

**Austin Art in Public Places 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool  
11/18/2020 and 12/10/2020 Artist Information Meetings  
Question & Answer Summary**

**AIPP Projects & Pool Use**

**Typically, how many Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) projects are artists selected for in a year?**

AIPP usually facilitates artist selection for 7-10 permanent projects per year. However, the number of projects varies from year to year.

**How many AIPP projects are you anticipating using the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool for?**

We don't yet know for which future projects the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool will be used as a selection tool. We anticipate having 12-15 projects for which the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Pool could potentially be used.

**Are all the AIPP projects for permanent art or are some temporary?**

AIPP is more likely to use the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool as a selection tool for permanent artwork projects. However, the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool list will be publicly accessible and AIPP does share the list with other entities (commissioning agencies, organizations, municipalities, etc.) who request the Pool list for their own project selections. Another entity could potentially use the Pool to select for temporary art opportunities.

**How many local artists were selected for a project from the last Pre-Qualified Pool round?**

The 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool was used 6 times within the 2018-2020 time period. The 2018-2020 National Pre-Qualified Artist Pool was not used. As a result, AIPP would like to carry as many 2018-2020 national artists forward for future opportunities as possible by having them opt-in to the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool.

**Are there regularly opportunities for non-Austin area artists? How about for those Texas-wide?**

Staff believes that AIPP will have some national opportunities coming up—perhaps as many as 4 in the next 18 months or so. The opportunities for artists outside of Austin and Texas are our national calls, which tend to be for larger scale, larger budget projects—for which we try to cast a wider net when seeking an artist. More recently, there has been more of a focus on hiring local artists for projects—perhaps, in part, in reaction to the pandemic and the need to support the local community with opportunities.

**Will opportunities to create artwork for the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport pull from this Artist Pool or is that a completely different process?**

Opportunities to create permanent public art for the airport will not necessarily pull exclusively from the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. However, AIPP Pre-Qualified Pools have been used for airport project artist selections in the past.

**Does AIPP work with artists who do mainly framed work? Is there a need for framed art for some projects to fill spaces?**

AIPP does not do a lot of purchasing of 2D works that hang on a wall, such as framed pieces. However, artists who working mainly in 2D still have public art opportunities with AIPP. AIPP seeks to work with 2D artists and help them understand how they can bring their work into a more robust, outdoor environment. You would need to be willing to get help from an architect, engineer, or even an artist

with experience working within the public realm to realize a concept. The experience of translating your idea into a permanent work is kind of an adventure. So, when you are applying to the Pool call, you might need to think about your work coming forward in a different way. If that reimagining does not appeal to you, just know that there are not many opportunities for framed work through the Austin AIPP Program. You might consider applying to the People’s Gallery Program to have your artwork hang in City Hall—whenever Austin’s Cultural Arts Division can bring that program back. (The People’s Gallery has been paused due to the pandemic.)

**To my understanding, AIPP pulls from the Pool for projects already created. Are there opportunities for artists to propose their own project ideas to AIPP? (Not necessarily for the selection of the artist that presented the idea, but proposing the idea and have it open to the Pool as a whole.)**

AIPP primarily works with Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding. That means that AIPP projects are tied to construction that the City of Austin is already planning to do—such as building a fire station, creating a park, or renovating a City-owned facility like a tennis center. If that CIP construction project is eligible for an accompanying AIPP project (under the public art ordinance), AIPP staff goes to work to define the parameters and goals for the AIPP project and seek out an artist for the artwork opportunity. So, AIPP usually starts with a need for a public artwork project (required by the ordinance) and then seeks out and hires an artist to fulfill that need. Artists or arts organizations looking for funding to fulfill a public art project idea might look to the following alternative City of Austin options for funding:

- AIPP TEMPO Program (for temporary public art proposals):
  - About the TEMPO Program: [austintexas.gov/department/tempo](http://austintexas.gov/department/tempo)
  - Applications for TEMPO 2021 (due 01/26/2021): [publicartist.org/austinaipp](http://publicartist.org/austinaipp)
- Cultural Funding: [austintexas.gov/department/cultural-funding](http://austintexas.gov/department/cultural-funding)
- Neighborhood Partnering Program: [austintexas.gov/department/neighborhood-partnering-program](http://austintexas.gov/department/neighborhood-partnering-program)

### **Pool Make-Up & Artist Selection**

**What is the number of artists currently in the Pool? Is there a cap on how many will be accepted?**

All artists who were selected for AIPP’s 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool, 2018-2020 National Pre-Qualified Artist Pool, and Corridor Construction Program Artist Pool have been invited to be automatically included in the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. This opt-in invitation went out to a total of 221 artists and artist teams. We don’t know how many of these artists will opt-in. We hope all will. There’s not a cap on how many artists can be accepted into the Pool. The number of new artists accepted into the Pool will be determined during the jurying process.

**Will there be some spots dedicated to artists who have never done public art in the Pool? If so, how many?**

AIPP is not predetermining or holding a number of spots in the Pool for artists who have never done public art. All artist recommendations for the Pool will be determined during the jurying process of new applications. However, AIPP does have an emphasis on supporting emerging artists and seeks to diversify the City of Austin’s public art collection.

**Does AIPP ever pick artists for certain projects that are on the table?**

AIPP staff never makes artist selections for pools or projects themselves. Artist selections are always made by a group of visual arts professionals—unless an artist is being selected from the Pool for an individual project. That process can be more complicated. Direct selects for projects do happen, but only

under very specific circumstances and always under the guidance of the AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission.

### Eligibility

#### **Do I have to participate in AIPP’s TEMPO Program before I apply to this Pool?**

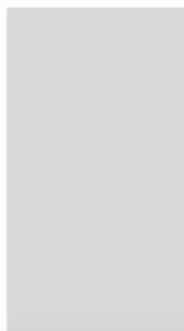
No, you do not have to participate in TEMPO before applying to the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. The 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool call is open to artists in all stages of their careers.

#### **I’m in Bell County, so the Austin Cultural Arts Division programs don’t seem to allow me to apply for things—like the People’s Gallery—even though I’m only an hour away. Is there any way to expand eligibility out from Austin a little?**

Some of AIPP’s projects are required to go to local artists. “Local” for AIPP is typically defined as Travis County and the six counties that touch Travis—Williamson, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet, and Blanco counties. However, the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool call is open to artists living in the U.S. and territories. We hope that artists living near Austin but outside of the 7-county Austin metropolitan area will apply.

### Request for Qualifications & Application

Could we please get a quick review of the Pool goals slide again?



The goals slide above lists abbreviated versions of the Pool goals listed on the application and Request for Qualifications (shown below).

Pool Goals as listed on the Application & Request for Qualifications:

The Art in Public Places program seeks artists or artist teams whose work advances public understanding of visual art and enhances the aesthetic quality of public places through innovative and thoughtful design. An artist or artist team is encouraged to design artwork that:

- Supports the artwork goals set for the respective Capital Improvement Program project for which the artist or artist team is chosen;
- Identifies and considers opportunities for innovation or enhanced civic engagement;
- Transforms a space or the user experience in a way that is widely accessible for in-person and/or virtual viewers;
- Reflects the diversity of Austin and sparks a conversation within the community; Considers a contemporary art dialogue and contributes to the depth and breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection; and
- Is safe, easily maintained, and vandal-resistant.

**Is it better to have a PDF of my resume or to fill out the application template?**

Either option is fine. Submitting a PDF allows you to customize the resume more stylistically. However, the application template also comes through very clearly and it's easy to read. Use whatever form you think is best.

**Is there a button to opt-in if you were a previous pre-qualified artist or do you have to fill out the application again? If we are able to opt-in but our experience in public art needs updating, how can we demonstrate that?**

All artists who were selected for AIPP's 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool, 2018-2020 National Pre-Qualified Artist Pool, and Corridor Construction Program Artist Pool have been invited to be automatically included in the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. To opt-in, logon to your PublicArtist.org account and go to My Applications and Drafts to find the Pool application that AIPP staff has drafted for you (based on your previous application information). It's recommended (but not required) that you update your application information (resume, artwork images, references, etc.) before submitting your application by the deadline. We also ask that you complete the Short Answer Questions and Demographic survey on the application before submitting. All opt-in applications submitted by the deadline will be automatically included in the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool.

**Should I upload my art before applying?**

Yes, upload images of your artwork to your PublicArtist.org account. You can showcase images of your artwork in the Artwork Submissions section of the application. You might also choose to list relevant experiences (commissions, installations, etc.) on your resume.

**How long a resume would you like?**

The resume on your application should be 1 - 3 pages. Brevity on a resume is appreciated as the jurors and advisors will be reviewing many applications.

**Team Applications**

**When submitting an application, do we submit ONE as an individual artist and ANOTHER for a team of artists?**

You can apply as both an individual and as part of a team for this call. You don't have to choose between the two. Those applications would be separate. If you are applying as a team (and especially if you are also applying as an individual), consider making a PublicArtist.org profile for your team. That way, it's very clear which application is for you as an individual and which is for your team. If you are applying as

an artist team, don't forget to fill out Question 5 of the Short Answer Questions on the application. Here, you'll explain whose on your team, your individual roles, how long you've been collaborating, and how each team member contributes to the team's artistic vision. Note: If your individual application is selected for the Pool, that does not guarantee that your team application will also be selected—and vice versa. You might be selected for one and not the other.

**If artists are applying as a team, do they need to have already completed public art projects together?**

No. However, having successfully created works as a team in the past is a good indicator that you could do so in the future. If you haven't worked together on a project before, you can still explore how you see your roles and contributions playing out in the application's Short Answer Question 5.

### **Additional Questions**

**Are there any other benefits to being accepted into the Pool, such as networking with other artists? Does AIPP have any social media group or place for artists operating in Austin?**

All the artists included in the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool will be listed on the AIPP application page [PublicArtist.org/AustinAIPP](https://PublicArtist.org/AustinAIPP), which is publicly accessible. AIPP will also share out the Pool list to other programs, partners, or entities interested in selecting artists for their own projects. AIPP has been moving toward hiring cohorts of artists for groups of projects so that the artists can learn together and be a resource to one another as they move through their projects. We hadn't thought about using the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool as an opportunity for interaction between the accepted artists, but it's a great idea and might be achievable.

**Where can I find the link to this presentation or slide deck?**

The presentation slides will be emailed out to everyone who signed up to attend one of the AIPP 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool Artist Information Meetings on EventBrite. Additionally, you can email [alex.irrera@austintexas.gov](mailto:alex.irrera@austintexas.gov) or [maria-teresa.bonet@austintexas.gov](mailto:maria-teresa.bonet@austintexas.gov) to request a copy of the slides.

**Are there things you recommend doing in addition to the Pre-Qualified application to be considered for national opportunities?**

The 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool is likely to be where most, if not all, of AIPP's national opportunities will be posted. Generally, we recommend that you subscribe to AIPP's mailing list as well. All of AIPP's open calls will be promoted there. [You can subscribe to AIPP's mailing list here.](#)

**Is AIPP allowing painted mural project proposals now?**

If you are a local artist, you could apply to the TEMPO 2021 open call with a mural proposal. We are not asking for proposals (for 2D or 3D works) on the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool application. Yes, AIPP does commission permanent mural projects for the Austin public art collection.

*If you have questions about AIPP's TEMPO 2021 open call, please visit [austintexas.gov/department/aipp-opportunities](https://austintexas.gov/department/aipp-opportunities) for more information.*