

# JANE STANFORD:

Celebrating 200yrs

1828 - 2028

## ART PROPOSAL

### Richard Becker

Stanford MS, Class of 1988  
Fellow, National Sculpture Society



Working Title: *DUE TO JANE* (portrait of young Jane Stanford)

Patinated bronze, polished stainless steel and granite

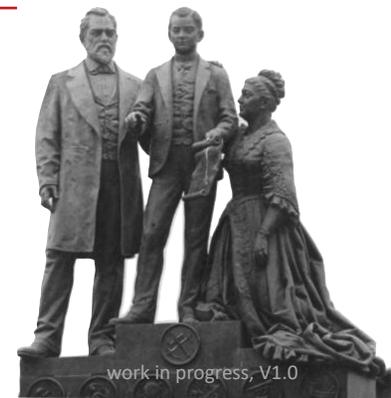
STANFORD

### Concept A

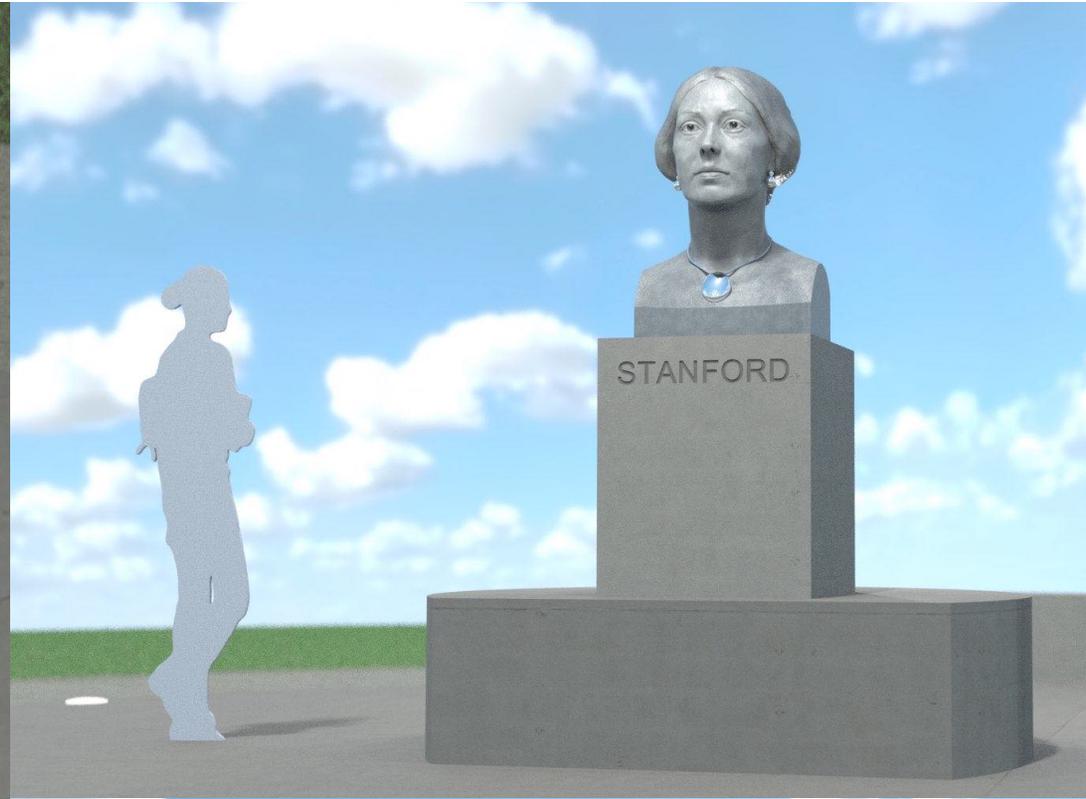
An elevated bronze and stainless steel portrait of a college-age Jane Stanford, intent and forward-looking. Portrayed without the trappings of her era, the sculpture connects her legacy directly to the students she empowers and the future she envisioned. Monumental yet intimate, the work is envisioned as a spatial anchor, supporting a welcoming environment. Her locket, once a mourning cameo, now reflects the world she shaped and the lives she continues to influence.

### Why Now

Jane Stanford's contributions are foundational to Stanford University's global impact, yet her presence remains understated. The only campus sculpture she commissioned depicts her beneath her husband and son. As we approach the bicentennial of her birth in 2028, this new artwork offers a timely opportunity to honor her personal legacy—ensuring her influence is recognized for generations to come.



work in progress, v1.0



## Due to Jane

We owe a profound debt to Jane Stanford. Stanford University would not exist without her—not merely as co-founder, but as steward, architect, and moral compass. She ensured its survival and shaped its values. This space honors her not just as a grieving mother and partner, but as one of history’s great philanthropists, leaders, and institutional visionaries.

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## Artist

Richard Becker, FNSS

MS '88 (Engineering Management)

Fellow, National Sculpture Society

Richard Becker specializes in legacy-driven public art and institutional storytelling. He brings artistic mastery, project management expertise, and alumni perspective to this tribute.



***Due to Jane (portrait of young Jane Stanford)***

Richard Becker, MS '88, FNSS  
Bronze, Stainless Steel and granite

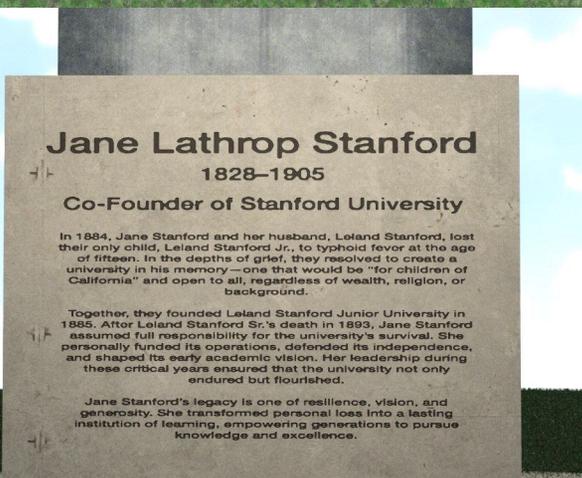


Jane Lathrop Stanford  
1828–1905  
Co-Founder of Stanford University

In 1884, Jane and Leland Stanford lost their only child, Leland Jr., to typhoid fever at age fifteen. In their grief, they resolved to create a university in his memory—one that would be “for the children of California,” open to all regardless of wealth, religion, or background.

After Leland Sr.’s death in 1893, Jane Stanford assumed full responsibility for the university’s survival. She personally funded its operations, defended its independence, and shaped its academic vision. Her leadership ensured the university not only endured, but flourished.

Jane Stanford’s legacy is one of resilience, vision, and generosity. She transformed personal loss into a lasting institution of learning, empowering generations to pursue knowledge and excellence.



### Jane Lathrop Stanford

1828–1905

#### Co-Founder of Stanford University

In 1884, Jane Stanford and her husband, Leland Stanford, lost their only child, Leland Stanford Jr., to typhoid fever at the age of fifteen. In the depths of grief, they resolved to create a university in his memory—one that would be “for children of California” and open to all, regardless of wealth, religion, or background.

Together, they founded Leland Stanford Junior University in 1885. After Leland Stanford Sr.’s death in 1893, Jane Stanford assumed full responsibility for the university’s survival. She personally funded its operations, defended its independence, and shaped its early academic vision. Her leadership during these critical years ensured that the university not only endured but flourished.

Jane Stanford’s legacy is one of resilience, vision, and generosity. She transformed personal loss into a lasting institution of learning, empowering generations to pursue knowledge and excellence.