

## The Gainesville Megaphone – a place to amplify aspirations and truly listen to the community.



Image Credits: Tõnu Tunnel, Wally Czochera, and John Bella

Historically, megaphones call people to come together. They amplify the voices of the unheard. They aide the deaf in hearing. They have been the non-violent communication weapon that allows people to express frustration in the status quo. They have been the call for help given, a call to come together in an emergency. They have grown into a symbol for inclusivity, liberation, and reform.

I purpose an engaging and interactive megaphone sculpture: large enough to stand in, allowing those that pass by an opportunity to communicate and connect with the city in a multi-sensory experience.

### Providing the public access to both the ears and voice of our community.

**Listen-** acting as an acoustic mirror, the bell of the megaphone will naturally highlight the natural sounds of downtown Gainesville. It gives residents or visitors an opportunity to climb in, relax and reflect while auditorily engaging in people gatherings at side walk cafes, on the street, and in Bo Diddley Plaza.

**Speak-** giving residents a place to be heard. They are invited to speak dreams and aspirations into the small end of the megaphone to have them shared and amplified.

**Create-** providing a mini amphitheater. The megaphone can amplify the songs and sounds of poets, protestors, fans and musicians.

**Post-** composing the background for a colorful, fun and interesting Instagrammable moments for friends and fans.

**Heal-** honoring the many megaphones that have given amplification to voices of the oppressed during their quests for social change.

Flexibility in materials – could be made of a colorful powder coated steel, fiber glass, or painted wood. All make excellent resonating materials. Size will make it stand out, so it likely would only need a single color. Could be embellished with large numbers 352 to reflect the county.