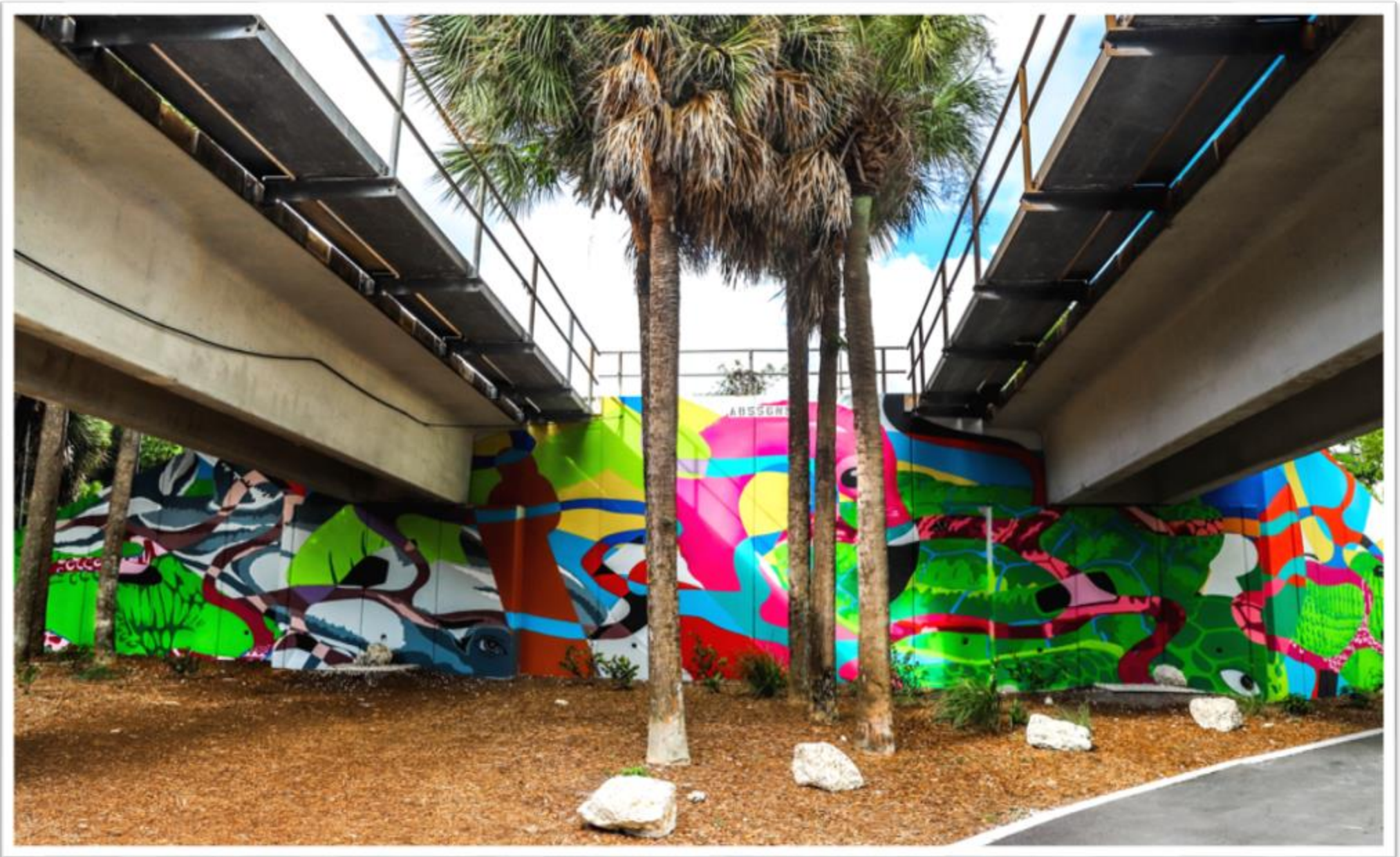


PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL
PROGRAM: PRESENT



Jeppe Hein
Social Modified Bench, 2019

Anchor Artwork
Hammock Playground



*We Are Nice'n Easy,
Hide & Seek, 2024*

Temporary mural at
Hammock Playground



Bony Ramirez, *Is Blue the Color of The Ocean?*, 2024

Temporary Fiber Glass Sculpture
Urban Gym



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM: PRESENT



Alexandre Arrechea, *Milagros at The Temple of Abundance*, 2025

Temporary mural
Inter Grove Gallery



Pablo Atchugarry, Estrella de Luz, 2022

Temporary Bronze Sculpture
Leesfield Family Garden

10 Mile Art Trail



- 1** **Duality**
Hank Willis Thomas
 - 2** **Is Blue the Color of the Ocean?**
Bony Ramirez
 - 3** **Water/Tables**
Cara Despain
 - 4** **Typee Sculpture Garden**
Typee
 - 5** **Disappearing Treasures**
Jennifer Basile
 - 6** **The Allegory**
Edny Jean Joseph
 - 7** **Leaning Arches**
Athens Tacha
 - 8** **Modified Social Bench for Venice #04**
Jeppe Hein
 - 9** **Hide & Seek**
We Are Nice'n Easy
 - 10** **Estrella de Luz**
Pablo Atchugarry
 - 11** **Milagros at the Temple of Abundance**
Alexandra Arrechea
- Miami-Dade County Art in Public Places collection
 - Friends of The Underline commission
 - On loan
 - Future Art Location



The Underline is a 10-mile linear park open 24/7. Artworks at the Underline should consider:

- Safety
- Durability and ease of maintenance
- Feasibility of installation
- Engagement with the community
- Connecting with adjacent communities
- Reflect on the diverse communities that Miami is known for
- Be accessible to all audiences
- Be suitable for all audiences, avoiding controversial or offensive content
- Inspire conversation
- Be playful and innovative
- Contribute to the cultural and civic life of the community
- Honor and celebrate Miami's ancestral past
- Provide a platform to elevate both local and national artists in a meaningful way



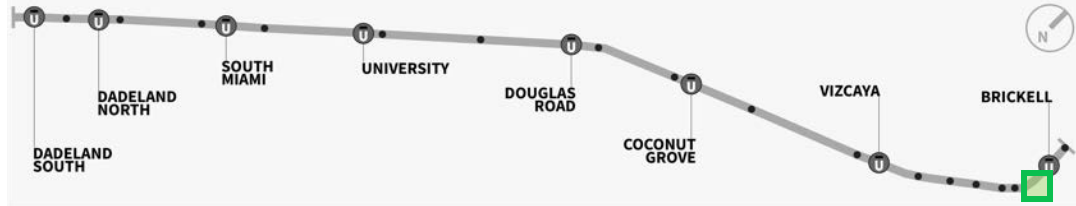
Opportunities for public art placement, cultural spaces, & partnerships

During the development of each phase of The Underline, we will be working with our architects and design team to suggest locations for artwork placement along the park.

The following images represent the types of artwork we intend on commissioning for these locations.



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED

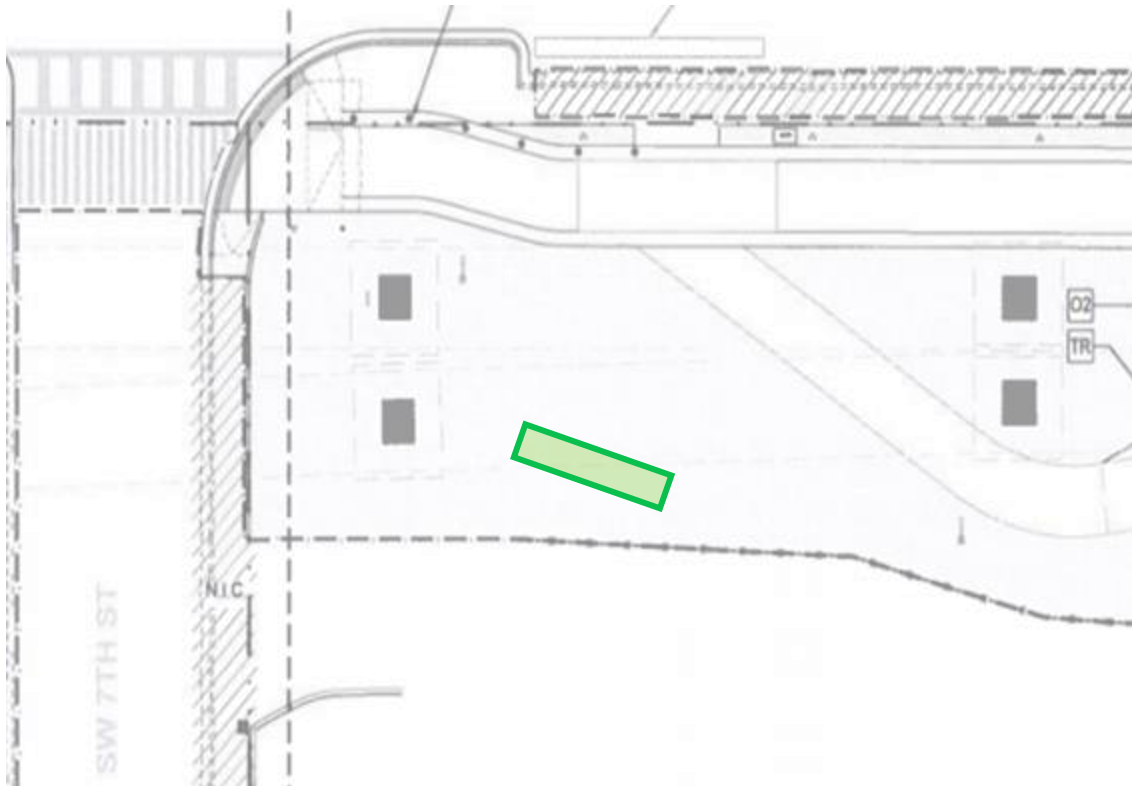


Area: **BRICKELL BACKYARD**
Location: **RIVER ROOM BETWEEN MIAMI RIVER AND 7TH ST.**

The River Room is where The Underline begins. The site below sits by the Miami River and calls for an interactive playful public artwork that connects and engages diverse audiences.

Type: **TEMPORARY ARTWORK**
Proposed: **INTERACTIVE SCULPTURE**

The Infiniswing is a face-to-face swing framed by a double twisted Möbius inspired loop. By allowing participants to move together, the piece creates the conditions for spontaneous communication and play



Approx. proposal area: 10 x 10 ft
Height: 10 ft



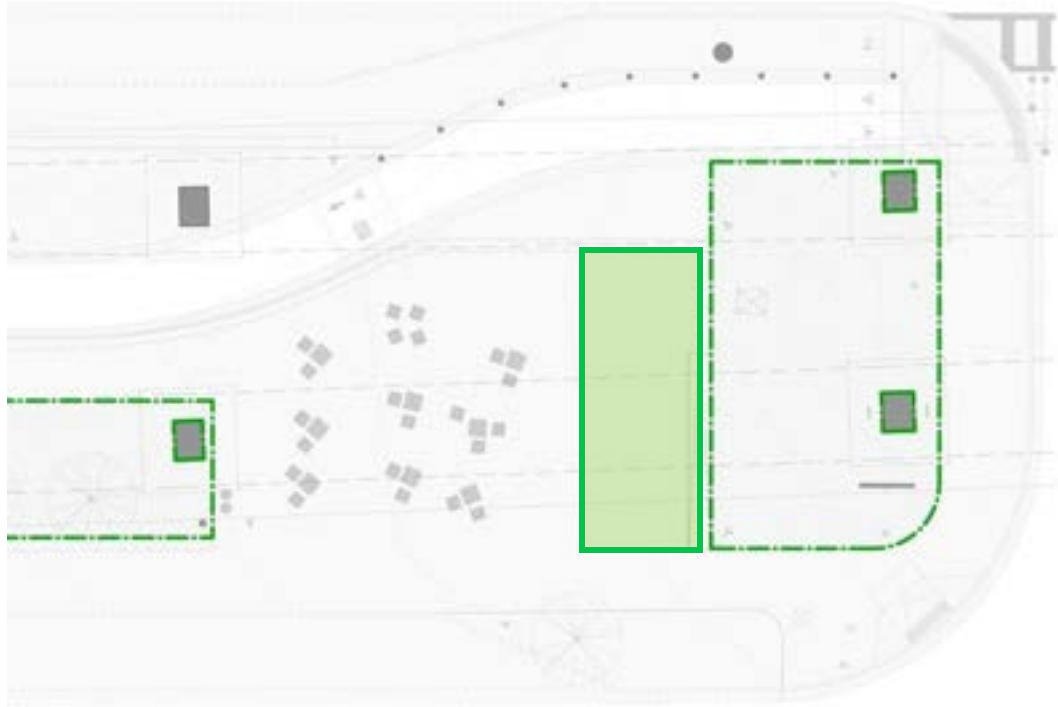
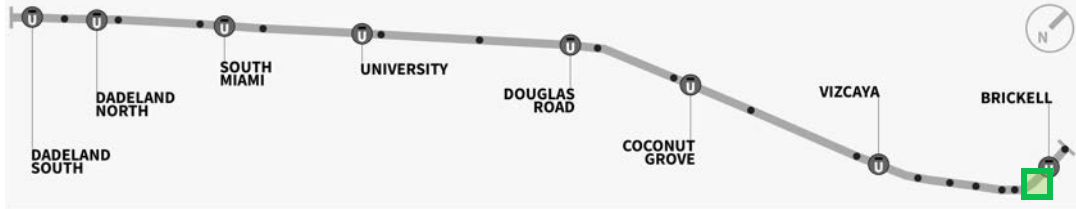
Pathway view



Sharón Chandally Pedrini, *The Infiniswing*



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED



Approx. proposal area: 900 sq ft
Max height: 16 ft

Area:
BRICKELL BACKYARD
Location:
PROMENADE

Complete with a stage and community seating areas, the Promenade calls for playful artwork and programming that the public can engage with, and that create space for community interaction and storytelling. Goal is to secure ongoing, recurring funding for free community cultural events on The Underline.

Type:
CULTURAL PROGRAM
Proposed:
PERFORMATIVE



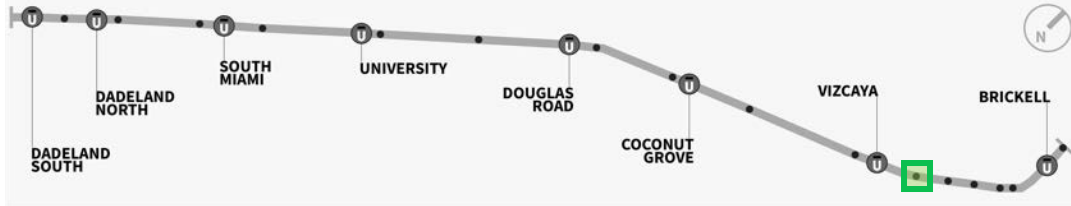
Miami City Ballet, 2021



Black Art Celebration Concert, Darius, 2023



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED



Area:
COCONUT GROVE
Location:
VIZCAYA STATION

At the north end of the Vizcaya Station, there is a moment where the cityscape is visible between the Metrorail tracks. Looking towards Brickell, it's clear how The Underline serves as a bridge connecting the city's neighborhoods.

Type:
ANCHOR ARTWORK
Proposed:
SCULPTURE

Bruno Catalano's work delves into the emotional impact of emigration, the profound exploration of the human condition, of identity and belonging, of home and displacement.



Approx. proposal area: 5 x 5 ft
Height: 8 ft



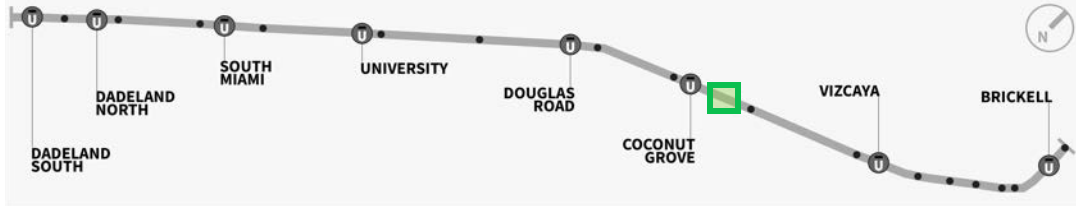
North end of Vizcaya Station



Bruno Catalano, *Fragmented Traveler*



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED

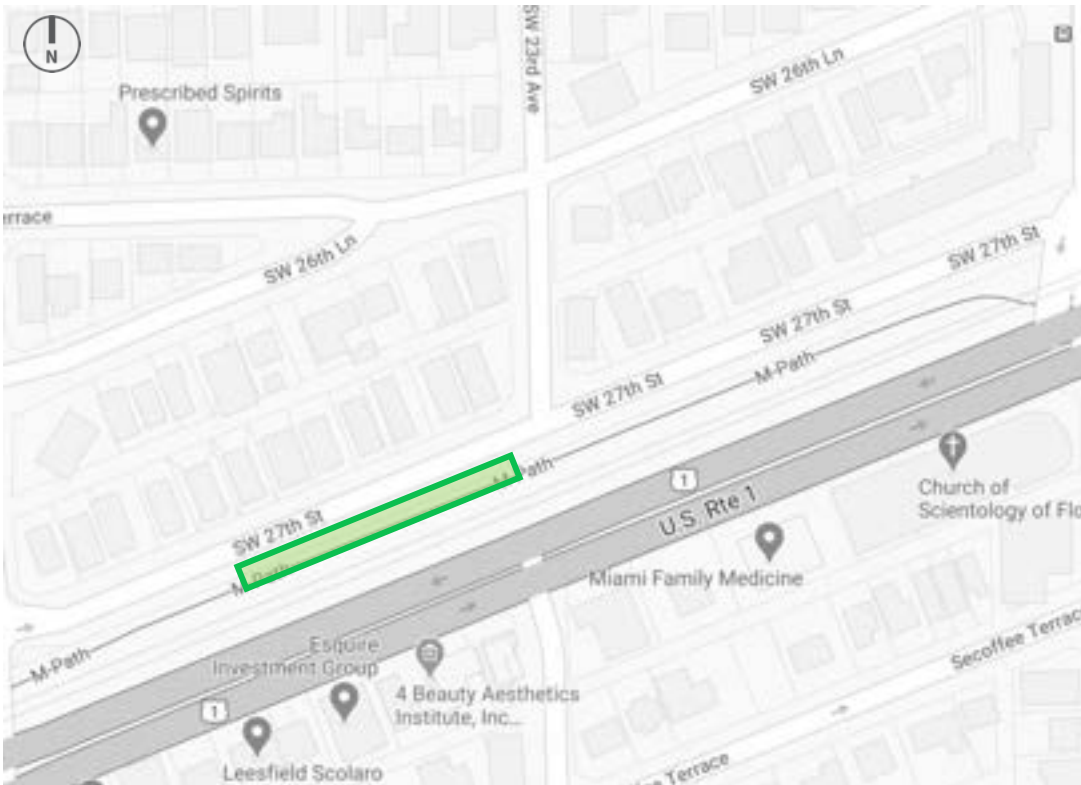


Area: **COCONUT GROVE**
Location: **SW 24th—27th AVE**

Type: **PERMANENT ARTWORK**
Proposed: **OPEN-AIR BOOKSHELF**

This expansive area provides room for gathering spaces and integrated infrastructure that are conducive to public art and programming. Visitors here are encouraged to create and interact with local artists and artisans.

This area is ideal for a variety of engaging temporary art installations and episodic performative art that reflects the local community.



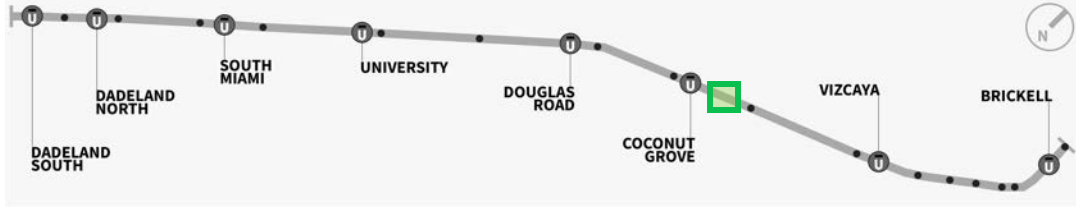
Approx. proposal area: 2 ft deep

Top: Facing south at SW 24th Ave

Open-Air Bookshelf



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED

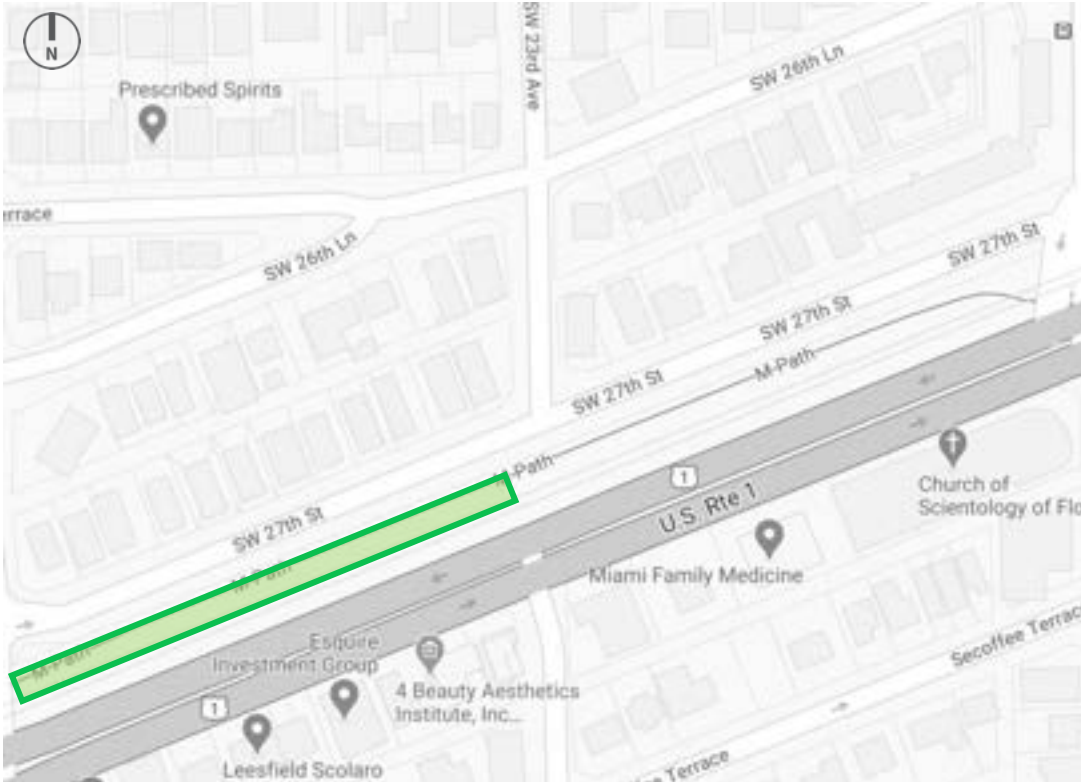


Area:
COCONUT GROVE
Location:
SW 24th—27th AVE

Type:
TEMPORARY ARTWORK
Proposed:
PLINTH

This expansive area provides room for gathering spaces and integrated infrastructure that are conducive to public art and programming. Visitors here are encouraged to create and interact with local artists and artisans.

This area is ideal for a variety of engaging temporary art installations and episodic performative art that reflects the local community.



Approx. proposal area: 18 x 10 ft and 18" above finished surface



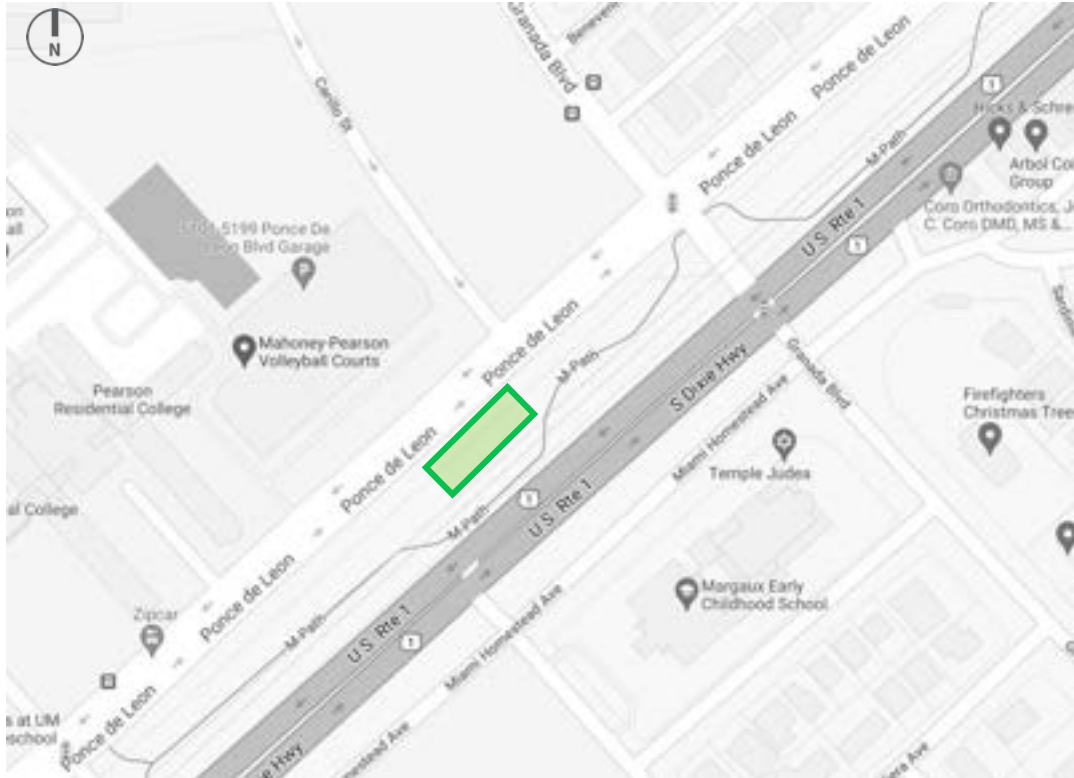
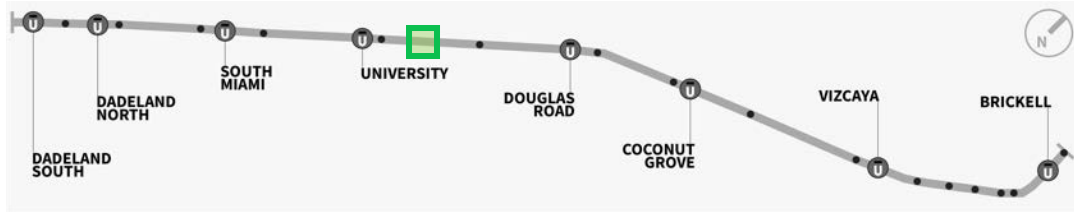
Top: Facing south at SW 24th Ave



Vanessa DaSilva, *Muamba Grove #1*, 2019



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED



Approx. proposal area: 91 ft long and 49 ft wide

Area: **CORAL GABLES**
Location: **PONCE AT CARILLO ST.**

The Pineland Court complex offers four pickleball courts and one regulation-size basketball court, along with other amenities including seating areas, drinking fountains and ample bike parking. The courts will be surrounded by Pine Rockland plantings providing shade and connection to nature.



Site view of Pineland Courts

Type: **TEMPORARY ARTWORK**
Proposed: **MURALS**

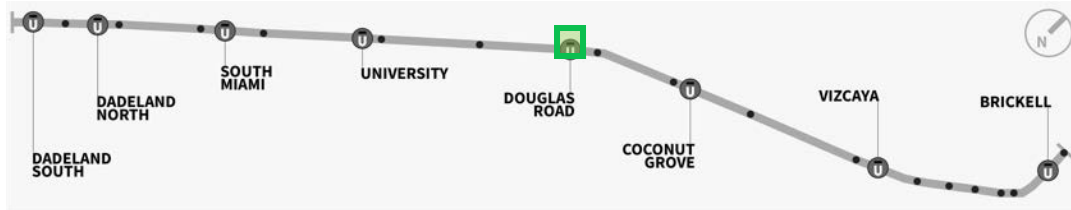
The birds-eye view of colorful commissioned murals on the basketball courts will be visible to commuters on the Metrorail. The project will be an opportunity to engage local artists and the community, ensuring an authentic narrative.



San Diego's Colina Del Sol Park, 2020



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED



Approx. proposal area: 15' diameter ft x 18" above finished surface

Area:

CORAL GABLES

Location:

DOUGLAS METRORAIL STATION

South of the Douglas Metrorail Station, the Underline Plaza will feature temporary art installations and food trucks with local cuisine: a vibrant new community space!

Type:

TEMPORARY ARTWORK

Proposed:

SCULPTURE

This location is ideal for rotating a series of new contemporary art commissions that will offer artists a unique platform to inspire a diverse public audience and contribute to the ever-changing conversation around art.



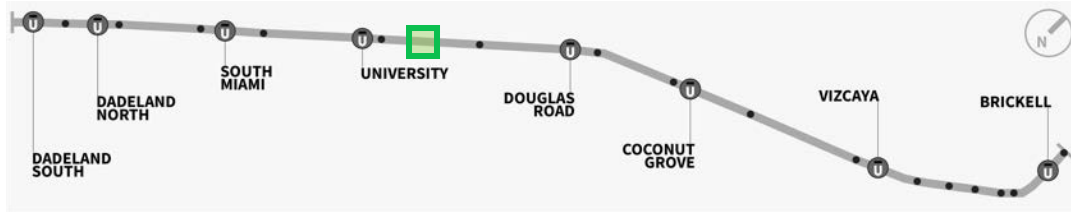
A plinth will support sculptures that will rotate



April Bey, *Atlantican Opulencescapes*, 2026



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED

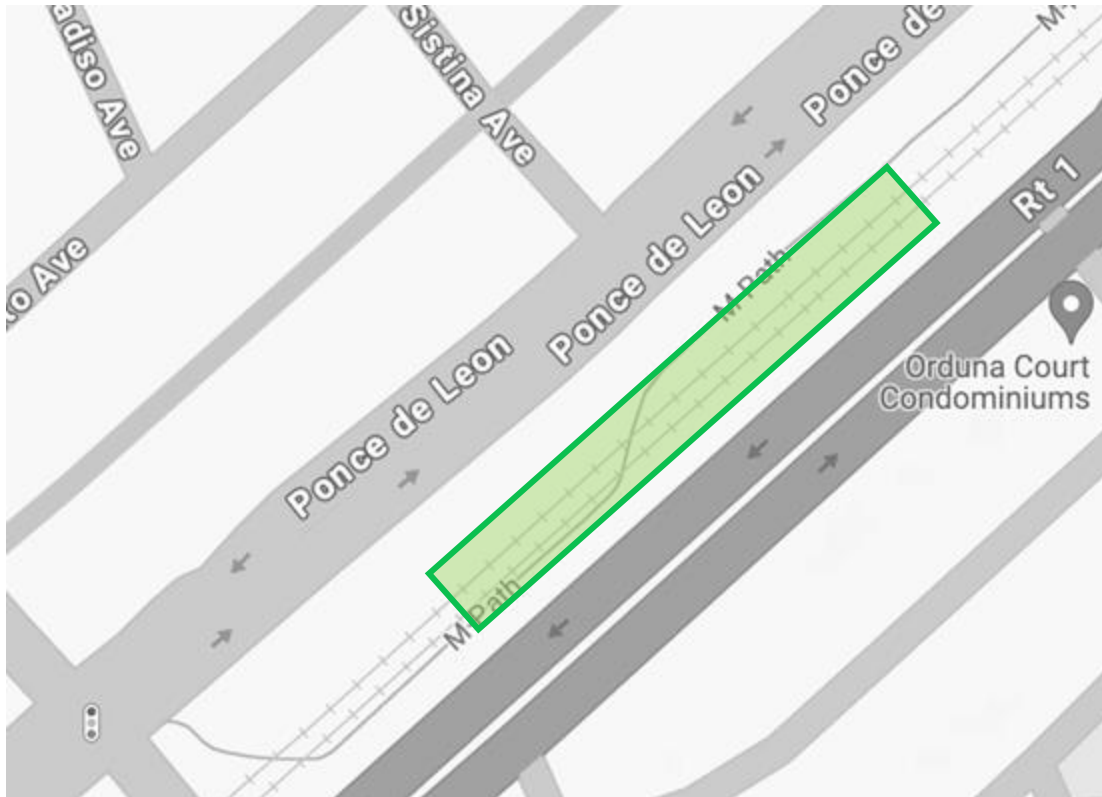


Area:
CORAL GABLES
Location:
PONCE & SISTINA AVE

Innovative stormwater ponds will improve site resilience, not only enhancing the site's ability to manage stormwater but also by creating thriving habitats and a unique backdrop for public art.

Type:
PERMANENT ARTWORK
Proposed:
SCUPLTURE

Unsui (Mirror) features two towering sequin sculptures Clouds, a recurring motif in Biggers's work, symbolize freedom, boundlessness, and interconnection. Drawing on the artist's study of Buddhism, these clouds — or unsui ("clouds and water" in Japanese)—embody unencumbered movement.



Approx. proposal area: 9' diameter x 18" from adjacent planter



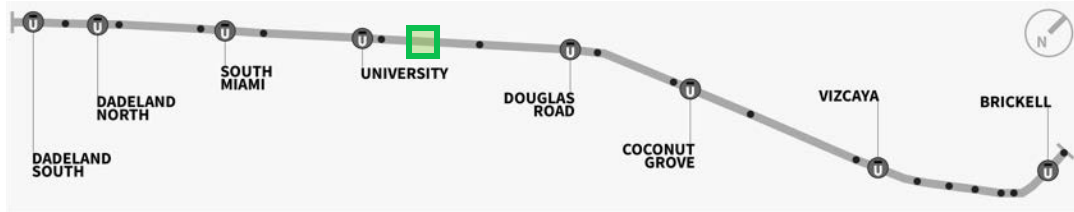
Rendering of The Underline's Stormwater Ponds



Sanford Biggers, *Unsui (Mirror)*, 2025



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED

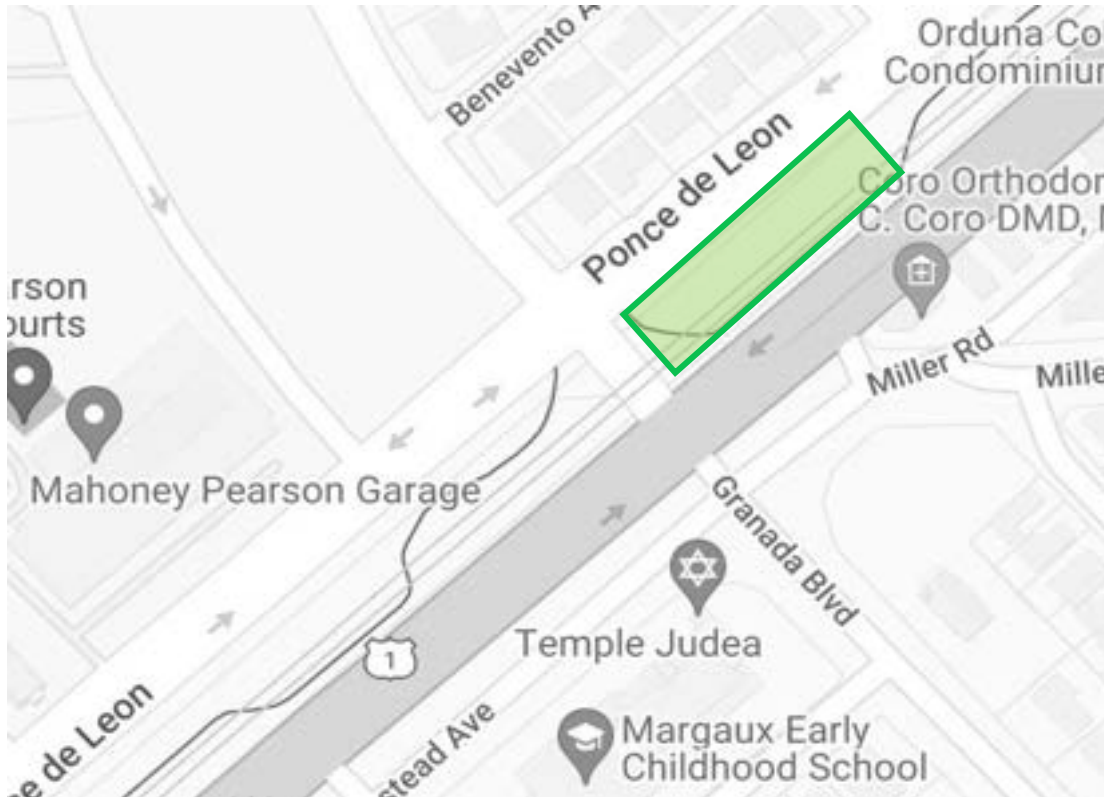


Area: **CORAL GABLES**
Location: **PONCE & GRANADA AVE**

Type: **PERMANENT ARTWORK**
Proposed: **BENCH INSTALLATION**

Innovative stormwater ponds will improve site resilience, not only enhancing the site's ability to manage stormwater but also by creating thriving habitats and a unique backdrop for public art.

Call to artists for an art Art Deco-inspired bench.



Approx. proposal area: 9' diameter x 18" from adjacent planter



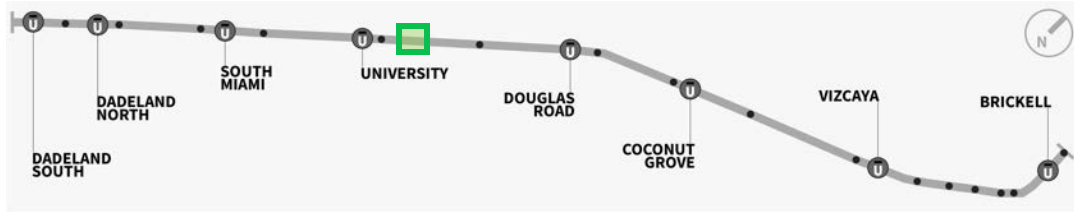
Rendering of The Underline's Stormwater Ponds



Bernard Wolfson Bench, Daniel Marosi



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED

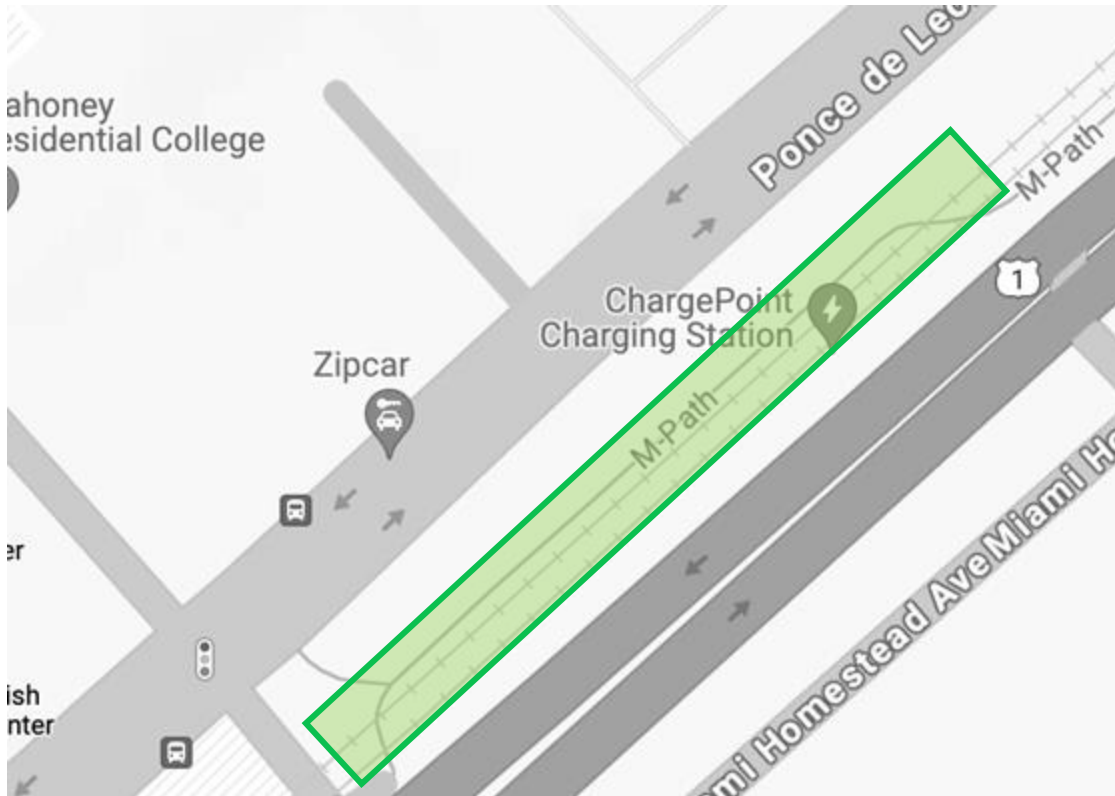


Area:
CORAL GABLES
Location:
PONCE AT STANFORD DR.

Type:
TEMPORARY ARTWORK
Proposed:
JEAN WARD

The Rock Ridge Plaza, located north of Stanford Drive will feature an outdoor classroom and a captivating performance space, where learning and culture come together.

By incorporating landscape design with environmental art and technology, we can create elements that integrate the body as part of the public art experience beyond what is traditionally understood as art.



Approx. proposal area: 18 x 10 ft
Height: 8 ft



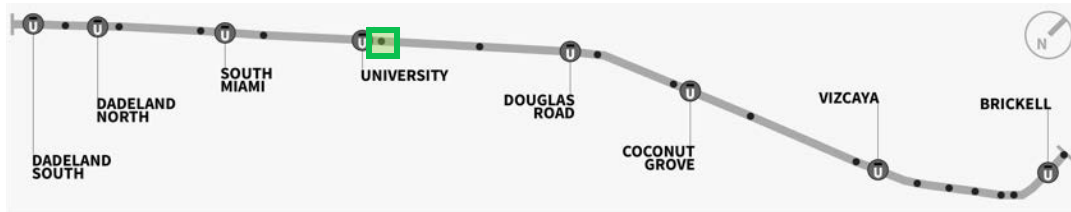
Rendering of the Rock Ridge Plaza



Jean Ward *Louie had to Leave the Rigging Gauge. The Years Made Him Stop Climbing*, 1980



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED

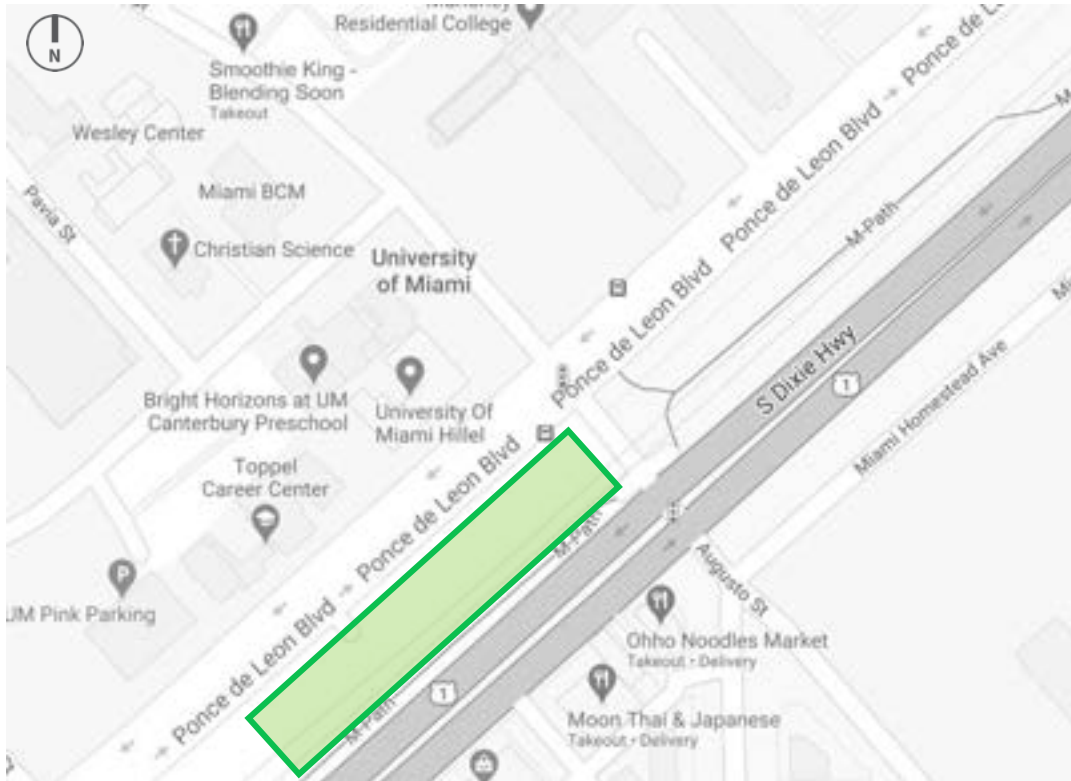


Area: **CORAL GABLES**
Location: **UNIVERSITY STATION PLAZA**

Type: **TEMPORARY ARTWORK**
Proposed: **LIGHT INSTALLATION**

With large open areas located across the street from the university's main entrance, The Underline at University Station serves as an ideal space for featuring artists in collaboration with the Lowe Art Museum's exhibition program.

Marinella Senatore's practice is characterized by a strong participatory dimension and a constant dialogue between history, popular culture, and social structures. She often creates spaces for gathering through her work.



Approx. proposal area: 120 x 82 ft.
22 x 30 ft.



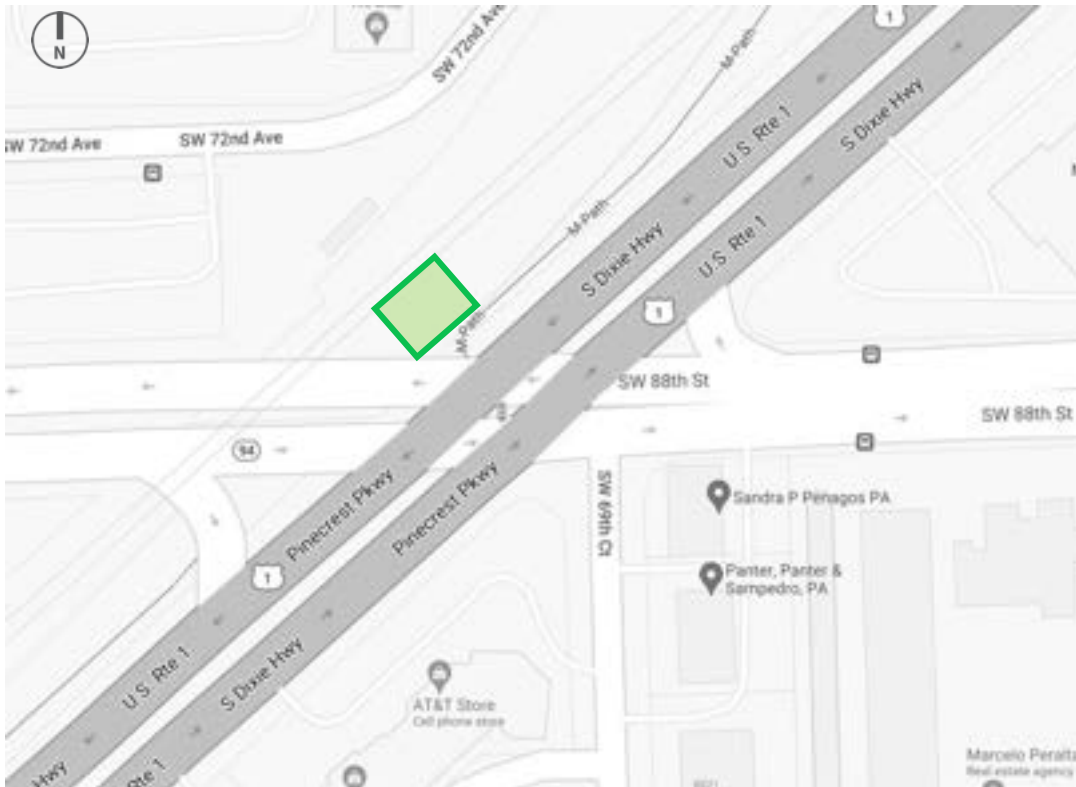
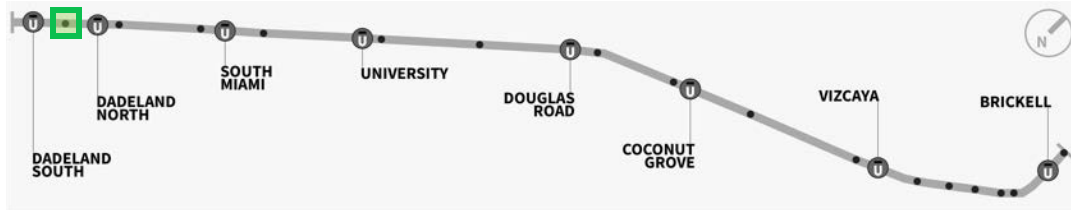
Rendering University Station Plaza



Marinella Senatore
Untitled installation at the High Line, NY, 2018



PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL PROGRAM PROPOSED



Approx. proposal area: 10 x 10 ft
Height: 10 ft

Area:
KENDALL
Location:
KENDALL DRIVE AT US 1

Situated in close proximity to the future Ludlam Trail, the southern end of The Underline will serve as a hub, extending beyond the park to provide a link to other communities.



Kendall Dr. at US 1

Type:
PERMANENT ARTWORK
Proposed:
ART INSTALLATION

Open space for large sculptural playful, and interactive artwork.



Carlos Betancourt, Untitled



Forward-thinking artwork and programming can change the cultural heartbeat of a city, and the impact that The Underline will have on Miami is transformational.

The goal of the Public Art & Cultural Master Plan is to create a vibrant environment for community engagement and cultural activity, and to elevate The Underline to its full potential as an international platform for social interaction that transcends traditional boundaries.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FRIENDS OF THE UNDERLINE TEAM:

MEG DALY, FOUNDER

EULOIS CLECKLY, CEO

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OPEN SPACE CURATORIAL MANAGER:

RINA GITLIN

HEAD DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE TEAM:

JAMES CORNER FIELD OPERATIONS

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

THE UNDERLINE ART ADVISORY COUNCIL (UAAC)

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

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