



PADDOCK PARK PUBLIC ART PROJECT CALL FOR CURATORS



View of Paddock Park and Tarrant County Courthouse

Summary:

The Fort Worth Public Art Program seeks professional curators with a background in storytelling, preferably with Native American art expertise for the Paddock Park public art project. Paddock Park's prominent location, including its proximity to the Trinity River and historic courthouse, make it an ideal location for a permanent, "iconic" public art project addressing Native American heritage. Further, for iconic artworks the *Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan Update* recommends that a curatorial panel be engaged to nominate artists uniquely suited to this project. As such, FWPA is assembling a Paddock Park Curatorial Panel of 3-5 selected curators and a Project Core Team (PCT), which will include members of the Heritage Park Steering committee and other cultural organizations.

Curatorial Panel Selection:

Curators will be selected based on demonstrated experience telling the Native American story, preferably in large-scale artworks. Curators should also maintain a willingness to work collaboratively with other professionals and accept input from the community. Curators with experience working with Native American Artists in public art or large-scale works are highly encouraged to apply.

Application materials for curators will be presented to the Selection Panel, who will recommend 3-5 curators for the Paddock Park Curatorial Panel. The recommendations will be presented to the Fort Worth Art Commission (FWAC) for approval. Approved members of the Curatorial Panel will be provided a stipend of \$1,000.00 each from the project budget for participation in the artist selection process.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Paddock Park Curatorial Panel:

The selected Curatorial Panel will work closely with the public art project manager, review the *Heritage Park & Paddock Park Public Art Master Plan*, and meet with the PCT to discuss the goals and context of the public art project. The panel will meet via virtual platform and collectively identify a pool of artists for consideration. The Curatorial Panel shall then select approximately 6-8 artists with suitable experience and craftsmanship who can create artwork addressing Native American heritage in a scale appropriate for the site. The Selection Panel will review the suggested artists' previous works and recommend 3-5 artist finalists to create conceptual proposals.

Submission Requirements:

All submissions will be reviewed for completeness by a committee of a representative of the Fort Worth Art Commission and Arts Fort Worth staff.

1. Letter of Interest (500-word limit) which provides an overview of:
 - a. Philosophical approach to exhibitions/projects
 - b. Interest, experience, or related experience, with public art (permanent or temporary)
 - c. Experience working with Native American Artists
 - d. Experience, or related experience, working with the Native American community
2. Current resume. (2-page max)
3. Three professional references (contact information only)
4. Up to ten (10) images of past exhibitions/projects, including installation views. With each image, please include:
 - a. Title
 - b. Exhibition/curatorial statement
 - c. Project budget (as applicable)
 - d. Location and commissioning agency (as applicable)

Timeline

Call Opens: April 16, 2025

Deadline for Submissions: May 28, 2025

List of Curators Presented for Approval to Fort Worth Art Commission: June 23, 2025

Contact Information

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About Fort Worth Public Art

Fort Worth Public Art is a City of Fort Worth program created to enhance the visual environment, commemorate the city's rich cultural and ethnic diversity, integrate artwork into the development of the City's capital infrastructure improvements, and to promote tourism and economic vitality. Managed by Arts Fort Worth with oversight of the Fort Worth Art Commission, FWPA strives for artistic excellence and meaningful community engagement. For more information, please visit: www.fwpublicart.org or follow @fwpublicart.