



TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION
Municipal Art Collection

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION PROCESS

PURPOSE

TO PRIORITIZE THE ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS AND TO DETERMINE THE METHODOLOGY BY WHICH ARTISTS WILL BE SELECTED.

DEFINITION

ARTIST SELECTION PANEL IS A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS THAT INCLUDES PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS, ARTISTS, ART/DESIGN PROFESSIONALS, TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION MEMBERS, AND NON-ARTIST CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES THAT HAVE BEEN APPOINTED BY THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION TO SELECT ARTISTS TO PROVIDE WORKS AND/OR ARTISTIC SERVICES TO THE CITY OF TACOMA.

POLICY

1. THE TACOMA ART COMMISSION RECOGNIZES ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO FOSTER THE ARTS IN TACOMA AND TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF TACOMA ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE. THUS, THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION WILL SELECT ARTISTS IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY PROVIDING THAT THE LEVEL OF PROFESSIONALISM OF ALL CANDIDATES IS EQUAL:
 - A. TACOMA ARTISTS
 - B. GREATER PUGET SOUND REGIONAL ARTISTS
 - C. PACIFIC NORTHWEST ARTISTS
 - D. NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ARTISTS

2. IN ALL CASES, THE SELECTION OF ARTISTS SHALL RESULT IN THE COMMISSIONING, CREATING, OR PURCHASING OF ARTWORK OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY DETERMINED BY A SERIES OF CRITERIA.

3. CRITERIA FOR EACH PROJECT AND THUS THE SELECTION OF THE APPROPRIATE ARTIST FOR EACH PROJECT SHALL FOLLOW THESE STANDARDS:
 - A. QUALITY - THE INHERENT QUALITY OF THE WORK IS OF THE HIGHEST CALIBER.
 - B. ARTIST ABILITIES - THE ARTIST'S RESUME SHOULD DEMONSTRATE A PROFESSIONAL LEVEL OF COMMITMENT AND EXPERIENCE.
 - C. STYLE AND NATURE - DESIGN PROJECTS AND ARTWORK SHOULD BE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, MATERIAL, FORM, AND CONTENT FOR THE PROPOSED SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT AND/OR ARCHITECTURE. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FUNCTION OF THE FACILITY OR PLACE, THE SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL CONTEXT OF THE WORK, AND THE MANNER IN WHICH PEOPLE MAY INTERACT WITH IT.
 - D. PERMANENCE AND TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY - MATERIALS PROPOSED FOR THE PROJECT SHOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR ITS PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC USAGE. DUE CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO STRUCTURAL AND SURFACE INTEGRITY, PUBLIC SAFETY, PROTECTION AGAINST THEFT, VANDALISM,

WEATHERING, SEASONAL CLIMATIC CHANGES, EXCESSIVE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR COSTS, AND INTENDED LIFE EXPECTANCY OF THE WORK. IN SOME CASES, PROJECTS WILL BE REVIEWED BY A LICENSED ENGINEER AND/OR A PROFESSIONAL ART CONSERVATOR.

- E. DIVERSITY - EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO REPRESENT TACOMA'S ETHNIC AND GENDER DIVERSITY. THE OVERALL PROGRAM WILL STRIVE FOR DIVERSITY IN STYLE, SCALE, MEDIA, SUBJECT MATTER, AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF ARTWORK. THE PROGRAM SHOULD STRIVE TO INCLUDE INNOVATIVE WORK AS WELL AS MORE TRADITIONAL ART FORMS.

4. THE METHOD OF SELECTING ARTISTS SHALL BE THROUGH THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES:

- A. OPEN COMPETITION - THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION MAY SOLICIT THROUGH PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT REQUESTS FOR ARTISTS' SLIDES, RESUMES, AND LETTERS OF INTEREST. THE COMMISSION OR ITS DESIGNEE WILL REVIEW SUBMITTALS AND RECOMMEND AN ARTIST THAT MEETS THE COMMISSION'S REQUIREMENTS.
- B. INVITATIONAL OR LIMITED COMPETITION - THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION OR ART SELECTION PANEL MAY INVITE A LIMITED NUMBER OF ARTISTS TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS OR PREPARE PROPOSALS. FROM THIS LIMITED POOL, THE COMMISSION OR DESIGNEE MAY RECOMMEND AN ARTIST BASED ON ESTABLISHED CRITERIA.
- C. PUBLIC ART RESOURCE BANK - THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION OR ART SELECTION PANEL MAY SELECT ARTISTS FROM THE PUBLIC ART RESOURCE BANK. THESE ARTISTS ARE PRE-SELECTED BY A JURIED PROCESS BASED UPON QUALITY OF WORK, SKILLS, EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS. THEIR SLIDES ARE KEPT ON FILE IN THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OFFICE. THE PUBLIC ART RESOURCE BANK WILL BE USED FOR LIMITED AND DIRECT SELECTION OF ARTISTS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION.
- D. DIRECT SELECTION - THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION OR ARTIST SELECTION PANEL MAY SELECT AN ARTIST OR COMPLETED WORK FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC ART RESOURCE BANK AND/OR BY STUDIO OR GALLERY VISITS AND INTERVIEW(S) WITH THE ARTIST IF THE ARTIST OR ARTWORK MEETS THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION.

5. ART SELECTION PANEL.

- A. COMPOSITION - ART SELECTION PANELS SHALL BE COMPOSED OF AT LEAST THREE VOTING MEMBERS. THE PRECISE SIZE OF THE PANEL SHALL DEPEND UPON THE SIZE AND COMPLEXITY OF THE PROJECT. ALL PANELS SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THE ARTWORK IS TO BE SITED, A MEMBER OF THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION, AND AN ARTIST OR ART/DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION MAY SERVE AS THE ART SELECTION PANEL.
- B. FACILITATION - A NON-VOTING FACILITATOR WILL CHAIR EACH PANEL. THIS FACILITATOR WILL BE A MEMBER OF THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION STAFF.
- C. VOTING - EACH VOTING PANELIST WILL HAVE ONE VOTE. ADVISORS TO THE PANEL MAY PARTICIPATE FREELY IN DISCUSSION AND DEBATE BUT MAY NOT VOTE. OBSERVERS WILL NOT VOTE OR PARTICIPATE IN THE DELIBERATIONS OR DISCUSSION. IN THE EVENT THE PANEL IS UNABLE TO ARRIVE AT A CONSENSUS IN A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME, THE CHAIR SHALL CALL FOR A VOTE AND THE MAJORITY SHALL RULE. THE PANEL HAS THE OPTION TO MAKE NO SELECTION, IF, IN ITS OPINION, THERE IS INSUFFICIENT MERIT IN THE ENTRIES.
- D. PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS - THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ART SELECTION PANEL WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION FOR FINAL APPROVAL. THE ART SELECTION PANEL WILL PROVIDE A REPORT STATING THE REASONS FOR ITS SELECTION, ADDRESSING THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION'S STATED OBJECTIVES, PARAMETERS, AND CRITERIA. A STAFF REPORT, DOCUMENTING THE SELECTION PANEL DELIBERATIONS WILL ACCOMPANY THE RECOMMENDATION. THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION SHALL APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ART SELECTION PANEL.
- E. MEETINGS - DURING THE EVALUATION OF ARTIST SELECTION MATERIALS THROUGH THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT, THE ARTIST SELECTION PANEL SHALL MEET AS OFTEN AS NECESSARY. PANELISTS SHALL NOT DISCUSS THEIR APPLICATION WITH THE ARTIST UNLESS REQUESTED BY THE CHAIR.