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dba POOR GIRL EMPIRE, LLC

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## Request for Qualifications

**Project: City of Austin Municipal Courthouse Art Program Indoor Mural Commissions**

**Budget: \$3,000-\$4,000**

**Deadline: November 6, 2021 at 6:00 pm**

## Call Summary

The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse has contracted City Vendor (Christine Michelle Angelone dba POOR GIRL EMPIRE, LLC) to manage and commission (5) indoor murals to be located at 6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 175, Austin, Texas, 78744. The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse seeks qualifications from visual artists or artist teams to design, fabricate, and install permanent mural artworks on (5) courthouse walls.

- Artists will work with the City of Austin Municipal Courthouse and Vendor to realize their designs.
- Installations will begin January 2022.
- Murals may be hand-painted directly on the wall or surface, or painted onto artist-created panels.
- Artists and designers of at least 18 years of age who live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet, and Blanco counties are eligible to apply.
- The budget for each mural is between \$3,000 and \$4,000 contingent on the size and complexity of the project.

## Budget Description

The budget for each mural is between \$3,000 and \$4,000 contingent on the size and complexity of the project. Up to five commissions may be awarded. No fund matching or crowd sourcing may be applied.

Selected artists will develop a final project budget that includes all costs to create the mural such as costs of installation and materials.

The funds for this project are derived from the City of Austin Municipal Courthouse.

## Project Description

This opportunity is for creating a mural. Once selected, artists may propose mural designs that will either be hand-painted or attached panels. No logos, advertising or self-promotional websites are permitted to be incorporated into the mural.

The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse seeks mural proposals that celebrate the history of the Municipal Courthouse in Austin, the natural elements and landmarks of Austin, and the city's diverse and vibrant communities.

- Scale - The approximate square footage of each mural may vary depending on the size of each location and dimensions. The approximate size of each mural opportunity may be between 650-1000 square feet.
- Location - 6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 175, Austin, Texas, 78744
- There will be three phases to the mural creation for the selected artists: Artist interviews, Design and Fabrication.

## Artist Information Meetings

Meetings will be held in October and November in City and non-City locations in north, south, east and west Austin to familiarize artists with the project opportunity including the mission, intent and guidelines for work as well as the application and selection process. Representatives will be available to answer questions.

- October 7, 6:00 – 7:00 PM | <https://zoom.us/j/94486082288>
- October 14, 6:00 – 7:00 PM | <https://zoom.us/j/94486082288>

\*Additional sessions might be added, watch for meeting updates. More detailed Zoom meeting information can be found under "Additional Resources"

## Artwork Goals

The intent of the The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse is to seek design proposals that explore and celebrate the history of the Municipal Courthouse in Austin, the natural elements and landmarks of Austin, and the city's diverse and vibrant communities.

The City has spent time and resources gathering reference material that could be incorporated or used as inspiration, but it is not required. See Appendix B.

The goals of the City of Austin Municipal Courthouse Art program are to:

- Expose citizens to contemporary artworks by local emerging and established artists;
- Foster engagement between local artists and the community through public art;
- Link local artists with resources and city assistance to develop skills and experience;
- Increase awareness of public art, and increase artist participation in public art; and
- Provide paid opportunities for members of Austin's creative community who have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Eligibility

Visual artists at least 18 years of age living and working in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties are eligible to apply. Artists who have not received a public art commission before are encouraged to submit their qualifications for consideration. Only one application per artist or artist team will be accepted (an artist may not apply as an individual and as a team member on separate projects). Incomplete or late applications will be disqualified.

Eligible to apply:

- Artists currently under contract
- Temporary City of Austin employees

Ineligible to apply:

- Full-time, permanent City of Austin employees
- Employees of the Economic Development

## Application Requirements

1. Resume: 1 page(s) maximum
2. Work examples: 5 - 10
3. Letter of Interest : 500 word maximum

\* Artists are welcomed to write a Letter of Interest expressing their work and history as they see fit. However, if the artists so chooses, they may answer the following questions in lieu of a traditional letter of interest. Additionally, Artists may also choose to incorporate the following questions in their traditional Letter of Interest:

- a) How will your artwork represent the history of the Municipal Courthouse Austin?
  - b) How will your artwork represent the history, or natural landmarks and aspects of Austin in general?
  - c) Will your artwork represent historical or natural aspects of specific geographical areas of Austin?
  - d) Has your creative/artistic practice been impacted by COVID-19? Please expand on loss of opportunities, or loss of revenue.
4. Demographic Survey

Artists are allowed to apply in teams.

Artists applying as a team must split the allotted number of work examples between themselves.

### **Applications must be received via [www.PublicArtist.org](http://www.PublicArtist.org) no later than 6:00 pm on November 6, 2021!**

For technical assistance with your application, please contact [christine@poorgirl empire.com](mailto:christine@poorgirl empire.com) or 512-694-9448 (9:00 am – 5:00 pm). Artists are encouraged to start the application process as early as possible so that program staff and/or PublicArtist.org technical staff have the opportunity to respond to your question(s).

## Selection Panel

POOR GIRL EMPIRE, LLC (Vendor) will convene a Selection Panel to recommend applications to the COA Municipal Courthouse Executive Team. The Selection Panel and Vendor shall work together to evaluate applicant qualifications.

Each artist or artist team will present their qualifications to a 5-person panel by submitting through PublicArtist.org. Recommended artists will be asked to submit a design proposal to the City of Austin Municipal Courthouse Executive Team. The approved recommended artists or artist teams will be put under a contract upon approval by POOR GIRL EMPIRE, LLC (Vendor).

The 5-person Selection Panel will include:

**Lisa Woods:** AIPP Artist, Dada Geek, Hopscotch, past UX Design Lecturer at UT Austin: [lisabwoods.com](http://lisabwoods.com)

**Holly Veselk:** AIPP Artist, Art instructor at Texas State University: [hollyveselka.com](http://hollyveselka.com)

**Mario Villanueva:** Marketing and Events Associate, Mexic-Arte Museum.

**Shavone Otero:** Community Coordinator, Community Powered Workshop.

**Danielle Renae Houtkooper:** Development Coordinator, Mexic-Arte Museum.

## Selection Criteria

The selection of an artist or artist team shall be based on artist qualifications which best meet the requirements contained in the Request for Qualifications. The Selection Panel will review and consider the following evaluation criteria:

- Artistic merit and technical expertise;
- Ability to engage the community in which the artwork is being proposed;
- Demonstrated success executing indoor works of art;
- Priority will be given to artists who have lost revenue and/or contracts due to COVID-19; and
- BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and women artists are strongly encouraged to apply.

The Selection Panel will recommend (8) artists to the City of Austin Municipal Courthouse Executive Team.

The (8) recommended artists will then be asked to submit a design proposal and prepare a presentation that will be attended by the COA Municipal Courthouse Executive team. Design proposals will be paid.

The COA Municipal Courthouse Executive team will then select (5) artists from the (8) Panel recommended artists.

Selected and approved artists will be commissioned and contracted by Christine Michelle Angelone dba POOR GIRL EMPIRE, LLC.

**Proposed schedule can be found in Appendix A.**

## Proposed Schedule | Appendix A

\*Assume time zones are relative to call location.

Call Opens	October 4
Artist information meetings	October
Deadline for submissions	November 6
Selection Panel review and select (8) finalists	November 6-15
Approval from City Executive Team	November 16-17
Request for Proposals (RFP, paid) from (8) selected artists	November 17
Thanksgiving Holiday	November 25-28
Artist Interviews with City Executive Team	December 8-9
City Executive team chooses (5) artists	December 9-10
Selected Artists Announced, sign Design Agreement	December 10-11
Christmas Holiday	December 22-26
New Year Holiday	January 31-January 1
Final Design Due	January 10
Artist planning and supplies	Jan 13-20
MLK	January 17
Installations begin	January 18

## Resource List | Appendix B

The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse Executive team have provided the following research and images to provide information, as well as inspiration.

### General Austin Photos

Skyline 1967: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth123912/>

Volunteer Fire Department 1910: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth123848/>

Barton Springs World War I: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth123876/>

Barton Springs early 1920s: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124303/m1/1/>

6th Street 1914: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124507/>

City Map 1887: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124693/>

Congress Avenue Flood 1938: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124019/>

Congress Avenue early 1900s: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124884/>

Congress Avenue pre 1875: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth123955/>

Capitol in snow 1967: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124233/>

Camp Mabry 1897: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124042/>

Guadalupe Street (The Drag) 1927: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth123900/>

Moontower on 9<sup>th</sup> 1930s: <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth125220/?q=7th#top>

Austin History Center Favorite Photos: <http://library.austintexas.gov/ahc/favorite-photographs>

### Court Historical Photos

Old Courthouse in Montopolis (APD officer):

<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124037/?q=court>

City Market: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Austin\\_City\\_Market.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Austin_City_Market.jpg)

## Resource List | Appendix B

### Historical Photos of The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse

City Hall 1920 (Court in top floor)



C01101 Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

Public Market



Scene at Public Market

Before the market



Original courtroom in the old municipal building



## Resource List | Appendix B

The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse

6800 Burleson Rd., Building 310, Suite 175, Austin, Texas, 78744

**Exterior:**



The City of Austin Municipal Courthouse Art Program Management: Request for Qualifications

Vendor: poorgirlempire.com

**Courtroom 1:**



**Courtrooms 2 – 5:**



Interior:



## Additional Resources

[Offical Call for Artists on PublicArtist.org](#)

[www.poorgirlempire/open-calls.com](http://www.poorgirlempire/open-calls.com)

## Contact Information

**Christine Michelle Angelone, City Vendor | dba POOR GIRL EMPIRE, LLC**  
**512-694-9448 | [christine@poorgirlempire.com](mailto:christine@poorgirlempire.com)**

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## Zoom Meeting information

Topic: Call for Artists: City of Austin Municipal Court Art Program

Time: Oct 7, 2021 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Time: Oct 14, 2021 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94486082288>

Meeting ID: 944 8608 2288

One tap mobile

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 944 8608 2288

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/94486082288>