

# Creating Art for Public Spaces

## A workshop for artists interested in public art



**May 15, 2024, 9am to noon at the Fabulich Center, Port of Tacoma**

### Overview

The Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA), Port of Tacoma, and Tacoma Public Schools will host a free public art workshop on Wednesday, May 15, from 9am to noon. The workshop will provide a broad overview of the public art process with a focus on ArtsWA's current [open call for Maritime 253](#). All artists interested in learning more about public art are welcome to attend.

Some of the topics covered will include:

- How to find & respond to calls for artists
- Presenting your work (photos, artist statements)
- Working with committees
- Designing public artworks (budgets, materials, fabrication, installation)
- Contracts and related paperwork

### Location

The workshop will be held at the Fabulich Center at the Port of Tacoma. ([map](#))

### Contact

Questions? [Mike Sweney](#), ArtsWA Art in Public Places program manager. (360) 228-4080.

### About the Maritime 253 Project

Tacoma Public Schools, in partnership with the Port of Tacoma, is building a new skills center for high school students focusing on the maritime trades. Located at the Port of Tacoma and adjacent to a new Port of Tacoma business office (the Port Maritime Center), Maritime253 is located in the heart of the historical puyalupabs village site and continues to be a place of great historic and cultural significance to the Tribe. Through Washington's 1/2-percent for art program, funding has been set aside for an artist to create a unique artwork on the property. Detailed information is available [here](#).

At top, images of artists at work (L-R):

Etsuko Ichikawa ([Flowering Diversity](#), 2021), James Madison ([Family](#), 2021), June Sekiguchi ([Glacial Crystals](#), 2022), Werc Alvarez ([Joule of the Valley](#), 2021), and James Harry (left, [ININYAX'A7N \[Thunderbird\]](#), 2023).

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 15, 9:00am to Noon

### Tentative schedule

- **8:45am**  
Doors open
- **9-9:15am**  
Welcome and introductions
- **9:15-9:45am**  
Intro to public art: Working with committees, permanent vs. temporary, calls to artists, paperwork, materials and fabrication
- **9:45-10:15am**  
Applications: selecting images, writing letters of interest and artist statements
- **10:15-11:00am**  
Artist panel discussion: Making the transition into public art
- **11:00-11:30am**  
Working with governments: contracts, licenses, and other requirements
- **11:30am-noon**  
Submittable walk-through with ArtsWA staff