



word band

WORDS IN ACTION

The concrete band of word pairings encircling the new Wilder Center captures the spirit of Wilder and celebrates the forward-thinking and inclusive vision that is the cornerstone of the Wilder Foundation’s purpose – to enrich the Saint Paul community and improve the lives of its people.

Drawing from the original text of the Wilder family wills, the articles of incorporation and mission statement, Wilder engaged artists to distill these important documents into twenty-six word pairs. Teri Kwant, a local visual artist, guided Wilder through this process. Teri, Wilder staff, and

American Artstone worked together to turn the word pairs into precast panels that read like a “ticker tape” traversing the building’s bends, starts, turns and stops. The word band invites the reader to explore the architecture and interpret the meaning of the word pairings in multiple ways through an alternating light/bold pattern.

By carving these purposefully selected words into stone, Wilder is making a commitment to perpetuate the virtues that were so important to the Wilder family over 100 years ago and that continue to drive the work of the Foundation.



meet needs

remember us

build strength

welcome friends

work together

provide service

share knowledge

practice compassion

press forward

create access

transform lives

inspire community

support families

value elders

nurture children

be creative

provide relief

seize opportunity

demonstrate stewardship

preserve tomorrow

benefit people

promote health

exercise reason

remain hopeful

advance equality

remove barriers