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start sculpting their creations near First Avenue and North Prom throughout Wednesday and Thursday.

Participating will be artists Bill Dow, Lisa Donze, Eric Hawley and Wade Lapp, in addition to Adams himself. Many of these sculptors don't just work with sand. Their carving mediums include snow, ice and pumpkins.

Dow's been carving for about 30 years, while Lapp is relatively new to the

sand-sculpting world. He got started at a pumpkin-carving contest Adams invited him to and launched into wood, sand and ice carving from there.

Hawley is both a serious pumpkin and sand carver. He met Adams at a competitive event.

Donze's past designs include a girl riding a horse and bucking bronco for a rodeo, as well as a large moon carving featuring an Indigenous woman and howling wolf.

"(Donze) amazes me every time I see what she does," Adams said. "Every time

she does something different."

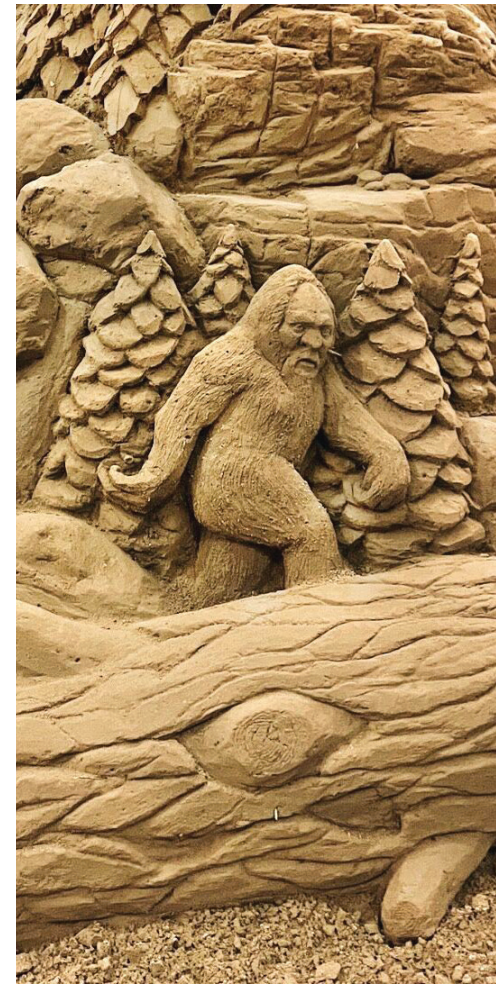
Adams is also a carver himself – he's been doing it for more than 25 years. While the event won't feature judges, there is a competitive element to it. Audiences will vote on what sculpture they think is best.

Sand sculpture requires sand and water. When artists arrive, large amounts of sand will be waiting for them at their plots, Adams explained. Each plot is a 20-foot by 20-foot square.

When the weekend wraps up, sand sculptures will stay up using aardvark snot, Adams said. Organizers used to use glue, but ran into environmental issues. A friend of Adams encountered an aardvark and ended up getting the substance on his hand.

When he went to wipe it off, a patch peeled off that had an incredibly similar texture to glue. Since then, it's what artists have been using to lengthen the lifespan of their creations.

SandFest also includes a free sculpting lesson from Adams, who has taught extensively – with impressive results.



LEFT: "Matador" by Bill Dow, one of the sculptors featured at SandFest. RIGHT: A sculpture by Wade Lapp, one of the artists set for SandFest.



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