Gathering of Planets & Galactic Skyline

Location: E. Michigan Rd. and State Rd. 44

Funded By: Gift VII Implementation Grant through <u>Lilly Endowment Inc</u>.

(supported by City of Shelbyville Government and INDOT)

Artist: Shane Shannon Shaneshannon.com

Shane Shannon is a 21-year-old resident of Edinburgh, Indiana. He was diagnosed with autism at the age of 2 and with the help of his family and many others he fought his way from being nonverbal to high-functioning.

He is from a family of artists – his great grandmother, grandmother, and father to name a few. At age 13 his parents decided to add art to his homeschool curriculum. His grandmother had a Bachelor of Arts from Franklin College so she become his art teacher. She started working with him on drawing, then moved to colored pencils. He tried watercolors and oils, but once he tried acrylics he was hooked due to the vivid colors.

Most of Shane's art is characterized not just by vivid colors, but also by fluid lines and movement. Each work's main elements are highlighted by round shapes. Shannon uses warm and cool colors to contrast elements from the background. Much of his paintings are inspired by the ocean and outer space which could be attributed to his many visits to aquariums and zoos as a child.