

Illume- to give light
A dynamic fusion of the social, digital and ecological.

An artist-led, multidisciplinary team took as the main inspiration the many meanings of "confluence" as a convergence and a fluid gathering of rivers and landscapes, people and culture, and forces and events.

The physical convergence of flowing water of the Guadalupe River and the Los Gatos Creek become a metaphor for different evolved narratives. The flow of beliefs and values forever shaping how we think, feel, and act – a story of human ability and endeavours to adapt and evolve.

A monumental Fibonacci sequence ribbon intertwined with reflective rings transforms the site as an instantly memorable and recognizable landmark when seen against the sky from the ground and from airplanes overhead.

On the one hand, the Fibonacci spiral geometry resonates with its many manifestations from DNA molecules to forms in nature to the galaxies. On the other hand, it echoes human aspiration and Genius Loci—the protective spirit of a place—in San Jose and the Silicon Valley. While timeless, the Fibonacci sequence of natural exponential growth captures the ethos of Silicon Valley and the transformative impact of the digital economy. The best way to predict the future is for humankind to invent it.

The top ribbon, expressed both in digital and in physical form, rises to a viewing platform of unparalleled panoramic views of the city and the surrounding mountains. In contrast, the lower ribbon--as a fully accessible native habitat garden in the sky--dramatically bridges the site as a metaphor for the need to respect and protect the ecological foundation of our planet's capacity to support life.

These two ribbons are intertwined with a composition of rings with immersive text displays that will transform ILLUME into an inexhaustible library of human endeavour: literature, art, poetry, philosophy, religion, science. The selection of quotes will be made by AI (artificial intelligence) in response to data analysis in real-time of the language patterns on social media across the communities of the Silicon Valley. As convergence of information and technology, this will enable inexhaustible connections across different cultures, exploring the subjective richness inherent to individual creativity as well as a much broader societal sense of social well-being, emotional experiences, and life satisfaction.

Integrating the artwork within an innovative 21st Century park, will provide a significant driver for creating a premium world class public space for contemplation, recreation, and activation.