

Public Art Opportunity

Western Washington University | Washington State Arts Commission



Perkins+Will

Submissions Due: Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 4 PM (Pacific)
Artwork Budget: \$198,000 (inclusive of design, fabrication, installation, and tax)

Overview

Commissioned through the Art in Public Places program of the Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA) in partnership with Western Washington University (WWU), this is an exciting opportunity for an artist or artist team to create an artwork for WWU's internationally recognized [Sculpture Collection](#) in Bellingham, Washington. Funds for this public art project were generated through the construction of the Kaiser Borsari Hall Electrical Engineering Building (rendering above). Although there is no obligation to create artwork on this location, there are site opportunities within and in proximity to the building.

Contact

Mike Sweney, Art in Public Places program manager: 360.228.4080, mike.sweney@arts.wa.gov

Budget

The selected artist will receive a **\$20,000** design contract that includes travel and stamped, structural engineering. Upon design approval by the WWU Campus Art Committee, they will receive a commission contract of **\$178,000**, inclusive of all costs related to fabrication and installation, including sales tax and contingency.



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Submissions

All materials are due by **4pm, Tuesday, July 19, 2022**, through [ArtsWA's Submittable site](#). If you are unable to submit electronically, contact us to discuss possible accommodations.

Eligibility

You must be an established artist or artist team residing in the United States or British Columbia. Neither ArtsWA nor WWU discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, or gender identity. WWU staff and artists with current ArtsWA public art contracts are ineligible.

Selection process

The WWU Campus Art Committee consists of arts faculty, curators, and artists. In a process facilitated by ArtsWA, the Art Committee will review submitted materials of all applicants and select an artist or artist team to create a design for a new campus artwork. Upon design approval, the artist will receive a commission contract for fabrication and installation.

Using the criteria below, the Art Committee will consider whether your portfolio:

- **communicates a unique vision or perspective**
- **shows a potential to engage or respond to its surroundings, or both**
- **demonstrates skill in technique**
- **complements the WWU Sculpture Collection**

Submission materials

Please prepare and enter the following through [Submittable](#):

1. **statement of interest** (limit 250 words) outlining your approach to public art and summarizing your interest in this project. Describe any experience with projects of a similar scope and include anything that might help us differentiate you as a candidate.
2. **brief biography or artist statement** (limit 250 words). Artists working collaboratively may submit a statement for each member.
3. **8 images of past works**, preferably created within past 5 years. (Horizontal orientation displays best.)
4. **brief descriptions (1-2 sentences) for each image**. Also include title, dimensions, materials, date, location, budget/cost, and commissioning entity (if applicable).

If selected, you will

- design and propose an artwork for review and approval by ArtsWA staff, professional conservator, structural engineer, and the WWU Campus Art Committee
- travel to the project site up to three times during the proposal/design process to meet with the Art Committee and ArtsWA project manager (some meetings may be held remotely)
- be available to meet with building design team to coordinate artwork integration
- work within the fixed budget
- maintain registration as a Washington State vendor and adhere to applicable state permitting and licensing requirements, including those relating to contracting and the paying of Prevailing Wages
- enter into contracts with ArtsWA and fulfill those requirements, including paying applicable taxes

Commission and contracts

The artwork will be commissioned through ArtsWA and will become part of the State Art Collection and WWU Sculpture Collection. Installation will be coordinated through ArtsWA and WWU. Sample proposal and [commission](#) contracts can be found on ArtsWA's [website](#).

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Applications through [Submittable](#). If you do not have an account, sign-up is free.

To avoid technical problems, please submit well in advance of the deadline.

Late submittals will not be accepted.

ArtsWA Art in Public Places Vision Statement

Art in Public Places is uniquely positioned to advance and support art and artists across Washington. Our goal is to build and care for a State Art Collection that is impactful, accessible, and valued. We seek lasting artworks that reflect Washington's diverse communities.