



EARTH SANCTUARY®

ADMIN. OFFICE: 1385 RADEN PL.
FREELAND, WA 98049

360-331-6667—WWW.EARTHSANCTUARY.ORG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kate Poss at 360-632-5504

Chuck Pettis at 360-331-6667

Infinite Tower artwork connects heaven and earth at Earth Sanctuary

Langley, Washington — Earth Sanctuary — Visitors to the Buddhist-inspired nature reserve and sculpture garden can contemplate a new art form on Saturday, October 29, 2016 at 2:00 pm when a seemingly ‘infinite tower of spiraling geometric shapes’ will be unveiled near the Tibetan Buddhist stupa at 5536 Emil Road, Langley, WA 98260.

Chuck Pettis, an innovative entrepreneur whose interest is creating sacred space, conceived the concept and worked with Matthew Swett of Taproot Architects to create a blueprint detailing a 24-foot column of interlocking equilateral triangles that create a deceptively fluid visual effect. Metal artist Tim Leonard of Heavy Metal Works constructed the sculpture.

Pettis said the symbolism within the design includes: creating a connection to earth and sky, the use of white as the color of clarity and purity (which reflects shadows and shapes on the sculpture), the honoring of the nearby trees and snags which join the earth and sky, and the incorporation of the number eight (eight triangles in each octahedron) and the number seven (seven stacked octahedrons), which in numerology symbolizes harmony and spirituality.

Influenced in part by the works of Constantin Brancusi, considered one of the most important sculptors of the 20th Century, Pettis found inspiration in Brancusi's *Endless Column* built in 1918. Pettis' ingenuity was further sparked from a visit to the Storm King Art Center, located in the lower Hudson Valley of New York State. Some have described the 500 acres with man-made art as being 'heaven for sculpture.'

"I like what they did at Storm King and thought what could I do on a small scale," mused Pettis. "I have extensively studied polyhedra (shapes with many faces) and the geodesic domes of Buckminster Fuller. So I experimented with stacking a variety of polyhedra and arrived at the conclusion that octahedrons worked best. Then I 3D printed the octahedrons

on a MakerBot Replicator 2 Desktop 3D Printer and stacked them to create a model. I showed it to various people who said the octahedral tower worked.”

The Infinite Tower compliments other sculptures at the Earth Sanctuary, including two stone circles, a hedge labyrinth, a Buddhist stupa monument, prayer wheels, two Native American Medicine Wheels, a megalithic dolman, and a minimalistic sculpture entitled Veils of Reality.

The 72-acre Earth Sanctuary is a nature reserve, sculpture garden, and retreat center designed to promote peacefulness, meditation and reflection. Open every day and closed at night, there are two entrances: 2059 Newman Road and 5536 Emil Road, Langley, WA 98260. Admission is \$7 per person or an Annual Pass is available for \$35 per person per year. The fees will be waived for this special event. For more information, visit the Earth Sanctuary website at www.earthsanctuary.org. Please contact Kate Poss at 360-632-5504 for more information.

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Note to editors: Photos of the “Infinite Tower” are available from Chuck Pettis. Please contact him at 360-331-6667 or email him at cpettis@earthsanctuary.org.