

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Artists launch, **LOST: The National Garden of American Zeros**, honoring extinct North American animals and insects in response to the president's garden of heroes;
a collaboration between artists Jay Critchley and Jim Youngerman

Friday, May 1, 2026 at The Commons in Provincetown, MA

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A proposal that honors extinct North American animals and insects, **LOST: The National Garden of American Zeros**, will be launched on Friday, May 1, 2026 in Provincetown, MA. The project is a collaboration between Provincetown-based artist Jay Critchley and artist Jim Youngerman from Stockbridge, Massachusetts. The opening is scheduled for 6:00 PM at The Commons, 46 Bradford Street, Provincetown, Massachusetts. The event is free and open to the public.

This proposal and the group exhibition curated by Karen Cappoto is a feature of the 2nd annual Outsiders Festival called “Missing Time” – “a collage show exploring what slips through the cracks of memory, history, and perception.”

The collaborators will conduct a ceremony at the opening to launch this national proposal.

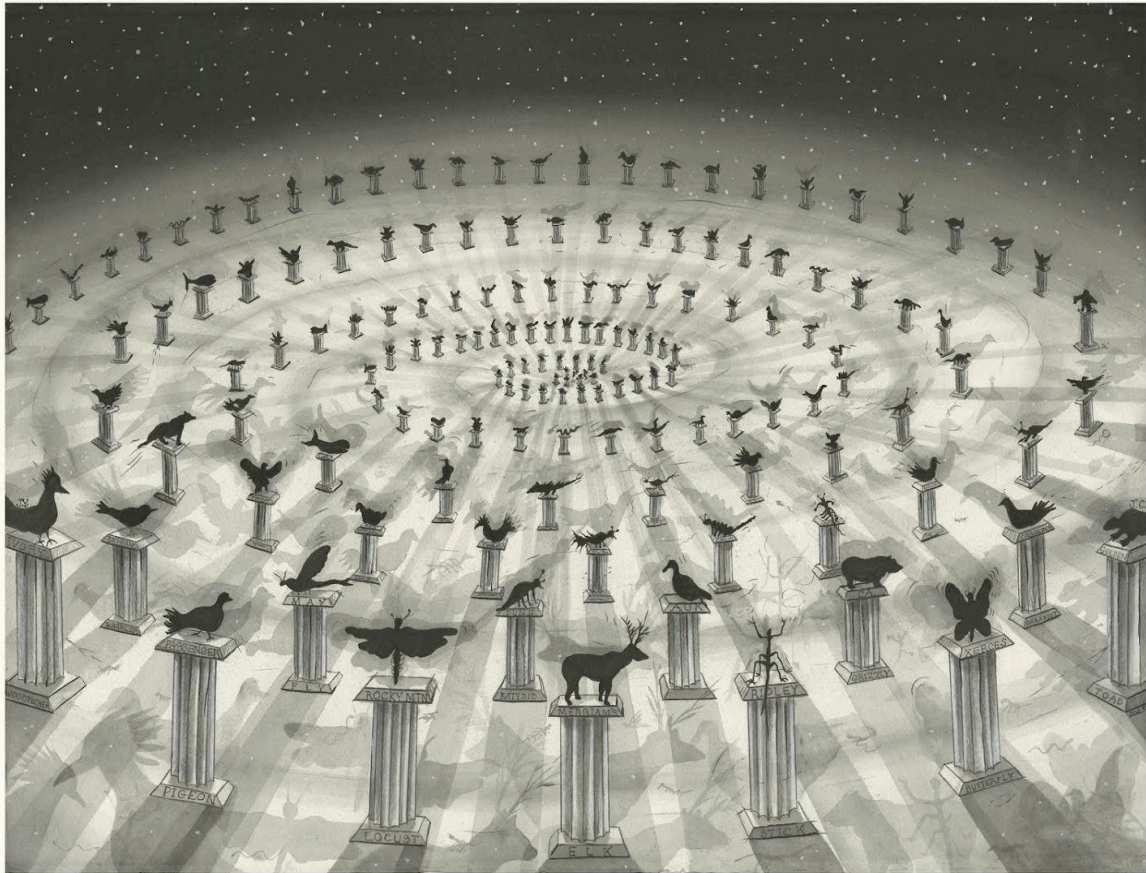
LOST: The National Garden of American Zeros commemorates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and in response to the president's project, The National Garden of American Heroes.

A limited edition of 25 archival prints will be available for purchase. A percentage of sales will be donated to activist environmental organizations.

For more information: jaycritchley.com

LOST: The National Garden of American Zeros was conceived by [Jay Critchley](#), and developed by Jay Critchley and [Jim Youngerman](#). The dramatic black and white spiraling design was conceived and painted by Jim Youngerman. It depicts the extinction of some of the creatures in North America over the past 400 years whose lives and habitats were extinguished by human activity. Insects and animals highlighted in the drawing include: the Ivory-billed woodpecker, the Passenger pigeon, Rocky Mountain locust, Miriam's elk, the Ridley stick, the Xerces butterfly, the Golden toad, Bachman's warbler, the May fly, the Dune Katydid, the Auk, the California grizzly, and the Carolina parakeet.

This alternate vision recognizes that the underlying ecological and civic foundation of our country comes from the land and our interdependence with all living and non-living things. The ever-increasing extinction rate of animals and insects destabilizes our future and the viability of life on this planet.



LOST : THE NATIONAL GARDEN OF AMERICAN ZEROS

HONORING THE EXTINCT INSECTS AND ANIMALS WHOSE LIVES AND HABITATS WERE EXTINGUISHED BY HUMAN ACTIVITY, THIS PROPOSAL OFFERS AN ALTERNATIVE VISION TO THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL GARDEN OF AMERICAN HEROES. THE IMAGE CREATED DEPICTS THE EXTINCTION OF SOME OF THE ANIMALS AND INSECTS IN NORTH AMERICA OVER THE PAST 400 YEARS. THIS ALTERNATIVE VISION RECOGNIZES THAT THE UNDERLYING ECONOMIC AND CIVIC FOUNDATION OF OUR COUNTRY COMES FROM THE LAND AND OUR INTERDEPENDENCE WITH ALL LIVING AND NON-LIVING THINGS. THE EVER-INCREASING EXTINCTION RATE OF ANIMALS AND INSECTS DESTABILIZES OUR FUTURE AND THE VIABILITY OF LIFE ON THIS PLANET.

IDEA CONCEIVED BY JAY CRITCHLEY-DEVELOPED BY JAY CRITCHLEY AND JIM YOUNGERMAN-IMAGE CONCEIVED AND PAINTED BY JIM YOUNGERMAN