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Immediate Release

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**WALKER ART CENTER SEEKS PROPOSALS FOR
ARTIST-DESIGNED MINI GOLF COURSE**

PROPOSALS FOR WALKER IN THE ROUGH DUE JANUARY 26

The Walker Art Center announces a **Call for Proposals** for **Walker in the Rough**, a 10-hole miniature golf course in the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden that will be open to the public in 2004 from Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend. The artist-designed course is a major component of Walker without Walls—a season of programming that will take place around town and in the Garden during the final construction phases of the Walker's expansion. Winning entries will be on display at the Walker's closing party on February 14.

Entrants must be Minnesota residents and may include artists, architects, engineers, landscape architects, furniture designers, etc. Submissions will be accepted from individual artists or teams. Collaborations are encouraged. Individuals or teams may submit more than one entry, but each entry requires a separate registration and submission. Winning entries will receive a \$2,000 stipend.

Proposals will be judged by a panel consisting of Richard Flood, Chief Curator, Walker Art Center; Julie Snow, Architect, Julie Snow Architects; Kinji Akagawa, artist; Bob Fine, President, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board; and the Walker Art Center Teen Arts Council. Proposals for nine holes will be selected. Target Corporation, sponsor for Walker in the Rough, will design the 10th hole.

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Submissions for each hole will be selected based upon the following criteria: concept, playability, safety, durability, and feasibility of implementation. Entrants will construct their own designs. Each hole is expected to withstand direct exposure to the elements and an enthusiastic, club-wielding public of all ages. Any materials, structures, or components deemed hazardous or too fragile will be rejected. Electricity will not be available. More details are included in the Guidelines & Specifications available by calling 612.375.7572 or visiting the Walker's Web site at www.walkerart.org/golf. There is a \$20 fee for each entry.

A Mini-History of Mini Golf

One of the few truly American art forms, mini golf has evolved from “fake” golf—literally a substitute sport for Scotsmen and Englishmen transplanted to countries lacking their rolling green hills—to a sport rivaling baseball in popularity. Held up as a savior of the American economy during the 1920s and 1930s, it threatened to replace movies as the nation's fifth-largest industry, only to then be relegated to the company of comic books and pool halls as perpetrators of the corruption of the country's morals. Today, miniature golf is enjoying a resurgence in popularity, spectacle, and scale.

Funding

Walker without Walls is made possible by generous support from Target Corporation.

Walker information/box office: 612.375.7622.

**The Walker Art Center is located at 725 Vineland Place,
at Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, one block off Highway I-94.
For public information, call 612.375.7622.
Gallery hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 10 am–5 pm;
Thursday, 10 am–9 pm; Sunday, 11 am–5 pm; closed Monday.
(Free First Saturdays are made possible by Coldwell Banker Burnet.)**