

Stop Being Selfish, Shortsighted & Stupid



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Thrive!

Nelson, WI

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Dedication

*People who stop being selfish,
shortsighted and stupid.*

*People who help prevent early
extinction of humans and all other
creatures and help prevent great
damage to Earth.*

*People who help build, achieve,
and sustain a thriving future for
all forever.*

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Author/Sculptor's Note

Throughout this thought piece, sculptures are used to reinforce key points. Thrive! sculptures are created by the author /sculptor as “GChris Sculpture”. Many are created to support the Thrive! effort to build a thriving future.

Sculptures can be viewed at GChris.com or at the Thrive! Center (Nelson, WI). Chris’ sculpture book - **Thrive! Sculpture & Thought** – is available via Amazon.com or as free download via GChris.com.

Sculptures can be acquired via GChris.com or at the Thrive! Center. All payments received for these sculptures go directly to support the Thrive! Scholarship Fund at the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Chris

Thrive! Sculpture & Thought
Sculptural Vision of a Thriving Future for All



The Thrive! Endeavor GChris

Thought - Join with the Thrive! Endeavor® and together help create and empower a vast, sustained human endeavor building and sustaining thriving and surviving future for all forever.

Sculpture – The Thrive! Endeavor, 3' x 3', metal mobile

Gary “Chris” Christopherson
Founder, Thrive! And Thrive! Endeavor®
Sculptor, GChris Sculpture

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Thrive!® Sculpture & Thought
Sculptural Vision of a Thriving Future for All

Thrive!® Sculpture & Thought by GChris is mission-driven and supports building a surviving and thriving future for all forever. It supports *Thrive!* (ThriveFuture.org), *Thrivism* (Thrivism.world) and the Thrive! Endeavor (ThriveEndeavor.org) to create and empower a vast, sustained human endeavor building and sustaining a thriving and surviving future for all forever.

Throughout this book, you will find thoughts and sculpture that challenge you to think about the future and help build, achieve and sustain a thriving future for all forever. For more, go to *Thought & Sculpture Blogs* [@ ThriveSculpture.org](http://ThriveSculpture.org) and ThriveSculpture.com



Thrive! Thought
“Thrive! - All Thrive Forever” is the boldest of bold visions for our future. It is future we all want and need. It is future we can achieve. It is thriving future for you and your family and friends. For you and your community. For you and your country. For our world.

Thrive! Sculpture
“Thrive!” sculptures symbolize the desire to thrive that is a natural force that drives human behavior. We, including our family and friends, our communities and our world aspire to thrive now and for the near and long term future. The call to artists and people generally is to embrace both art and advocacy, use their synergy, and advance toward a thriving future for all forever.

Author's Note

We all must stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid if we want a surviving and thriving future for all. If we want to avoid early extinction for humans and other creatures and greater damage to Earth.

After more than a decade analyzing human history and behavior, these are the author's conclusions. The current human path is to early extinction for humans and other creatures and greater damage to Earth. But the thriving path still exists, barely, to build a thriving future for all if and only if we act now.

We have a choice to make. Wise choice is a surviving and thriving future for all. **Thrive!** is a way to change our behavior and change our future to a much better surviving and thriving future. **Thrive!** is all of us together, a vast human endeavor, building a thriving future for all.

ThriveEndeavor.org

Chris



1. Stop Being Selfish, Shortsighted, and Stupid.

A Not Too Distant Future

To set the tone for this thought piece, let me take you to a not too distant future. When humans will suffer early extinction.

Imagine you are one who is at edge of extinction. About to die.

Many other creatures have also been lost to early extinction. Look to see whatever is left of these other creatures. Too few. Far too few. They suffer early extinction that is not their fault.

Earth has been greatly damaged. The air has carbon dioxide way beyond what is breathable. The water is polluted beyond being drinkable. The oceans and seas have risen to almost biblical levels. Most land is unusable and uninhabitable. Earth has undergone great damage that is not its fault.

Almost all humans are dead. The small number of humans still alive are dying. Imagine you are one who is almost dead. Look around one last time to see who is left. Mostly the non-rich died first. A small number of them lasted a bit longer. The remaining rich are about to die. Very soon, all humans will be dead. Extinct.

Look one final time as human life ends. Mourn. Be frustrated. Angrily ask. Why did this happen?

Fault does not lie with non-human creatures. Fault does not lie with Earth. No, fault only lies with humans and only humans. It was our fault. Our failure.

The final sound of the death rattle. The final angry scream back to humans when they should and could have saved our world.

“Stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.”



Xtinct - universal justice

2' x 3' metal mobile

Human's failure risk early extinction for humans, all other creatures and Earth.

In Chris' illustrated science fiction book - "Xtinct - Universal Justice for Earth, The Decider and Xtinct must apply universal justice to save Earth by deciding whether or not early human extinction.

A view of our future. Our future on our current disastrous path. A disastrous future that could have been and can still be avoided. If we have the will. The will we do not yet have. The will we may never have.

I start this thought piece with a direct and unequivocal challenge to all humans who are being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid. *

Be honest with ourselves. Every one of us, to some greater or lesser degree, is selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

The direct and unequivocal challenge? Simple. Stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid!

Stop! Just stop!

We are destroying our and our children's' future. Driving many other creatures to extinction. Damaging Earth more and more every day.

If we do not stop, our future is early extinction for humans and many other creatures. Our future is even greater damage to Earth, our only home.

Think carefully. Choose wisely. Choose as if our whole future is at stake.

This challenge is to all humans.

Stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid. Instead, build and achieve a thriving future for all humans, other creatures, and Earth.

* By "stupid", I mean being "silly or unwise; showing poor judgment or little intelligence:" (Cambridge Dictionary). I mean being "given to unintelligent decisions or acts: acting in an unintelligent or careless manner" (Merriam-Webster Dictionary). It is not your natural intelligence. It is how you choose to think and behave. It is your choice for your own life and for everything else.



sustain

3' x 3' metal mobile

Sustain or not sustain Earth and all its creatures is the question. We should sustain Earth throughout the future by strengthening and supporting it. But, so far, Earth has sustained severe damage that humans have inflicted upon it.

We must do much better. Earth and all its creatures must be sustained. Earth and all its creatures should survive and thrive. All Thrive Forever!



2. We are vulnerable.

We feel vulnerable. We are vulnerable!

Yes, you are vulnerable! So are your family and friends! Your community! Our world! Our whole future!

What does it mean to be vulnerable?

Vulnerable is when you, families and friends, communities, countries, and/or world are performing poorly or badly, being poor (financially), being poorly nourished, being poorly housed, being poorly protected (exposures, crime), being poorly educated, being physically or mentally ill (people), growing and developing poorly or badly, not doing well “physically” (Earth, other creatures, environment), living within poor or bad habitat, being excessively vulnerable, living in an unstable, destructive climate, and not being sustained.

This is what it is like to be vulnerable. Any of us may be experiencing some or all of these vulnerabilities.

We and people we care about are all vulnerable. Some to greater extent; some to lesser extent. Some today; some in the future. Some think they are invulnerable. No one is invulnerable.

Walking the streets and roads, we see vulnerability in our faces and hear it in our voices. The vulnerability specter hangs over us every day.

We will be even more vulnerable in our future because of our own behavior.

We will be even more vulnerable in our future unless we fix what is broken and build a surviving and thriving future.

We need to minimize vulnerability by stopping forces that push us down to be more vulnerable. By supporting support forces that lift us out of vulnerability and toward thriving.

By these actions, we may yet achieve a less vulnerable world.

Yes, there still is a vision of a less vulnerable world. A world where and when we may all thrive.



vision of a less vulnerable world

4' x 3' metal mobile

Through the mind's eye, we see the forces attacking and the plight of the vulnerable, but we also see the hope for and path to a less vulnerable world. Challenges us to create and bring about a vision of a far less vulnerable world.



3. We are greatly damaging ourselves, other creatures, and Earth.

Tragically and unnecessarily, we are on the path to early extinction for humans and many other creatures. Path to great damage to Earth, our only home.

Our story, the story of humans on Earth, is the story of terrible failure. Our failure to survive. Our failure to thrive. Our failure to protect other creatures. Our failure to protect Earth, our only home.

Human failures. Failures by our own actions. Failures through no fault but our own.

You do not think so? You are so wrong. So very, very wrong.

You do not want to think it is so? Unfortunately, you are fooling yourself. As a result, you harm yourself. You harm the rest of the world now and into the future.

If you do not think so or do not want to think it is so, stop and think about our current path. Our current future. Stop and look around you. What do you see? Listen. What do you hear?

Too many people. Too much vulnerability. Too much poverty. Too much poor health. Too little good housing. Too much hunger. Too little good education. Too many people not developing well. Too much racial/ethnic and sex discrimination. Too much pollution in land, air, and water. Too little food producing land remains. Too much natural habitat lost. Too much opportunity for pandemic viruses and bacteria.

Too many carbon absorbing mechanisms being lost. Too much of Earth's ice melting. Too much unstable, destructive climate. Too many and more severe storms. Too many species going extinct. Too much overuse of irreplaceable or limited national resources. Too much of Earth not sustainable. Too early extinction likely for humans and many other species. Too much damage to Earth (only planet that humans may and should have).

This is bad. Disastrously bad.

Our current path is a bad path. A very, very bad path. Our current future ends badly. Very, very badly.

We face an existential threat.



existential threat

3' x 3' metal mobile

Existential threats to Earth and all its inhabitants are posed by creatures as diverse as humans and as viruses and bacteria. COVID-19 is just one of them. Each of these is a major but not unsurmountable challenge to the future of Earth and all its inhabitants.

Our choice, the humans' choice, is to cause an endangered future (our current path) or ensure a thriving future for all (much better path).

Global Human Pandemic

To get one current view of our bad path, think about what happened globally in 1918 and again starting in 2019.

As we did with Spanish Flu in 1918, we have again suffered through another human pandemic, COVID-19. Causing great illness and millions of deaths globally.

We suffered millions of unnecessary deaths by our failure to prepare for and protect against the virus. We suffered untold amounts of severe illness by our failure. We suffered untold amounts of social and economic cost by our failure.

As bad as COVID-19 and all its variants have been, this is not even the worst pandemic that humans could face. There are even worse pandemics that humans may face in the future. Worse ones that we may help bring about through our interactions with other animals and other parts of Earth that may harbor deadly viruses.

Now and into the future, we face the major threat of human pandemics.

We still may face a virus that will be an existential threat to humans.



4. Our current future is early extinction for humans and other creatures and great damage to Earth.

We are in trouble. Deep, deep trouble.

We are poised on razor's edge. Amidst destruction caused by humans, we are engaged in struggle for future of humans, many other creatures, and Earth and beyond.

At this moment, the odds are that we will experience early extinction rather than a thriving future. Incredibly sad. Incredibly tragic. Incredibly unnecessary.

Though we sit on this razor's edge, we can and must save ourselves, many other creatures, and Earth via building a thriving future for all forever.

But that will be extremely hard. Harder than anything we have ever done in human history.



on razor's edge

3' x 3' metal mobile

We are poised on razor's edge. Amidst destruction caused by humans, we are engaged in struggle for future of humans, many other creatures, and Earth and universe. Sitting on a razor's edge, we must and can save ourselves, many other creatures, and Earth and universe via building a thriving future for all forever.

But, if we do not, our end, early extinction, will come far, far too soon! And we will extinct many other creatures. And cause even greater damage to Earth.



early extinction

3' x 3' metal mobile

Our current path is to early extinction. Not a thriving path to a thriving future. Early extinction for humans and many other creatures. Great damage to Earth.

We are still able to avoid early extinction and achieve thriving future. If we have the will.

Sadly, we even pose a threat to the rest of the universe. Not only are we destroying our planet, but we are reaching out to touch, not in a positive way, other planets in our solar system. Maybe touch even more and more distant planets in the far future.

It is not a question of whether or not we are headed to early extinction. The only questions. How fast? How exactly it will come about? Who and what will go first? And what, if anything, will be left and in what way will it still exist?

Tragically and unnecessarily, the end is coming far, far too soon.

Our future is endangered. Early extinction is coming. Almost certainly will happen on our current path and even on the best of our past paths.

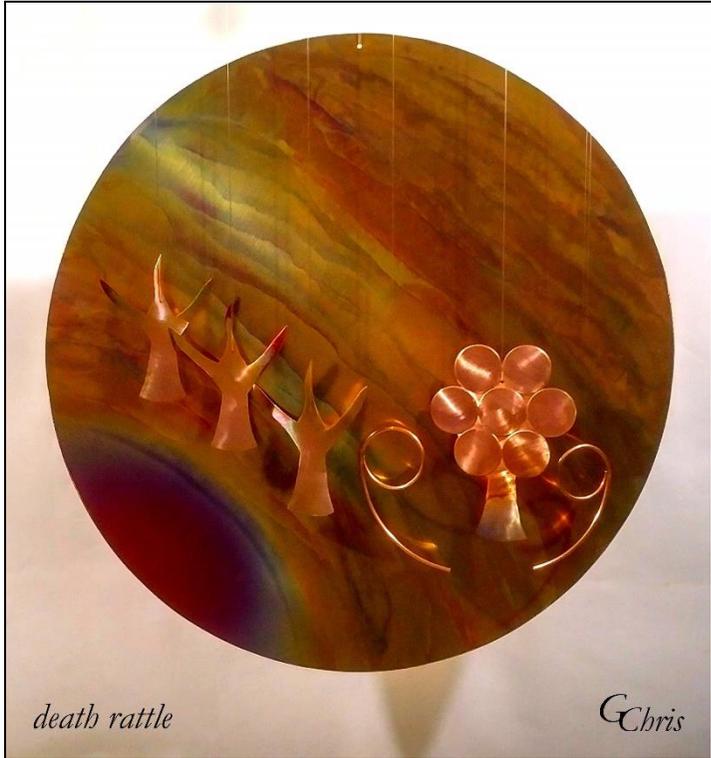
Again, not a question of if. Unless we change our behavior as we have never done before.

Some question as to when. In recent years and on our current path, we have been on a much faster path to early extinction. Using the best path of past years, we could be on a slower path, maybe a much slower path, to early extinction. But we must do even better.

A quantum positive change in path, like **Thrive!**, could change the path and change the future. Could put us on thriving future path and change the future to a thriving future. Get us to a thriving future rather than early extinction.

Warning! We are almost out of time. Already, if we listen carefully, we can hear “death rattle”. “Death rattle” of humans. “Death rattle” of many other creatures. And maybe even “death rattle” of Earth as we know it.

Warning! The foreboding death rattle is first heard, becomes more pronounced and then is gone. Silence. Silence means death. Possibly death in the form of early extinction of oxygen-breathing creatures, including the human species.



death rattle

2' x 2' metal mobile

As earth loses more and more of its vital oxygen, earth's oxygen-breathing creatures slowly suffocate.

The death of the oxygen-producing trees. one living tree remains as last hope or final reminder.

The foreboding death rattle is first heard, becomes more pronounced and then is gone. silence. death. early extinction of oxygen-breathing creatures, including the human species.

Are we humans to blame for the threat of early extinction? Clearly, we are. Clearly, only we humans are. Earth's other creatures are not to blame. Earth is not to blame.

Humans' failed behavior is what has created the risk of early extinction for humans and many other creatures. The risk of a severely damaged and maybe uninhabitable Earth.

We will be judged harshly for that failure. We should be judged harshly for that failure.

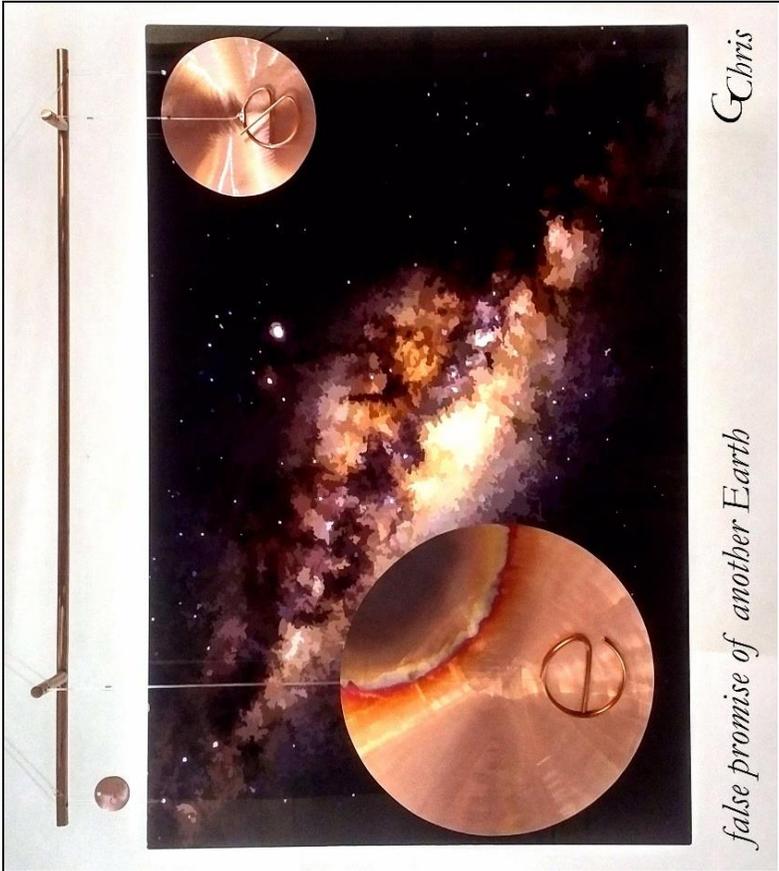
Now some humans suggest that our future lies elsewhere. Lies on another planet in or outside our solar system. They even suggest that we can and will figure out how to get there and how to live there.

Some humans are spending vast amounts of money to develop and fund space travel. Money better spent here on Earth. Space travel, they argue, will give us another "Earth" after we effectively make this Earth uninhabitable.

That is a false promise. The false promise of another "Earth".

For many reasons, there should not and cannot be another "Earth". No other planet is close enough. Only select few humans would make it even if there was another "Earth". Not enough time to create ships, many ships, capable of moving mass numbers of people across vast expanses of space.

And, if another planet is habitable for species like us, other intelligent species may already have that planet as their own home planet. They would not like us trying to inhabit their planet after making our own planet uninhabitable. Just like we would not like a species from another world coming here to make Earth its new home after making their own planet uninhabitable.



Chris

false promise of another Earth

false promise of another Earth

3' x 2' metal mobile with abstract background

Care for the Earth we have as it is a false promise that there can be another Earth. No other planet close enough. Only select few would make it even if there was one. Not enough time to create ship capable of moving mass numbers of people. But most importantly, the human species doesn't deserve another Earth after destroying our Earth.

Instead embrace, nurture and preserve our Earth we have. Thriving future, but only on our Earth.

On our current path to early “extincting” Earth, humans have no right to another planet. No right to another world. No right to another “Earth”. The human species does not deserve another Earth after destroying our Earth.



not another "earth"

3' x 3' metal and wood mobile

On our current path to early “extincting” Earth, humans have no right to another planet. No right to another “Earth”.

Our arrogance, selfishness and shortsightedness must end. Our responsibility must be as good stewards of our Earth.

Embrace and nurture the Earth we have.

As bad as our situation is, not all hope is lost. Again, there is still some reason for hope.

But false hope is worse than no hope. False hope encourages one to change nothing for the better. True hope, to whatever extent it is, is what we can and must act on and use to change the current future for a better future.

Hope of a less vulnerable world, not suffering early extinction, and achieving a thriving future remains. But that hope is waning quickly.

Our chance of avoiding an endangered future and achieving a thriving future is very small already. Grows smaller and smaller every day.

That hope grows fainter every moment we delay changing our behavior and changing our future. And, tragically, we continue to deny and delay.



5. Our only hope is to avoid early extinction for humans and other creatures and avoid greater damage to Earth.

Can we avoid this disastrous future? Unlikely at best.

But yes, we have a very slim chance of avoiding this disastrous future. A very, very slim chance. Yes, we can. But time is running out.

Yes, we have the ability of avoiding this disastrous future. We are the most able in human history.

Lack of will is our greatest obstacle. Our greatest enemy. To make the massive changes needed to avoid this disastrous future, we all must change our behavior in ways we never have. In ways we have, so far, been unwilling to do.

Whatever positive changes in human behavior we are making currently are far, far from enough. And, tragically, we continue to not make enough positive change.



Shepherd - universal justice

2' x 3' metal mobile

Unless humans change their behavior immediately, humans' failure risks early extinction for humans, other creatures and Earth.

Shepherd is a key character in Chris' science fiction book - "Xtinct - Universal Justice for Earth," When humans face early extinction due to their own failures, Shepherd partners with humans to prevent early extinction and achieve a thriving future.

Hope yes. But less and less each day.



Unless we change. And I mean really, really change. Bigger positive changes than all the negative changes we made in the past.

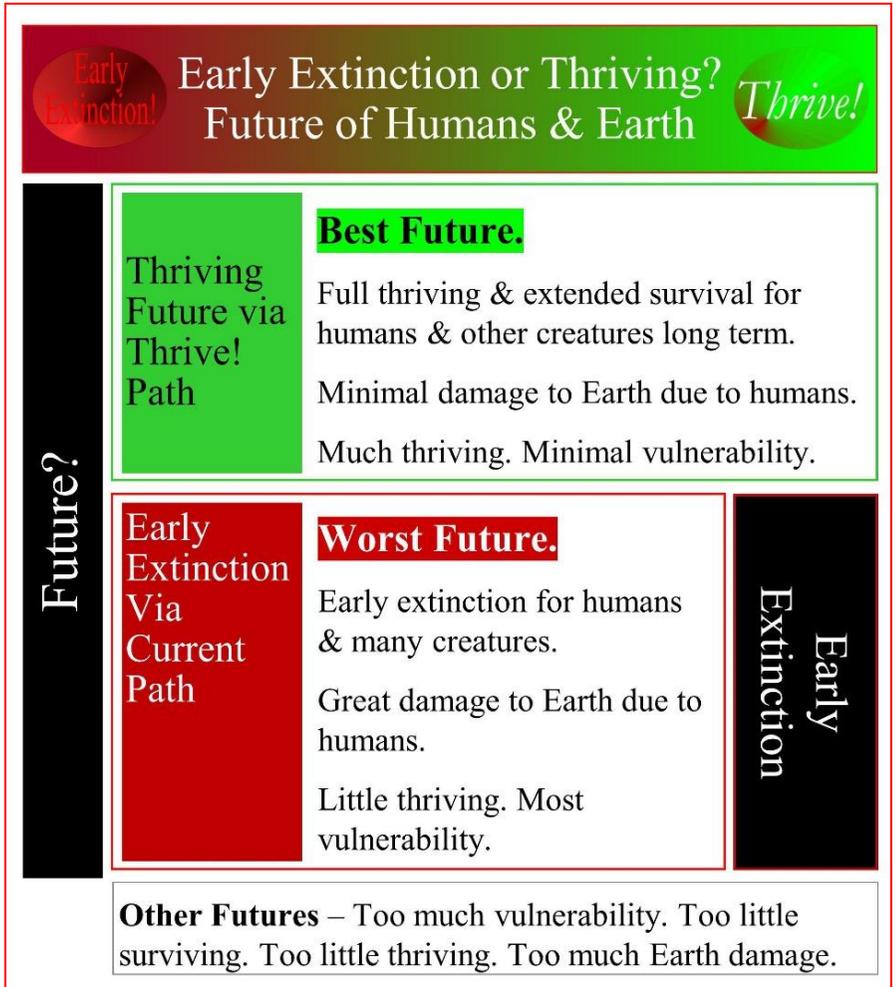
Unless we get ourselves on the path to, acquire a belief in, and embrace a vision of thriving future for all, we are doomed.

Thrive! (aka **Thrivism**) provides this hopeful path. This inspiring vision. This positive belief system. Helps us achieve this positive way of life.

More than ever before in our history, our and Earth's current vulnerable future is bad. High vulnerability. Survival too little & ends too soon. Low thriving.

But a surviving future is not good enough. High vulnerability. Survival extended but ends too soon. Low thriving.

Thriving future is best. Vulnerability minimized. Survival extended as long as habitable Earth. Full thriving for long term and all people, other creatures, and Earth.



So how should and can we get off this current bad future path? Get on the better, thriving future path, the path to a thriving future where all thrive forever?

Simply by our stopping being selfish. Stopping being shortsighted. Stopping being stupid. Really stupid.

That is it. That is all it will take.

Stop being such an undeserving species. Such a disappointing and undeserving species.



the undeserving species

3' x 3' metal mobile

Humans, the undeserving species so selfish and shortsighted, deserve not Earth or any world.

The undeserving species. The disappointing species. As a species, we humans have proven ourselves undeserving of Earth or any other world. The future portends our continuing to be undeserving until we extinct Earth and all its creatures. Unless we change and build and sustain a thriving future.



6. Our only hope is to build and achieve a surviving and thriving future for all.

What if we stopped being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid? What is the best we could hope for? A thriving future for all?

How could we achieve this thriving future for all?

Immediately, all of us together build thriving future for our families and friends, communities, countries and world. A vast human endeavor.

Immediately, each and all of us separately and together stop negative actions and take only positive actions.

Immediately, start with who and what you care about and move from vulnerable to surviving to thriving.

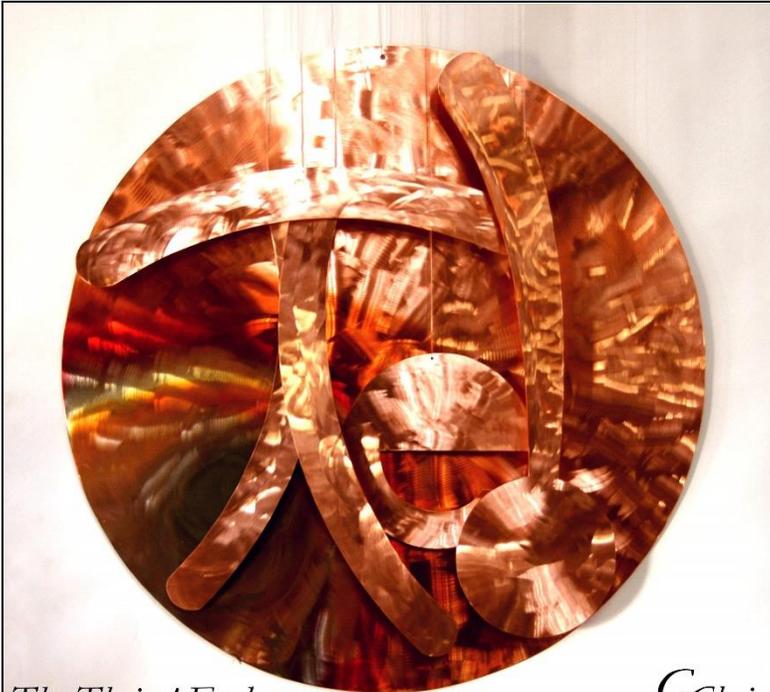
Immediately stop being selfish, shortsighted and stupid.

Join together as a community.

Now, at this critical moment in human and Earth history. Now, at this critical moment when we humans are most capable. Now, at this critical moment when humans, other creatures and Earth are most endangered. Together, we must act more positively than we have ever done before.

Together, we must create and empower a vast, sustained human endeavor building and sustaining thriving and surviving future for all forever. * [Thrive! Endeavor ThriveEndeavor.org]

* Immediately, we successfully develop and use strategy and tools to successfully build and execute strategies and actions to build thriving future. [like in **People's Guide To A Thriving Future**]
ThriveEndeavor.org



The Thrive! Endeavor

GChris

The Thrive! Endeavor

3' x 3' Metal Mobile

Join with the Thrive! Endeavor® and together help create and empower a vast, sustained human endeavor building and sustaining thriving and surviving future for all forever.

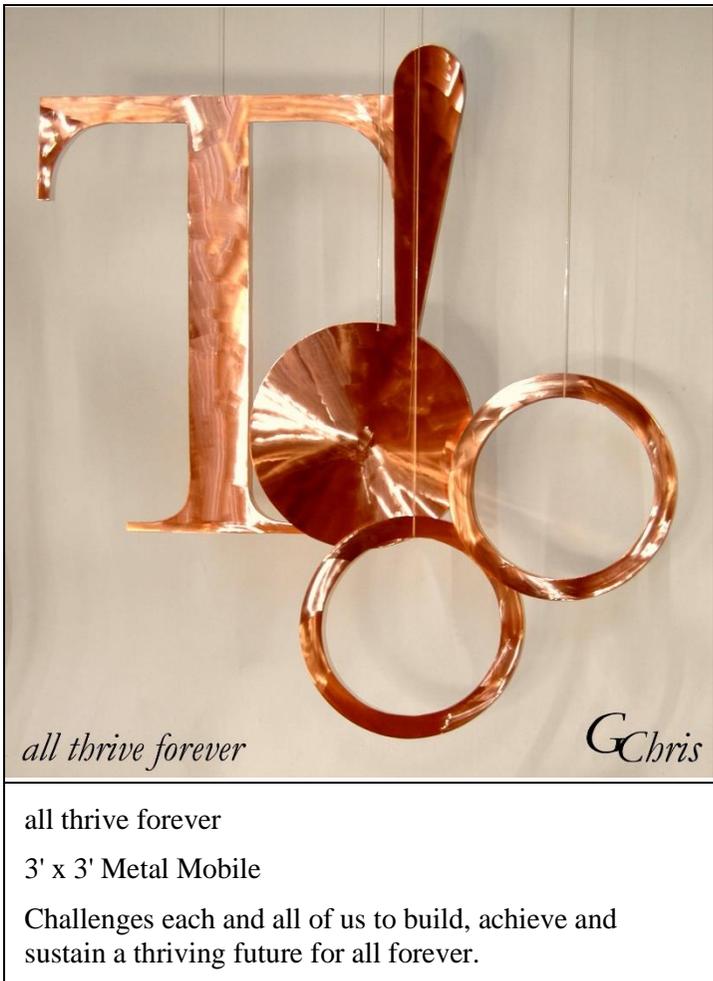
Join together and stop being selfish.

Build for the long-term future and stop being shortsighted.

Be very, very wise and stop being stupid.

This and only this will get us off the current bad path and on the thriving future path. To a thriving future for all humans, all other creatures, and Earth.

But can we still achieve a thriving future for all forever?



Yes, if we believe we can and act accordingly.

We can if we act now. It is still our choice to make. But time has almost run out.

We can if we use our full ability. We have the ability as we are most able in all human history.

We can if we care enough about self, everyone else, everything else and Earth. We must stop selfishness.

As a species, we humans have proven ourselves undeserving of Earth or any other world. The future portends our continuing to be undeserving until we extinct Earth and many of its creatures.

Again, unless we stop being undeserving. Unless we stop being so disappointing. Unless we positively change. Really, really big time positively change. Only then, we may have a thriving future.

We can if we care enough about both near- and long-term future. We must stop shortsightedness.

To achieve a thriving future, the time has come to be very bold.

Thriving path is what we need and should want. A quantum positive change in path, like **Thrive!**, could put us on thriving future path.

Change the future to a thriving future. Get us on a thriving path to a thriving future that avoids avoid early extinction and greater damage to Earth.



Thrivism - path to thriving future

3' x 3' metal mobile

Thrivism (Thrive!) is the path to, belief in, and vision of thriving future for all – all thrive forever. It is hopeful path. Inspiring vision. Positive belief system. Positive way of life. Thrivism. Thrivism.world

Note: sculpture's path is abstraction of Mt. Everest's path.



7. Our achieving a thriving future will finally give us our best future.

So, what would it be like? What would this thriving future be like? Why should we want it?

What would it be like? This thriving future is so, so much better for all now and for the future. So much better.

For you and your family and friends, this thriving future is a better life now and for the near- and long-term future for all of you and for future generations. For you and your community, this future is a better life now and for the near- and long-term future for the whole community and for all the community's people. For you and your country, this future is a better life now and for the near- and long-term future for the whole country and for all the country's people.

For our world, this future is a better life now and for the near- and long-term future for the whole world (all the world's people, all other creatures, and our home Earth itself).

For you and all that you and we care about, it is a much, much better life and future with less vulnerability, with surviving, and with sustained thriving.

It is critical that we all believe that we want and can achieve this thriving future.



believe

3' x 3' metal mobile

Believe in and act to achieve thriving future for all. failing to do so will result in early extinction for humans and many other creatures and great damage to Earth.

Truly this is so much better in so many ways.

If and when we achieve this future, you, families and friends, communities, countries and the world will be performing well, well-off (financially), well nourished, well housed, well protected (exposures, crime), well educated, physically and mentally well (people), growing/developing well, living within good habitat, physically well (Earth, plants, animals, environment), not vulnerable, producing personal and public goods, living within a stable, positive climate, and sustained.

We will all be well! All well for the near- and long-term future.

For that, we should want to embrace that thriving future when and where all thrive forever.

A thriving future is very different and much better than anything tried or achieved in human history.

It is a thriving future. Not just getting by or achieving just a surviving future. A surviving future is necessary but not sufficient.

It is a thriving future for all people. Not just for some people.

It is a thriving future for all future generations, a "50+ generation" strategy. Not just for the current and next generation.

It is a thriving future pretty much forever, a 1000+ year strategy. Not just for tomorrow or even just 100 years.

It is a thriving future for other creatures. Not just for the human species.

It is a thriving future for Earth on which we live and depend.

This thriving future is a better life now and pretty much forever.

This thriving future gives us the chance to become whole again. For humans, other creatures and Earth to become whole for the first time in human history.

one becoming whole

GChris



one becoming whole

5' x 5' wood and metal stabile

Celebrates the ascendancy of one's self, interacting and growing with the universe, becoming a whole (being).

For you and your family, your communities, and our world, this thriving future is a better life now and pretty much forever. We need this future because we humans need to survive and want to thrive. It is inherent in our species and in who and what we are as humans. The “want to thrive” is pretty much unique in our species and to who and what we are as humans.

Given that we humans need to survive and want to thrive pretty much forever, the choice should be a surviving and thriving future. Should be an easy choice. Right!

Sadly, this is not our current choice. If we want this thriving future, we must change as we have never changed before. We must.

So, let us make the thriving future our choice and make sure we change and behave accordingly.

What is **Thrive!**? **Thrive!** is building, achieving and sustaining a thriving and surviving future forever for all (humans, other creatures and Earth). All thrive forever.

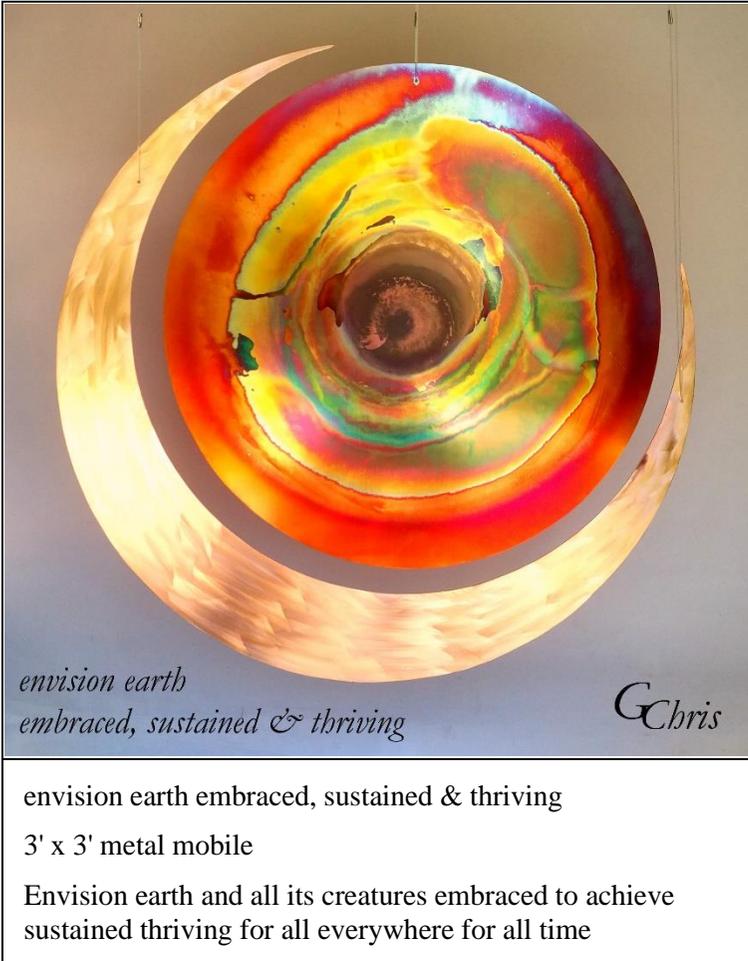
Why **Thrive!**?

Again, unique among Earth’s species, humans need to survive and want to thrive both near and long term.

Thrive! is avoiding our current endangered future. An endangered future of not thriving. Not surviving. High vulnerability. Early extinction of humans and other creatures. Even greater damage to Earth.

Thrive! is achieving a thriving future. Thrive. Survive. Low vulnerability. Avoiding early extinction of humans and other creatures. Avoiding even greater damage to Earth.

Just envision earth and all its creatures embraced by us to achieve sustained thriving for all everywhere for all time.



So, what should and can we do next to build our thriving future?

Think back historically to how we used to meet big challenges and did big, positive things for our communities. When we were at our very best as a species.

We met big challenges and did big, positive things by not being selfish or shortsighted or stupid. Together we “raised” our community and world so that we would survive and thrive.

Our achieving a thriving future will finally give us the future representing the best of human abilities and aspirations.



heroes - community raising

GChris

community raising

3' x 3' metal mobile

Community raising - being neither selfish or shortsighted, together we “raise” our community and our world and together we survive and thrive.

This harkens back to the days when the community would come together for “barn raising” or “community raising - jointly building and sustaining a community”.

Here the community together is “raising” its community and world.



8. Our urgent and immediate choice. Wise choice is thriving future for all.

Our Future. Our Choice.

We should choose wisely. Very wisely. Much more wisely than in our past.

Our and Earth's future hangs in the balance. But the balance, given our current path, is tipping precariously toward not thriving. Toward early extinction.

To thrive or not to thrive! That is the question.

To thrive is the existential answer.

We can and must change now to a thriving path to a thriving future.

All of us together can get off our current path, the path to early extinction for humans and many other creatures and great damage to Earth.

There is a chance. There is hope. If we reject early extinction. If we choose thriving for all.

Our urgent and immediate choice. Wise choice is thriving future for all. Poor choice is early extinction for humans and other creatures and greater damage to Earth.

We must choose thriving future with thriving for all. We must build, achieve and sustain a thriving future with thriving for all.



thrive or not to thrive

3' x 2' wood and metal stabile

To thrive or not to thrive. Our and Earth's future hangs in the balance. But the balance, our current path, is tipping toward not thriving. Early extinction for humans and many other creatures. Great damage to Earth. We can and must change now to a thriving path to a thriving future.

I end as I began.

Stop being selfish! Just stop!

We are destroying our and our children's' future. Driving many other creatures to extinction. Damaging Earth more and more every day.

Stop! End the darkness that humans have caused.

If we do not stop, our future is early extinction for humans and many other creatures. Our future is even greater damage to Earth, our only home.

Think carefully. Choose wisely. Choose as if our whole future is at stake.

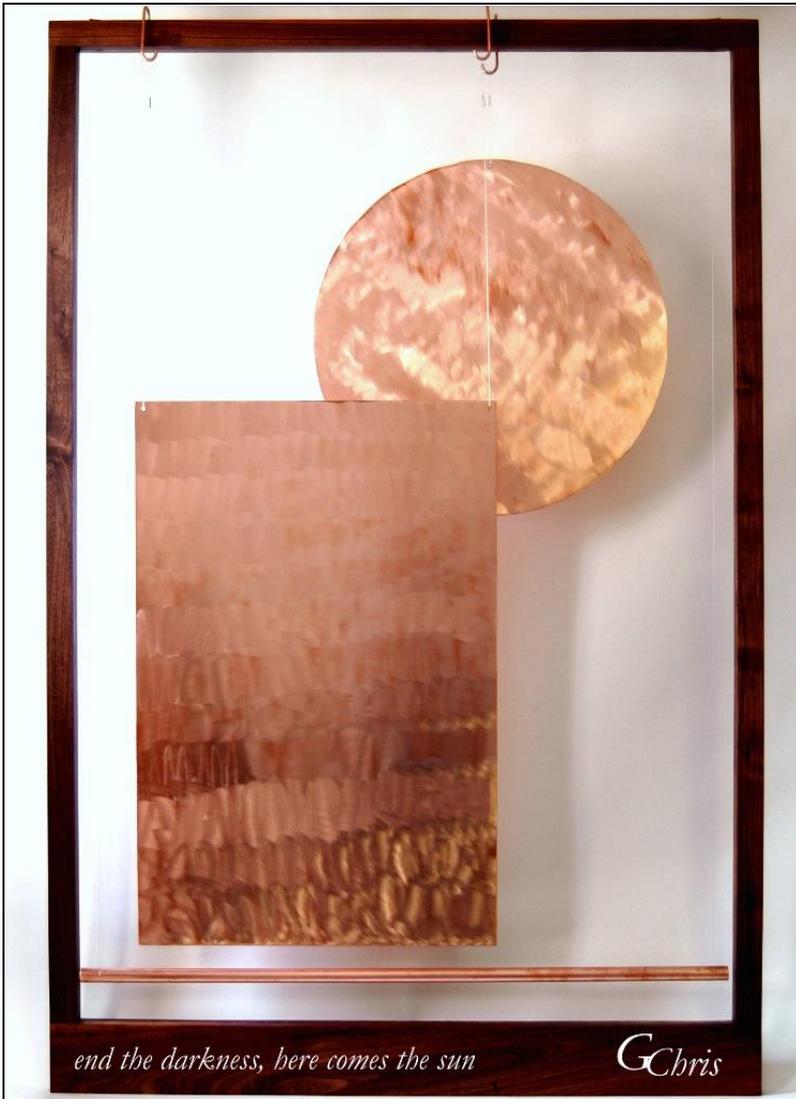
Wise choice is avoiding early extinction for humans and other creatures and avoiding greater damage to Earth.

Wise choice is thriving future for all.

Just stop!

Stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

Start to build and achieve a thriving future for all humans, other creatures, and Earth.



end the darkness, here comes the sun

6' x 4' wood and metal mobile/stabile

Challenges us to end the darkness (vulnerability) and let the sun (thriving) shine; also expresses the optimism that the darkness will end and here comes the sun; draws in part on George Harrison's song - "here comes the sun".



Appendix A: What Is Thrive!

<p>[®]</p> <p><i>Thrive!</i></p> <p>Thriving future for all forever</p>	
What is Thrive?	Thriving and surviving future forever for all (humans, other creatures and Earth). All thrive forever.
Why Thrive?	<p>Unique among Earth’s species, humans <u>need to survive and want to thrive</u> both near and long term.</p> <p>Achieve <u>thriving</u> future - thrive and survive, low vulnerability, avoid early extinction of humans and other creatures, and avoid extensive damage to Earth.</p> <p>Avoid <u>current endangered</u> future - not thrive and not survive, high vulnerability, early extinction of humans and other creatures, and extensive damage to Earth.</p>
Is Thrive truly different and better?	<p>Thrive is not just getting by or achieving a surviving future. Is <u>achieving thriving future</u>.</p> <p>Thrive is not just for some people. Is <u>for all people</u>.</p> <p>Thrive is not just for current and next generation. Is <u>for current and all future generations</u>.</p> <p>Thrive is not just for humans. Is <u>for humans, other creatures and Earth on which we depend</u>.</p>

<p>Can we achieve Thrive?</p>	<p>We can <u>if we act now</u>. It is still our choice to make. But time has almost run out.</p> <p>We can <u>if we use our full ability</u>. We have the ability as we are most able in all human history.</p> <p>We can <u>if we care enough about self, everyone, everything else and Earth</u>. We must stop selfishness.</p> <p>We can <u>if we care enough about both near- and long-term future</u>. We must stop shortsightedness.</p>
<p>How to achieve Thrive?</p>	<p>Immediately, we successfully develop and use strategy, tools and actions to successfully build and execute strategies and actions to build thriving future. [like in <u>People’s Guide To A Thriving Future*</u>]</p> <p>Immediately, all of us together build thriving future for our families and friends, communities, countries and world. [like the Thrive! Endeavor ThriveEndeavor.org]</p> <p>Immediately, each and all of us separately and together stop negative actions and take only positive actions.</p> <p>Immediately, start with who and what you care about and move from vulnerable to surviving to thriving.</p>
<p>Act now!</p>	<p>Together build thriving future now!</p>

* **People’s Guide To A Thriving Future** provides **Next Generation Toolkit** (strategies, tools, examples, worksheets). Available @ Amazon.com or free @ ThriveEndeavor.org



Appendix B: The Thrive! Center.

Those who want to learn more about **Thrivism** and **Thrive!** may want to visit **The Thrive Center** and communicate with Chris.

Website ThriveEndeavor.org
Email GChris@GChris.com
Phone 301 318 3760
Mail



Gary "Chris" Christopherson, Founder,
The Thrive Center
E298 Cleveland Street
Nelson, WI 54756

The Thrive! Center, home of **Thrivism**, **Thrive**, **Thrive! Endeavor**, **HealthPeople** and **GChris Sculpture**, was created by Chris and is on Mississippi River bluffside in restored 1885 farmhouse, barn and beehouse above Village of Nelson (WI). Chris, Thrive! Founder and sculptor, lives and works there. It is surrounded by **Thrive! Park**, a 25+ acre, bluff side, public park donated by Chris.

New Book: The Story of Thrive! Center and Thrive! Park.

Available via Amazon.com or as free download @ ThriveEndeavor.org

Story of Thrive! Center and Thrive! Park



by
Gary "Chris" Christopherson
Founder, Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future
Founder, HealthPeople - Building a Healthy Future
Sculptor, Thrive! Sculpture by GChris
Former Senior Executive, U.S. Federal Government



Nelson, WI

University Park, MD

The Thrive! Center

Since Chris moved to Nelson (WI) in 2012, The Thrive! Center serves as physical and virtual space for GChris Sculpture, HealthPeople and Thrive!

Center operates out of a restored/renovated 1885 era farmhouse, barn and beehouse on bluffside overlooking Mississippi River and adjacent to Thrive! Park.

Thrive! Park is 25+ acre public park created and donated by Chris and located on national Mississippi River bluff sides and tops. Park has system of hiking roads and trails built and maintained by Chris.

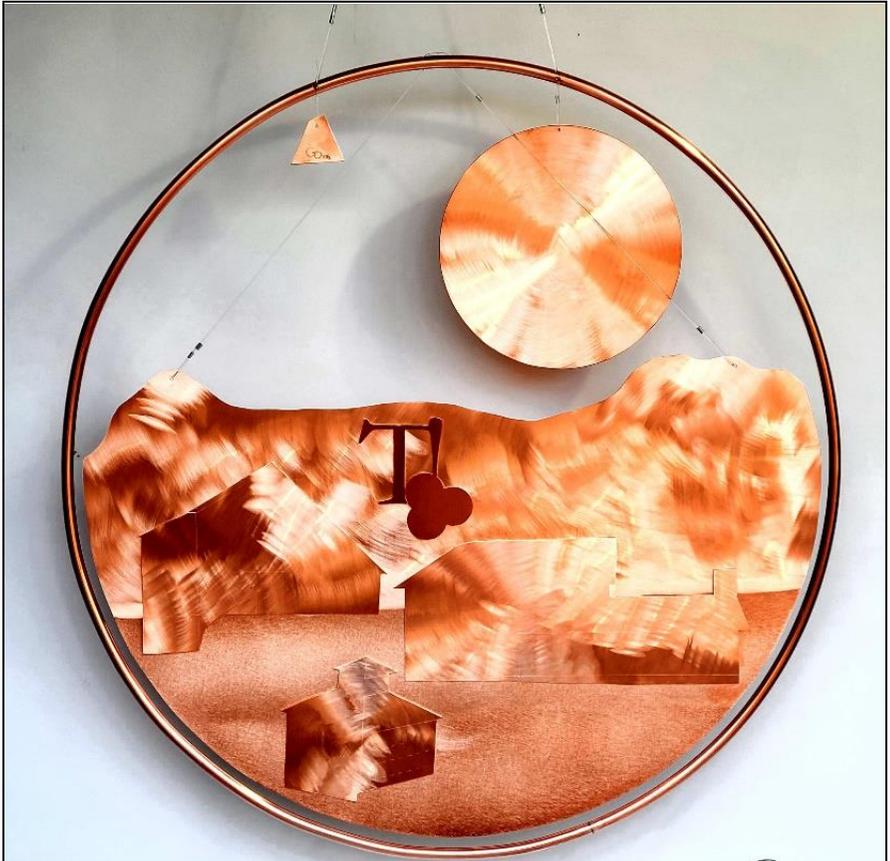
Visitors can view GChris sculpture and tour the workshop/studio. Visitors can learn more about sculpture Chris creates and how he creates them.

Visitors can visit and meet with Chris and learn about, discuss and/or join HealthPeople, Thrivism and Thrive Endeavor. Visitors can discuss several Thrive! nonfiction and fiction books written by him. Visitors can learn about overall Thrive! and HealthPeople vision, mission and strategy.



What can you do at The Thrive! Center?

- **Thrive!** Discuss and strategize our future. Early extinction? Just surviving? Thriving? “All Thrive Forever”? Maybe you join Thrive! Endeavor. Help build thriving future. ThriveEndeavor.org
- **Thrivism.** Learn more about **Thrivism**. Learn how to be a **Thrivist** who helps build thriving future for all.
- **HealthPeople.** Discuss and strategize achieving healthy people. Best personal, community or country health system? Maybe you help achieve healthy people and communities. HealthPeople.com
- **Thrive! Sculpture by GChris.** Tour Studio/Gallery. Interact with 200+ sculptures. Movement. Sounds. Chris’ payments go to Thrive! Scholarship. GChris.com
- **Thrive! Park.** Village of Nelson public park donated by Chris. See great views of Mississippi River and Lake Pepin. Walk/hike bluff side/top roads and trails. Explore goat prairie restoration. ThrivePark.org
- **Historic 1885 Era Bluffside Farm.** Tour renovated/restored house, barn and beehouse with great views of Mississippi River and bluff.



Thrive! Center

GChris

The Thrive! Center

3' x 3' metal mobile

A place at which to thrive together.



Appendix C: Thrive! eMedia and Publications.

Websites:

[Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future](#) – Core and foundational website supporting websites and blogs.

Includes supporting strategy/tools/books to build better future.

[ThrivingFuture.org](#)

Thrive! Endeavor - Join endeavor to build thriving future.

[ThriveEndeavor.org](#)

Thrivism - Join Thrivism to build thriving future for all. [Thrivism.world](#)

Children Thrive Forever! - Aspire to future when children thrive forever.

[ChildrenThriveForever.org](#)

All Thrive Forever - Aspire to better future when all thrive forever. [AllThriveForever.org](#)

We Are Vulnerable - Reduce and avoid vulnerability for better future.

[WeAreVulnerable.org](#)

The Thrive! System - Helping you and your community survive and thrive. [TheThriveSystem.org](#)

Thrive! - All Thrive Forever - Play" strategic game in real-life. [ThriveForever.org](#)

Endangered Future - Endangered more than ever before in our history.

[EndangeredFuture.org](#)

Xtinct – Current path is early extinction for humans and other creatures and great damage to Earth. [Xtinct.org](#)

HealththePeople - Use Thrive! to build healthy and thriving future.

[HealththePeople.com](#)

GChris Sculpture - Thrive! sculpture supporting endeavor to build thriving future. [GChris.com](#)

Thrive! Blogs:

Thrivism Blog – Blog on path to thriving future for all. [Thrivism.blog](#)

T! Blog - Blog key Thrive! messages and suggested actions.

[ThriveBlog.org](#)

T! Blog - Blog asking and challenging "What will you do?"

[ThriveBlog.net](#)

T! Blog - Thrive! sculpture and thoughts/messages. [WordPress Blog]
ThriveSculpture.com

T! Blog - Thrive! sculpture and thoughts/messages. [Website Blog]
ThriveSculpture.org

eMedia:

[LinkedIn Thrive!](#)

[Facebook Thrive!](#) [Includes Thrive!, Thrivism, All Thrive Forever, HealthePeople, GChris Sculpture]

[Twitter Thrive!](#)

[YouTube Thrive!](#)

[Tumblr Thrive!](#)

[Flickr Thrive!](#)

[ello Thrive!](#)

[MySpace Thrive!](#)

[Pinterest Thrive!](#)

[Medium Thrive!](#)

GChris Sculpture Website:

GChris Sculpture - Hundreds of Thrive! sculpture by GChris supporting thriving future. Acquisition payments support Thrive! Scholarship Fund.

GChris.com

Book on Chris:

Book on Chris - A Life in Pursuit of Thriving for All. This is story of and by Chris [Gary "Chris" Christopherson] and his lifelong pursuit of a thriving future – all thrive forever. Available in paperback and eBook via Amazon.com or free download GChris.com

Books - Non-fiction: Available via Amazon.com usually as paperback and eBook.

Thrivism - Path to Thriving Future for All [aka the small "Green Book"] Lays out path to, belief in, and vision of thriving future for all. Available as free download. Thrivism.world

Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future For All. Manual providing greater depth on strategy and tools. Available as free download ThrivingFuture.org

People's Guide To A Thriving Future [For All Forever]. More user-friendly guide. Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Thrive! - Quick Guide To A Thriving Future [For All Forever]. Quick, more user-friendly guide. Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Thrive! Endeavor - All Thrive Forever. Joint Thrive! Endeavor and call to action builds thriving future for all forever. Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Early Extinction or Thriving Future. Which future do we choose for humans, other creatures, and Earth? Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Stop Selfish, Shortsighted, and Stupid. Thought piece challenging humans to stop being selfish, shortsighted and stupid as way to avoid early extinction and build thriving future for all. Available as ThriveEndeavor.org

The Thrive! System - Achieving Thriving Future For All. System for people and communities to help achieve thriving future for all. Available as free download ThrivingFuture.org.

The Thrive! Philosophy - All Thrive. Underlying philosophy of Thrive! Available as free download ThrivingFuture.org

Behavior Effectiveness Model (BEM). Building thriving future using Behavior Effectiveness Model (BEM). Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Thrive! - All Thrive Forever What will you do? The game. The challenge. Available as free download ThriveForever.org

HealthePeople - Achieving Healthy People, Communities, Countries and World via Thrive!. Policy and how-to book on how to achieve healthy people and a healthy future. Available as free download HealthePeople.com

First People Thriving Health Systems - Achieving healthy and thriving First People. Policy and how-to book on how to achieve healthy First People. Available as free download HealthePeople.com

Thrive! Sculpture & Thought: Sculptural Vision of a Thriving Future for All Forever. Thoughts and sculpture that challenge you to think about future and help build, achieve and sustain thriving future for all forever. Available as free download GChris.com

Story of Thrive! Center and Thrive! Park. Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Books - Science Fiction and Children's: Available via [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) usually as paperback and eBook.

The Thrive! Endeavor. Science fiction novel with vast human endeavor seeking thriving future for all forever. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

black box. Science fiction novel explores a mysterious and powerful black box and its enormous impact on the world's people and their politics, religions, science and militaries. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

Early Extinction – Angel Comes To Save Earth. Illustrated science fiction book explores threat of early extinction for humans and many other creatures and great damage to Earth. Angel, a Whimsey, comes to help save Earth. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

Extinction - The Failure To Thrive. Illustrated science fiction book explores what happens when human species and Earth become extinct and why it happened so quickly and so completely. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

Thrive! - Escape From Extinction. Illustrated science fiction book explores what happens when human species and Earth almost become extinct and the human species tries to escape extinction and achieve all, including Earth, thrive forever. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

Xtinct – Universal Justice for Earth. Illustrated science fiction book explores moment when universal justice is applied to Earth and human species faces early extinction. Early extinction for humans? Or a thriving future for all of Earth? Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

Thrive Or Not To Thrive? - Tale Of Two Tomorrows. Children's paperback fiction book where the good Angel and T!rrific battle the selfish Wily and T!rrible for the future of Whimseys and Whimsey World. Will it be a thriving future for all or not? Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

T!rrific [terrific] - What will you do to thrive? Children's paperback fiction book where T!rrific helps Whimseys achieve thriving future. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

Angel - Thriving Creator of Artful Things. Children's paperback fiction book on thriving and creativity featuring the world of Whimseys. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)

Thrive! - Escape From Extinction. Illustrated science fiction book explores what happens when human species and Earth almost become extinct and the human species tries to escape extinction and achieve all, including Earth, thrive forever. Available as free download [GChris.com](https://www.gchris.com)



Appendix D: About Chris, Author and Sculptor.

GARY (CHRIS) CHRISTOPHERSON has worked on national and local issues on health and human service strategy, policy, systems, models, performance, reform and management and on reducing vulnerability. Currently in The Thrive! Center he founded, he develops strategy, management, policy and performance models and tools for creating, managing and sustaining large scale, positive change and building a better and thriving future. He is Founder of *Thrive!*[®], Thrivism[®], Thrive! Park, and HealthPeople[®]. Websites: ThrivingFuture.org ThriveEndeavor.org Thrivism.world HealthPeople.com

This draws from 30+ years of experience in creating, managing, evaluating and sustaining large scale change at national and local levels in public and private sectors. Over his career, he has served in many senior leadership, management and policymaking positions, including with organizations with multi-billion-dollar budgets and thousands of employees.

His experience includes: Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs and Senior Advisor to Assistant Secretaries for Health and Reserve Affairs, Department of Defense; Associate Director, Presidential Personnel, Executive Office of the President, White House; Fellow, National Academy for Public Administration; Senior Advisor to Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Director for the Quality Improvement Group, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, DHHS; Senior Advisor to Under Secretary, Veterans Health Administration, VA; Senior Fellow and Scholar-In-Residence, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences; Chief Information Officer, Veterans Health Administration, VA; Director of Health Legislation, House Select Committee on Aging, U.S. House of Representatives; and Deputy Director, Municipal Health Services Program (funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and based at John Hopkins Medical Institutions); and Special Projects Director, City of Milwaukee Health Department.

He is a sculptor of Thrive! Sculpture, abstract art focusing on mobile and stable sculptures and has created over 200 sculptures. GChris.com

He wrote several books. **Thrivism - Path to Thriving Future for All. Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future For All. People's Guide To A Thriving Future. Thrive! - Quick Guide To A Thriving Future. Thrive! Endeavor - All Thrive Forever. Early Extinction or Thriving Future. Stop Selfish, Shortsighted, and Stupid. The Thrive! System - Achieving Thriving Future For All. The Thrive! Philosophy. HealthePeople - Achieving Healthy People, Communities, Countries and World via Thrive!. First People Thriving Health Systems - Achieving healthy and thriving First People. A Life in Pursuit of Thriving for All** is story of and by Chris and his lifelong pursuit of a thriving future. Available [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [ThriveEndeavor.org](https://www.ThriveEndeavor.org)

He created and donated Thrive! Park and The Thrive! Center as public spaces for hiking, environmental education, art creation and display, historical farm buildings, and Thrive! education. He created and endowed the Thrive! Scholarship at the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

He received bachelor's in political science and master's in urban and regional planning from University of Wisconsin (Madison), and did doctoral work in health policy and management at John Hopkins University School of Public Health.