

RAY KING

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ARTIST RAY KING Installs **TECH/REC BEACON** *A Chromatic, Light-Responsive Sculpture*

On Monday June 24, 2013, artist Ray King installed “Tech/Rec Beacon,” a light-responsive sculpture to enhance the entrance to the Southern Regional Technology & Recreational Complex, 7007 Bock Rd, Ft. Washington, MD.

The ellipsoid-shaped sculpture (20' h x 11' d x 14" w), made of stainless steel and laminated glass, sits upon a (9') concrete pedestal. Inside the curved interconnected stainless steel rings is a tensile structure of cables and glass that holds in suspension a stainless steel core. The glass facets are laminated with dichroic film -- a metallic coating developed by NASA that projects one color and reflects its opposite (i.e., golden yellow that reflects blue). The colors change dynamically depending on the angle of light and the viewpoint of the spectator.

The dichroic glass elements are designed to catch the sunlight, as well as electrical illumination, in order to splash sparks of chromatic light reflections as constellations onto the shaded walls of the facility to welcome the public (a signature of many of King's works). The artwork represents the burst of energy as a dream or creative idea is transformed into reality. In designing the artwork, King's intent was to inspire viewers to pursue their dreams into the real world.

Ray King is an artist who uses the natural phenomena of light as it interacts with glass and optics as an art medium. Integrating science and geometry, his sculptures are high tech, interactive and dynamic works of art that evoke unique experiences in viewers. King has exhibited his work internationally since 1976, major installations of his work have been commissioned throughout the United States, Europe and the Far East.