

**The Periodic Table** Anna Clark and Nazila Alimohammadi 2002

Steel and ceramic tiles.

“The Periodic Table” is just that, a three dimensional rendition of the icon of modern chemistry. Displayed on the eastern side of Salem Hall (chemistry), the piece is made of steel and ceramic tile. The tabletop and bench are made of steel, while the surface of the table and bench top is covered in ceramic tile.

Alimohammadi and Clark were inspired by the work of Claes Oldenburg. He popularized the idea of taking everyday objects and making them large scale. “The Periodic Table” follows this idea, but is taken one step further to functionality. “We wanted to build a sculpture that functions both as a work of art as well as something fun that can actually be used. When art can be both aesthetically pleasing and functional at the same time, it makes for a great combination,” says Clark. “Having a sculpture outside Salem Hall will definitely set it apart from the other buildings around campus. I hope that public sculpture will become commonplace on Wake’s campus someday. We really need more of it,” says Alimohammadi.

Nazila Alimohammadi and Anna Clark built the work as seniors in the Wake Forest sculpture studio in the course in Public Art taught by Professor David Finn. Alimohammadi is a Health and Exercise major, with a minor in Art. Clark is double majoring in Studio Art and Communication.

