



THE COUNTDOWN PUBLIC ART PROJECT

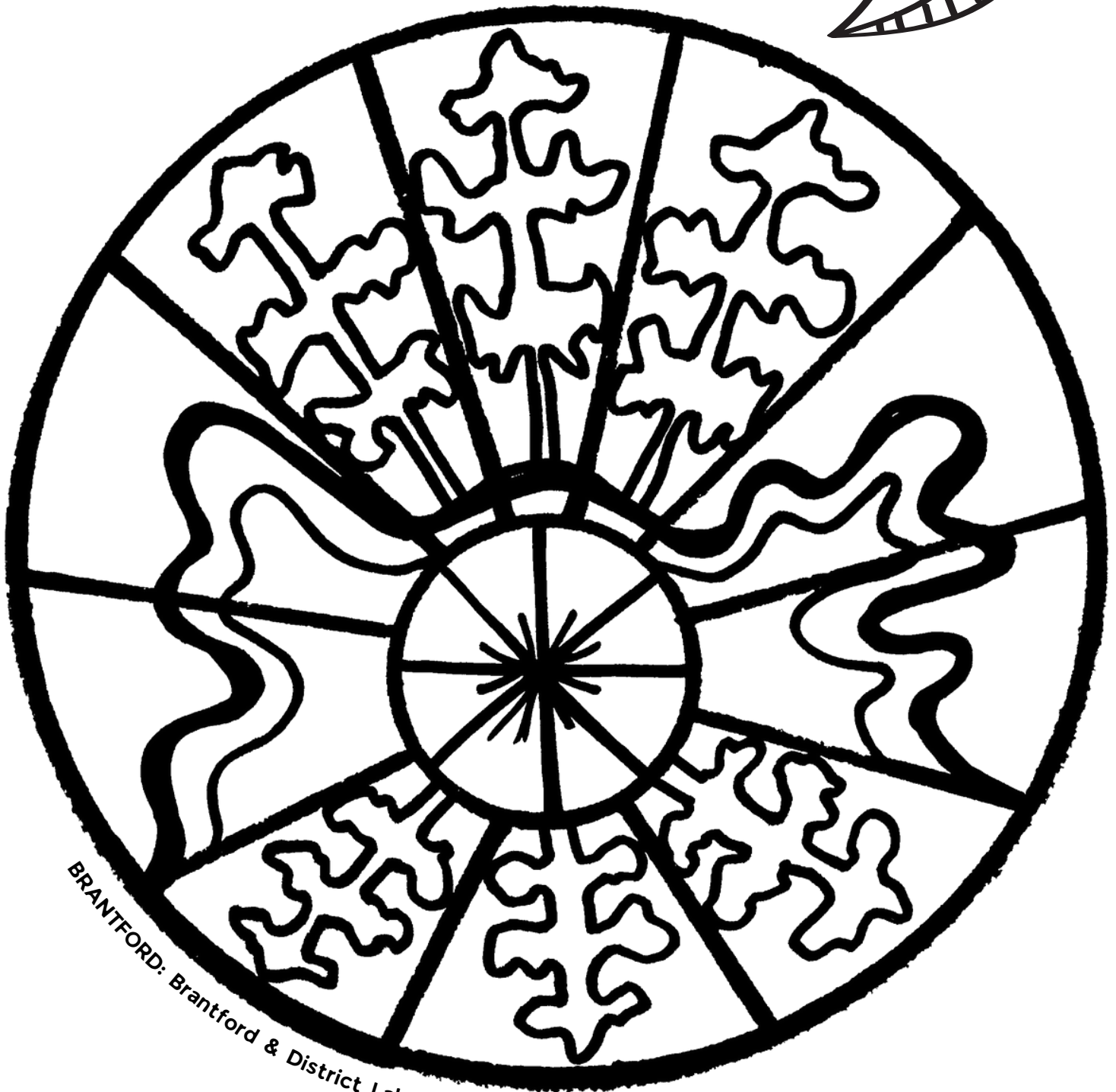
COLOURING BOOK!

The Countdown Public Art Project is a province-wide initiative, produced by ReDefine Arts (est. as Red Dress Productions in 2005), that creates monuments in public spaces to honour those affected by gender-based violence and to imagine, or count down to, a world without gender-based violence.

ReDefine
Arts

These pebble mosaic public art monuments are created with community participation and aim to:

- Increase the public's understanding of gender-based violence
- Bring private conversations out into the open reminding us that gender-based violence concerns us all
- Provide survivors of gender-based violence positive ways to re/connect with community
- Act as a catalyst for ongoing public education about the impact of gender-based violence in our communities
- Invite communities to join the countdown to a world free from gender-based violence



BRANTFORD: Brantford & District Labour Centre, 2019

NORTH BAY: Fisher St. Park, 2019



What is gender-based violence?

Gender-based violence is violence committed against someone because of their gender identity, gender expression, or perceived gender. Some people are more at risk of experiencing gender-based violence because of other forms of discrimination, including racism, colonialism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, and poverty.

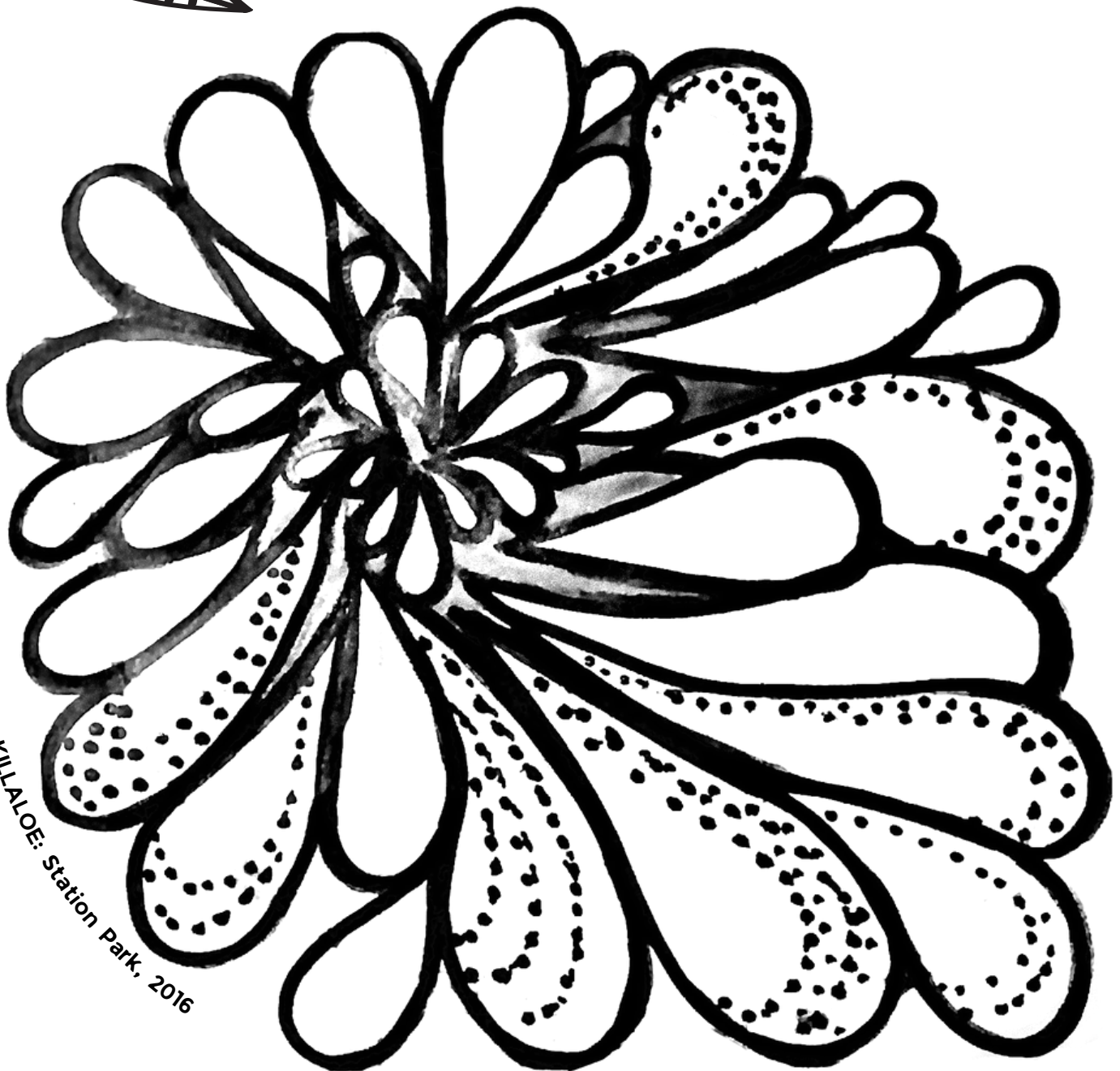
Gender-based violence has a disproportionate impact on LGBTQI2S (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex and two-spirit) and non-binary peoples.

It can take many forms including cyber, physical, sexual, societal, psychological, and economic. Discrimination and harassment can also be forms of gender-based violence.

Women and girls are at greater risk of gender-based violence, particularly women with disabilities, Indigenous women, rural women, and women of colour. Men and boys are also impacted by gender-based violence.

To learn more visit:

www.canadianwomen.org/the-facts/gender-based-violence



KILLALOE: Station Park, 2016

ALMONTE: Almonte Old Town Hall, 2021



“ Working with RDA on the Countdown project has been a journey that has had far reaching impacts; it has been rewarding for our community, healing for many and an amazing opportunity to come together through the art medium to honour, remember and reflect on violence, those taken, those living with and those who are at risk. We are forever grateful and humbled.

- Erin Lee, Executive Director, Lanark County Interval House and Community Support

“ Renfrew County has a larger landmass than Prince Edward Island - it is very rural -- and in 2016 more than 400 folks from across the county came together with leadership from [ReDefine Arts] to create the first four monuments in Ontario to recognize survivors of sexual violence. The stone monuments that live in Eganville, Pikwàkanagàn First Nation, Killaloe, and in Pembroke at the Women's Sexual Assault Centre have become community gathering places for private reflection as well as ongoing public honouring events. As a result, sexual violence is talked about in more public ways than in the past and resources for healing are much more visible. Renfrew County is forever changed by the Countdown project.

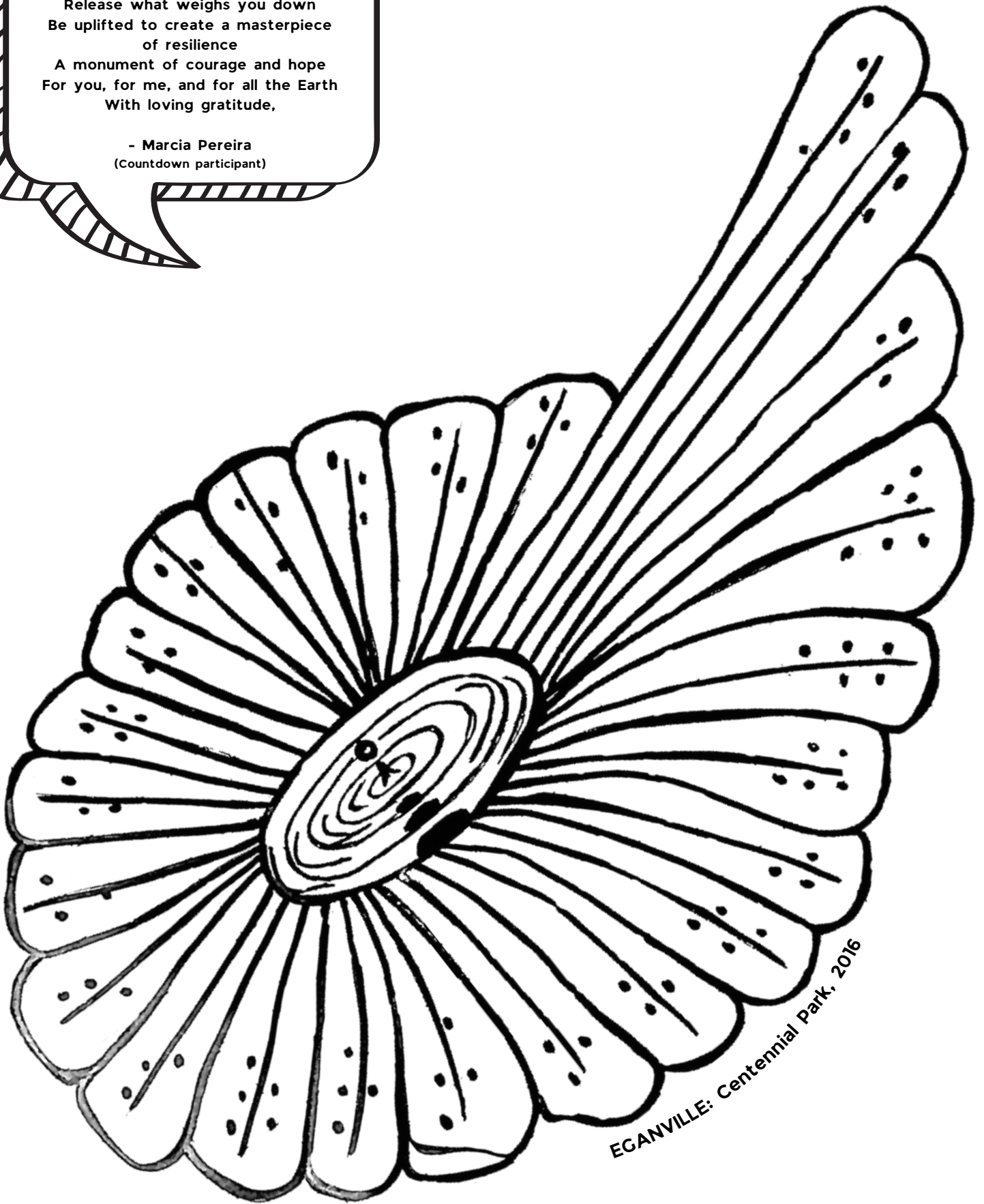
- JoAnne Brooks, Executive Director, Women's Sexual Assault Centre of Renfrew County



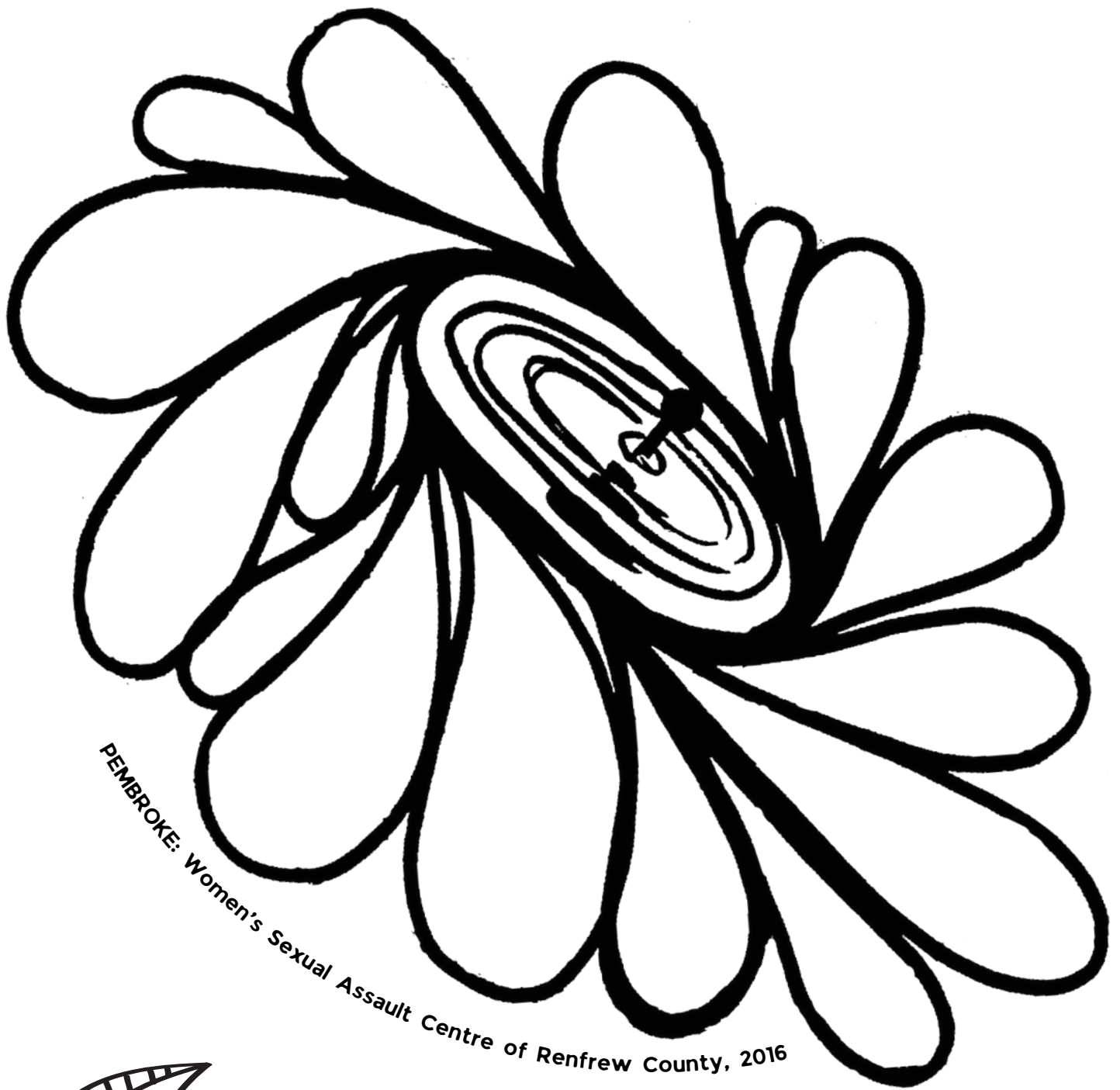
PIKWÀKANAGÀN FIRST NATION: pikwàkanagàn Health Services, 2016

“ Fellow Warrior,
Speak to the stones
Tell them your story
Release what weighs you down
Be uplifted to create a masterpiece
of resilience
A monument of courage and hope
For you, for me, and for all the Earth
With loving gratitude,

- Marcia Pereira
(Countdown participant)



EGANVILLE: Centennial Park, 2016

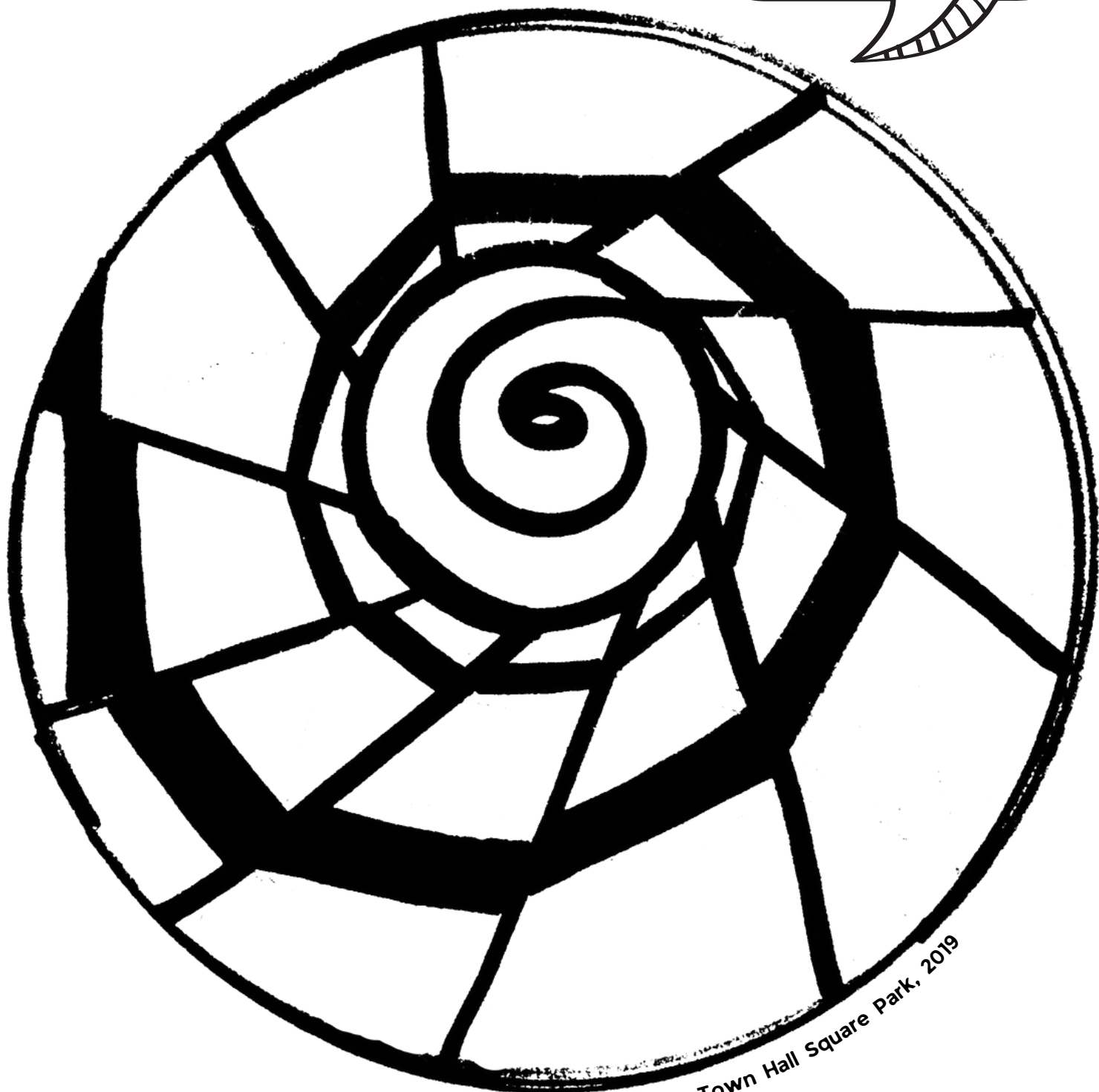


PEMBROKE: Women's Sexual Assault Centre of Renfrew County, 2016

“ In Indigenous teachings, stones are recognized as the oldest beings on earth, and as such, they are the archivists. They hold, within their layers, the entire evolutionary recordings of life on this planet, and it is proven that they are at least 4.4 billion years old.

- Roberta Della-Picca, Countdown Elder & Associate Artist

For the Countdown Public Art Project, we've gathered, carried, and placed thousands of stones to create large pebble mosaics that are now public artworks across Ontario.



CARLETON PLACE: Town Hall Square Park, 2019

BANCROFT: Millennium Park, 2021



These pebble mosaic monuments honour the resilience of survivors of gender-based violence, and hold space to remember and mourn for those who have not survived.

BARRY'S BAY: Water Tower Park, 2022



The Renfrew County Inquest Public Art Response

The monuments live in public space to invite vital, but often private conversations to be more public, so that communities can gain insight, heal from trauma, and support ongoing local and wider collective efforts toward a world free from gender-based violence.

COMBERMERE: Lookout Park, 2022



A growing collection of digital artworks, photo galleries, and storytelling about the Countdown project lives online at www.CountdownStory.com

SMITHS FALLS: Town Hall Square, 2022



The Countdown Public Art is produced and led by ReDefine Arts with local leadership and community and civic partners.

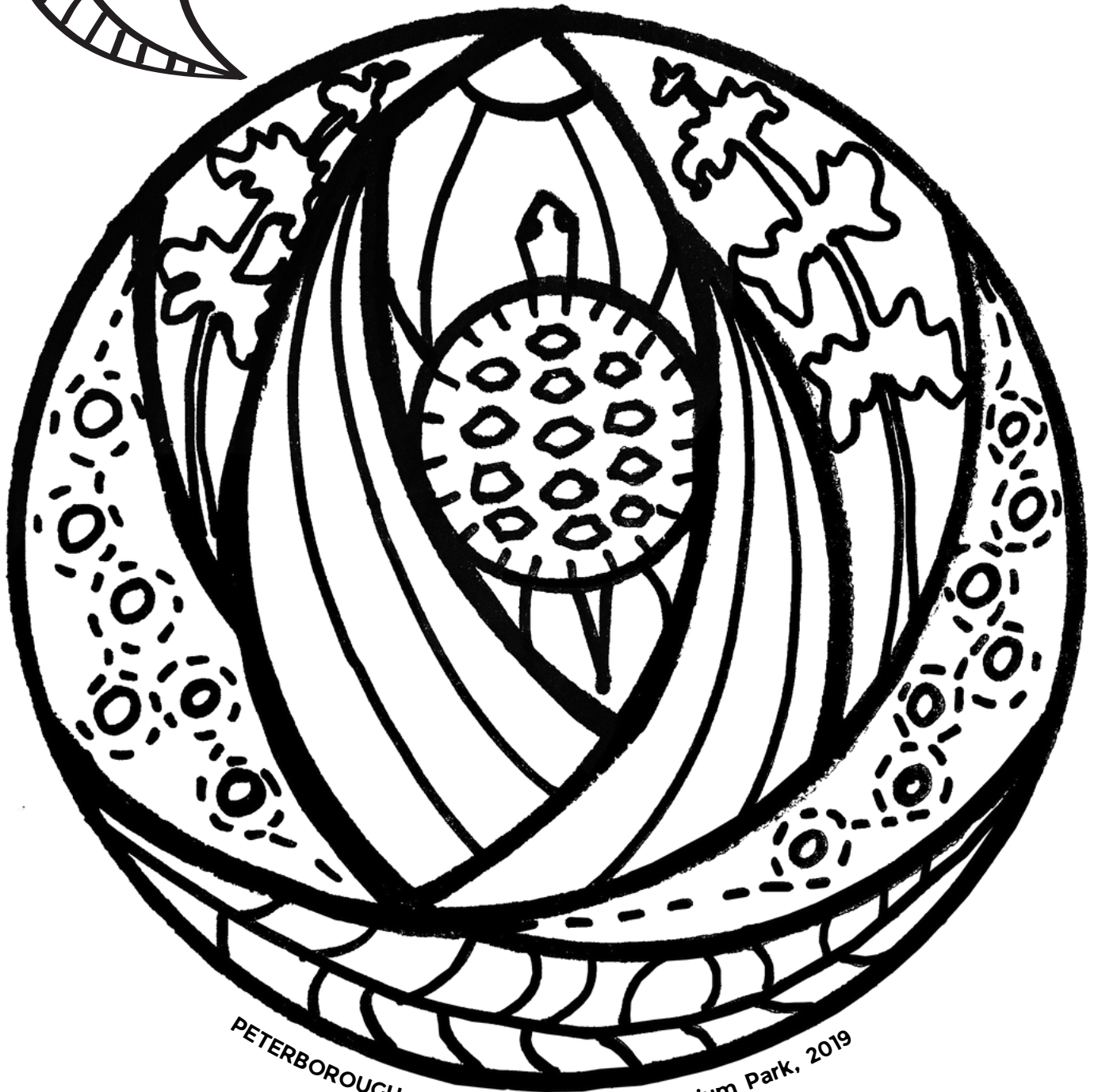
Please contact us to find out how to take part, what else is coming up, or just to say hello!

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PETERBOROUGH-NOGOJIWANONG: Millennium Park, 2019

Acknowledgements

Key Partners

Ottawa Valley Community Arts Open Studio, 2016
Women's Sexual Assault Center of Renfrew County, 2016, 2022
Amelia Rising Sexual Assault Centre of Nipissing, 2019
Sexual Assault Centre of Brant, 2019
Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre, 2019
Lanark County Interval House & Community Support, 2019, 2021-2022
EVA-Ending Violence Against Women Renfrew County, 2022
Survivor Advocacy & Support Initiative (SASI/CRC), 2022
Maggie's/Tamarack Resource Centre, 2021-2023

Community Partners

EVA-Ending Violence Against Women Renfrew County
Jumblies Theatre
Community Resource Centre (Killaloe) & Watershed
The Bonnechere Union Public Library
Pikwākanagān Health Services/Minopimādz-i Gamik
Algonquins of Pikwākanagān First Nation
Community Counselling Centre of Nipissing
Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre
Nijikiwendidaa Anishnaabekwegaw Services Circle
Brantford & District Labour Centre
Almonte & District Horticultural Society
The Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Advisory Committee - Lanark County
Ottawa Valley Community Arts
Victim Services of Renfrew County
Kijicho Manito Madaouskarini Algonquin First Nation
Algonquin Arts Council
North Hastings Community Trust
North Hastings Children's Services and the Youth Advisory Board
Algonquin Inōdewiziwin Child and Family Centre
Community Corridor of Inclusion and Resilience project
North Hastings Community Integration Association
Hastings Highlands Public Library

Civic Partners

Township of Killaloe, Hagarty, and Richards
Bonnechere Valley Township
City of North Bay
City of Peterborough
Town of Carleton Place
Town of Mississippi Mills
Town of Bancroft
Town of Smiths Falls
Township of Madawaska Valley
Municipality of Hastings Highlands



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