

Art has always played a large part in Laura's life. Having worked with wire for approaching 7 years, she loves the versatility of Wire and at the same time finds this medium often challenges her to learn how to use it in different ways. Even though most of the wire she uses is steel, there's an organic component to it that makes it very versatile as a sculpting medium. Wire can be very delicate, but surprisingly strong and resilient in its malleability.

She began to create sculptures with Chicken wire in 2020 during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Covid Shutdown in Alberta. With trial-and-error experimentation, she has developed her own style of sculpture and continues to learn and grow through experimentation with it. It's an unusual choice of materials but also very appealing in its simplicity.

Along with her endeavours as an Artist, Laura has a business as an Art Educator. With a background in Education, Laura teaches wire art classes with adults and children alike. Teaching provides her the opportunity to share this interesting medium with students who may not otherwise experience this art form. She's rather introverted so she also benefits from this outward expression of creativity.

Laura loves working with people on commissions and is always honored to be entrusted with a customer's vision which are often of a very personal nature.

She's had one of her charming Bonsai Trees gifted to Yubetsu, Japan in a city twinning ceremony with the city of Whitecourt, Ab. In the summer of 2022, her large Chicken Wire sculpture "Rooted in Hope" was featured in the sculpture category with the Allied Art Council of Spruce Grove, Ab. As a result of this competition, "Rooted in Hope" was

acquired by the city of Spruce Grove to add to their Public Art collection.

In November of 2022, Laura was commissioned by the U of A Botanic Garden to design and work in conjunction with the staff, to head up the project of creating an 18 foot long Chicken Wire sculpture of a Serpent for their Luminaria Event. The Serpent is lit with approximately 1500 lights and is placed prominently in the Center of the Botanic Gardens Lily Pond.

In addition, Laura was commissioned to sculpt a life size family of Dancers out of Chicken Wire for the Winter Queens court in the Aga Khan Garden. The male dancer measures 7 ft. tall at the top of his hat and all three Dancers costumes are creatively detailed. There's also a Chicken Wire Fox and Owl she created that grace the Alpine Garden as well.

As a gardener, camper, hiker and avid traveler, Laura's Art is often inspired by a deep connection to nature. She is also a member of the Edmonton Horticulture Society and draws inspiration from the myriad of beautiful gardens and public spaces in and around Edmonton. Her Art garnered a recommendation for Art geared towards local garden enthusiasts in the Edmonton Journal for being "original, unique and innovative"

She's captivated by how her Art unfolds, and takes on a life of its own. Her aim is to make people smile and Laura loves showcasing her Art at Art Walks and Artisan events in and around Edmonton. She's found representation for her art work through several Galleries and retail spaces in Alberta and British Columbia.

In 2018, she was invited to be part of a pilot project, teaching Art Classes, with Chapters/Indigo Canada.

She has been a featured Artist in Art from the Unknown hosted by MP Rachel Notley and MP Mike Lake has a piece of her Art in his personal collection as well.

In Spring of 2023 Laura will have her first solo show at the Jeanne and Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Center in Camrose Alberta.

She is a member of the Federation of Canadian Artists, an active member with VASA and the Sculptors Association of Alberta. Laura has given presentation to the members of SAA on the versatility of wire, in all its forms, as a great art medium.

Laura sits on the Board for the non-profit Hand2Hand, which believes in giving new and emerging artist the opportunity to break into the local arts community. They organize a twice-yearly art market which is heavily juried to assist with giving a hand up to this demographic of Artists and Makers. To this end, she has been instrumental in creating a Bursary for emerging or struggling Artist.

In alignment with this, Laura believes in giving back to the community. Her charity of choice for 2022 is “Little Warriors” where a portion of her market sales will help with programming for sexually abused children and youth. She’s also supported Valour House, Amy’s House, Girl Guides of Canada, Golden Search and Rescue and SACE.

Her Art has found homes in Japan, Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, Scotland, England, Spain, Mexico, Norway, Germany, the U.S. and many homes and businesses across Canada