**Project Description:**

The Seminole Garden Center was originally built in 1939 and was renovated in 2010 by the City of Tampa. The building and the grounds are used for everything from community meetings to weddings. Artist Leslie Fry was selected due to her use of traditional methods and materials to create nontraditional visions.

Leslie Fry created a cast-stone sculpture, approximately six feet high, placed in the Garden Center’s front green area. The sculpture was first modeled in clay and plaster, and then a large multi-part polyurethane rubber mold was fabricated, fitted with fiberglass support shell molds for the concrete.

“The sculpture features a bird-like figure in a nest-like form, perched on a twisting pillar, all of which will appear to be made out of bits of architecture and building tools. Imaginatively speaking, the ‘bird/woman’ will be ‘nesting’ – making a home with the hammers, nails, columns, windows, etc., that are part of the sculpture. Some elements of brick and window features reflecting the Garden Center building can be found depicted within the sculpture. These construction-oriented images reflect the historic architecture of Old Seminole Heights, and allude to ongoing preservation.”  

— Leslie Fry

The mission of the City of Tampa’s public art program is to promote the involvement of artists in projects throughout the city that enhance the physical environment and celebrate Tampa’s unique character and identity. The public art program falls under Art Programs, a division of the Department of Arts & Cultural Affairs.

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**Artist:** Leslie Fry

**Title of Project:** Nest Builder

**Location:** Seminole Garden Center, 5850 N. Central Avenue, Seminole Heights

**Project:** Public Art Component to the Renovated Historic Garden Center

**Year Completed:** 2010

**Materials & Dimensions:** Cast concrete

**Commissioning Agency:** City of Tampa, Public Art Program, Department of Parks & Recreation, Contract Administration, Community of Seminole Heights