GOODNIGHT EARTH is a project put together by the BuzzLab teen internship program based at the Plains Art Museum, developed in conjunction with fiber artist Quill River. These individual seed pillows were crafted and installed by interns with the intent to interrupt the expanses of cement in our community that have already interrupted the wildlife that lived here. Pollinators, specifically bees, can only travel up to 5 miles to locate food, water, or rest. This growable blanket intends to provide space for pollinators to do just that. If left to grow, over the next few weeks you will see not only a mix of wildflowers, but also edibles such as lettuce, spinach, basil, and cilantro.

Illustrations by: Abby Thurmer (basil), Cole Darling (spinach), Vivian Wilson (bee), Judyta Browne (lettuce and cilantro)
HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN SEED PILLOW

STEP 1
Lay your mesh and muslin flat on top of each other in an open workspace (the floor works just fine.) Pin together the corners and along the sides. Make sure to leave a ¾ of an inch on the sides for stitching. Sew with straight stitches.

STEP 2
Fold along lines, cut along dotted line to create zine. Sew along lines, cut along dotted line, cut along dotted line to create zine.

STEP 3
Flip the rectangle inside out. Lay flat with the mesh side up. Fill with dry soil, then pat it so it lays flat. The layer of dirt should be about 2 inches thick.

STEP 4
Lay a small layer of mulch on top of the soil being careful to not poke holes through the mesh or stitches. Lay it loose enough so that the seeds can grow through it.

STEP 5
Sew the open side shut.

STEP 6
When ready to plant, snip 9 small “X”s in the gardening mesh in a grid formation. Bury seed beneath the mulch about ½ an inch under the soil. Water and care for as needed.