

CALL TO ARTISTS

Public Art Opportunity



City of Austin (Texas): Art in Public Places

Austin Public Libraries – *Seven Branches*

Deadline for Submissions – 5:00PM CST: January 31, 2023

DIRECT PURCHASE OF EXISTING ARTWORKS

The City of Austin Art in Public Places program (AIPP) of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department seeks to acquire existing artworks from up to seven visual artists or artist teams for the inclusion in the City of Austin’s AIPP Collection and installed at seven distinct City of Austin Branch Libraries. Locations are listed below.

Cepeda Branch	651 N Pleasant Valley Rd, Austin, TX 78702
Little Walnut Creek Branch	835 W Rundberg Ln, Austin, TX 78758
Hampton at Oak Hill Branch	5125 Convict Hill Rd, Austin, TX 78749
Manchaca Branch	5500 Manchaca Rd, Austin, TX 78745
Old Quarry Branch	7051 Village Center Drive, Austin, TX 78731
St. John Branch	7500 Blessing Ave, Austin, TX 78752
Willie Mae Kirk Branch	3101 Oak Springs Drive, Austin, TX 78702

BACKGROUND

In 1928, Austin voters approved \$150,000 in bonds for a permanent Library building. A temporary building was moved to Angelina Street to become Austin's first public library branch, Carver Branch. Much progress has happened since then. Today, the City of Austin operates 21 branch libraries. Each of which caters to a unique and diverse audience of residents.

AQUISITION OVERVIEW

The Austin Public Library provides knowledge, technology and inspiration to the Austin community. Libraries offer hubs for books and education and can also be a meeting place of minds and incubators of ideas. The seven libraries above have recently completed or are currently undergoing various levels of renovations. Due to the low amount of dollars appropriated from each library renovation project for AIPP, staff determined a process to leverage AIPP opportunities while also supporting more artists through an equitable process.

Acquired artworks will be consistent with and mindful of each branch’s community values. The artwork will reflect the diversity of the residents and constituent groups that use each branch. A goal is for the artwork to positively add to each respective patron’s experience while also inspiring the community.

BUDGET: Total combined budget is \$91,000

The purchase amount for seven individual artworks is \$13,000; inclusive of shipping expenses and installation costs. The total combined budget is \$91,000.

ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is limited to professional visual Austin-based artists who reside in the seven counties of the Austin metro area (Travis, Hays, Williamson, Bastrop, Caldwell, Burnet, and Blanco counties) and

who are at least 18 years of age.

Artists are ineligible if they have permanent work represented in the City of Austin Art In Public Places collection, are currently under contract with the City of Austin for a permanent public artwork commission or if they are a City of Austin full-time employee. Applicants that do not meet these eligibility requirements will be withdrawn from consideration.

SELECTION PROCESS

Eligible artists will submit existing artworks available for purchase. A seven-member selection panel comprised of arts professionals and Austin Public Library staff will recommend a minimum of seven artworks for purchase.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Artists will submit the following information:

- 12 images of completed artwork available for purchase
- Resume
- Demographic survey

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The panel will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

- Quality and aesthetics of past work
- Originality and innovation of work as presented
- Appropriateness to site(s): scale, media, subject matter

TIMELINE

Application Deadline	February 2022
Artists Selected	March 2023
Artworks Purchased	Summer 2023
Artworks Delivered and Installed	Fall 2023

Questions regarding this opportunity must be directed in writing to:
Ryan Runcie, Art in Public Places at ryan.runcie@austintexas.gov