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## Md. Scientist Turned Artist Leaves Mark

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#### By BETH PARKER/myfoxdc

CHEVY CHASE, Md. - A scientist turned artist in Chevy Chase, Maryland is hard at work in the studio behind his home. He is a sculptor who is creating pieces you might have seen, and he hopes the next time you see his art, you'll stop, look and think

When Barton Rubenstein was a kid, he and his dad used to build giant snow sculptures on the front lawn of their Northwest D.C. home. From cold to hot, years later, he's a sculptor again.

This time his medium is metal, but some things have not changed. He still wants to work with his hands and loves to figure things out. His dad still tells the stories.

"When he always did projects, he always would say, 'All I can see is hair,' because inevitably I would put my little head right in front of his line of sight where he was working because I always wanted to see what he was doing exactly," says



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Rubenstein.

Now it's his son, Ari, who is right there. So it's fitting that one of his sculptures is I'dor v'dor. Translated from Hebrew, that means "from generation to generation."

Rubenstein has a PhD and a background in engineering. That helps when he builds a model of each sculpture. He grinds 5. down the stainless steel to create a brushed look. He uses heat and chemicals to change the look of bronze.

Since many of his sculptures are in public places, he gets feedback-- sometimes from people he doesn't even know.

"Makes it one level nicer when I go home—I get to go by that and enjoy that. I get those types of emails from people from time to time." said Rubenstein.

One of his sculptures is at the D.C.-Silver Spring line at Somerset Elementary School in Chevy Chase. Whatever the location, Rubenstein hopes his work begins a dialogue.

"I like there to be complexity that's not originally exposed to the viewer so that when you come by it the second and third time, you have new experiences," he said.

Rubenstein says his parents taught him to leave things a bit better than he found them. He hopes his work is doing just that.

TO SEE MORE OF RUBENSTEIN'S WORK, CLICK HERE FOR A LINK TO HIS WEBSITE.

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