

Working sculpture is a 'Haven' for honey and bees

Alice Thorson for Kansas City Star.com

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A working beehive sculpture on a 16-foot post (above, center) will be unveiled Friday at the 18Broadway gardens on the southeast corner of Broadway and 18th Street.

Kansas City artist and third-generation beekeeper Jarrett Mellenbruch wants to do his part to save the honeybees, which are under stress from colony collapse disorder and other ailments.

On Friday, from 6-8 p.m., Mellenbruch will unveil a working beehive sculpture on a 16-foot post in the 18Broadway gardens at the southeast corner of Broadway and 18th Street.

Titled "Haven," the durable Corian sculpture marks the first step in a planned nationwide honeybee sanctuary project, the artist says.

The beehive sculpture was made possible by an Andy Warhol Foundation Rocket Grant, administered by Charlotte Street Foundation in Kansas City and KU's Spencer Museum of Art. DST Systems developed the garden as a sustainable development demonstration project.

The dedication will feature foods dependent on honeybee pollination, including apples, blueberries, walnuts, almonds, beets and broccoli. And, the honey in this hive will stay with the bees.

<http://www.kansascity.com/2011/06/08/2934230/a-haven-for-honey-and-bees.html>