



2023 Midterm Public Artist Roster Guidelines

Art in Public Places (AIPP)

DEADLINE: Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Our Art in Public Places program seeks a diverse range of artists to create artworks for state agencies, colleges, universities, and public schools throughout Washington state.

What is the roster, and why a midterm call?

The Public Artist Roster is our main tool for choosing artists. It is a list of artists who pre-qualify to create artworks through our program. It allows for a streamlined selection process.

The current roster term began in 2021 and ends in 2025. We are opening the roster for new applications midterm. This is so that artists who were either ineligible, unsuccessful, or unaware of the roster call in 2021 have another chance to apply to the current roster.

Artists currently on the roster do not need to re-apply.

Are you eligible to apply?

The roster is open to:

- individual visual artists
- artist teams or artist collectives

You are eligible to apply if you:

- live in the United States or British Columbia
- will not be enrolled as a visual arts student as of August 1, 2023

What do artists on the roster do?

By applying, you agree to:

- create artwork for public spaces
- design and propose artworks for approval by our staff and site committees
- travel as needed during the proposal process
- work within a fixed budget and timeline
- register as a WA state vendor
- follow state requirements, such as contractor licenses and paying prevailing wages
- fulfill contract terms with ArtsWA
- pay applicable taxes

Important dates in 2023

- Monday, May 1 application opens
- Tuesday, June 13 application closes at 5pm Pacific
- Friday, July 28 panel reviews applications
- Thursday, August 31 we notify applicants



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How to apply

You will create an account and apply through our [Submittable page](#). We will ask for these things:

- your contact information
- eight images of your artwork
- details about each image (title, date, medium, budget, who commissioned the work, etc.), and a short 1-3 sentence description
- a statement about you (250-word limit)
- a statement about your work (250-word limit)
- your project preferences, (project types, regions, budgets, etc.)
- your demographic information (optional, we won't share this with the panel)

Please allow enough time to choose, prepare, and review your materials. You can save your work and come back to it. Only submit one application per roster call.

Applying as an artist team

- You may only submit one application. You cannot apply as both an individual artist and a member of an artist team.
- If you apply as a member of an artist team, we will ask whether your team has a lead artist or if you equally collaborate.
- If your team dissolves, we will remove you from the roster. Any team member may reapply to the next roster in 2025.
- If you identify a lead artist and your team dissolves before 2025, the lead artist may remain on the roster. We will ask them to update their portfolio to reflect their current work.

Terms and Conditions

- The artwork you show in your images must be your own.
- You must give credit to any partners on projects.
- We do not accept late, incomplete, mailed, or hand-delivered applications.
- Approval to the roster does not guarantee you will receive a project.
- If unsuccessful, you may appeal the Board's decision as per [Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\) 30.12.036](#).



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Roster Panel Process

A panel votes on applications. The panel includes artists and arts administrators. We will not share incomplete, ineligible, and late applications with the panel. Panelists look for the following criteria when scoring the applications:

- you communicate a unique vision or perspective
- you demonstrate an authentic relationship to your subject matter
- you show an ability to engage a site and/or community
- you demonstrate skill in your technique

After review, the panel recommends a final roster of artists to the ArtsWA Board for approval at their August meeting. We will notify you of the Board's decision by August 31, 2023.

Successful applicants will be eligible for projects from September 2023 – July 2025. If accepted, we share the portfolio that you submit with local art selection committees. If you are not yet ready to apply, the roster will reopen for applications in Spring 2025.

Types of Projects

Art selection committees review portfolios and choose artists based on their goals for the artwork. They consider audience, locations, local context, and other factors. Roster artists work on the following types of site-responsive projects:

Site-responsive commissions: You would work with a local committee to design, fabricate, and install a permanent artwork specific to their community and building.

Architecturally integrated projects: you would work closely with the building's design team to combine artwork with the architecture (i.e., flooring, railings, glazing, lighting, etc.) to create a permanent artwork.

Community-engaged commissions: you would engage with the community as part of your process. This social practice shapes the design of a permanent artwork.

Painted Murals: you would work with a local committee to create an indoor painting or series of paintings. Unlike traditional murals you would create your paintings on an ArtsWA approved substrate or panel.

Our project managers work with artists and committees at each site to facilitate the process of acquiring artworks throughout the state. Note, we do not commission:

- water features
- clock towers
- memorials
- logos or signage
- school mascots



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Locations

We use the roster to choose artists for 20 to 40 projects per year. You'll find approximately 60% of our artworks in K-12 public schools.

Currently, all K-12 school projects will be located inside. Indoor projects can be more equitable for artists and provide more options for those who are new to public art. Outdoor artworks can be more expensive to produce, install, and maintain. We will continue to commission outdoor artwork for colleges, universities, and state agencies.

Budget

The budget covers all design, fabrication, and installation costs. This includes materials, transportation, licenses, insurance, sales tax, studio space, and all other expenses.

We use the roster to choose artists for projects with budgets between \$35,000 and \$250,000. Most budgets fall between **\$55,000** and **\$125,000**. For projects above \$250,000, we hold open calls for artists. You can specify which budget ranges you are willing to work with when you apply.

Who we are

ArtsWA is the [Washington State Arts Commission](#). We comply with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations concerning civil and human rights. You can learn more about our policies on Accessibility, Diversity, and Nondiscrimination [here](#). We recognize our unique position to advance and support art and artists across Washington. Our goal is to build and care for a dynamic contemporary art collection that is accessible and valued. We seek impactful and lasting artworks that reflect Washington's diverse communities.

In 1974, Washington state created the Art in Public Places program. With more than 5,000 artworks, we have one of the nation's largest state-owned art collections.

Questions?

Give us a call or send an email if you have any issues while you apply.

- **Adetola Abatan**, project manager: adetola.abatan@arts.wa.gov | 360-468-0889
- **Mike Sweney**, program manager: mike.sweney@arts.wa.gov | 360-228-4080