



## PUBLIC ART PROCEDURES

### Introduction

The University of Arizona Public Art collection includes over 40 outdoor public sculptures, innovative public spaces, and integrated artworks spanning decades. The collection is an essential element in establishing the University of Arizona as an arts destination and integrating art into the life of every student.

Public art is an opportunity for artists, designers, students, faculty, staff, and the Tucson community to explore cultures, histories, and artistic expressions. Each piece enlivens the campus design, engages students and faculty, inspires the broader campus community, and enhances the vitality of Tucson and the aesthetic experiences of its citizens.

### Public Art Policy

These Policy Procedures meet the charge set forth in the Public Art Policy (Res-400) for the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) to “review any and all other proposals for public art procurement, donation, or loan to the campus (no matter through which entity such proposal is made) to ensure authenticity, a consistent level of quality within the Public Art collection, as well as appropriate alignment with the University’s mission and core values.”

The PAAC will use the criteria set forth in these procedures to determine if an artwork is suitable for the University and for the proposed location on campus.

The Public Art Policy Manual is approved by Arizona Arts leadership and will be reviewed every three years by PAAC.

## DEFINITION OF PUBLIC ART

For a work of art to be reviewed by PAAC, the work must meet the following criteria:

- Placed in a shared, publicly viewable space within the UA campus, as defined by Planning, Design and Construction.
- Located outside a campus building or structure.
- On view for longer than three months.

Art may include, but is not limited to: murals, sculptures, photography, drawings, film, prints, electronic media, and mixed media. The committee does not typically review

temporary student-led or community projects, nor does it review fountains, benches, gardens, memorial plaques, or general landscaping unless requested to do so by the Executive Office of the President or the Vice President for the Arts.

## **METHODS OF ACQUISITION**

PAAC will review artwork acquired through:

- **Open Competition:** See the Public Art Policy for details.
- **Donation:** Public art may be donated to the University of Arizona through the University of Arizona Foundation. Donations may be made by the artist or donor(s). Donors may approach any unit of the University but all offers of public art must be reviewed by the PAAC.
- **Direct purchase:** A department on campus may propose to directly purchase a work of art for display on campus. Any unit may make the proposal but the purchase must be reviewed by PAAC.

## **PROCESS FOR UNSOLICITED ART PROPOSALS**

### **Step 1: Proposal Submission**

University departments may submit initial proposals to the Chair of the Public Art Advisory Committee. Individuals, student groups, or outside organizations must make proposals in collaboration with a University unit. All proposals should be given to the Chair of PAAC in writing at least four months prior to the proposed installation date.

### **Step 2: Preliminary Review**

The Chair will conduct a preliminary review to determine if the proposal is ready to submit for full committee review. If needed, the proposal will be sent back to the originator for more information.

### **Step 3: Review and Input from Stakeholders**

Additional input will be considered from relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to: University administration, UA Communications, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, students and student groups, faculty, and community members. Input will be shared with PAAC and will be accepted throughout the process.

### **Step 4: Committee Review**

PAAC reviews the proposal at a scheduled meeting, held once per semester. Committee makes recommendation to accept or deny work. If the committee needs more information to make a recommendation, the vote will take place after more information is obtained and the vote may happen through email or at the next meeting.

### **Step 5: Senior Vice President for Business Affairs Review**

Per policy, PAAC sends the recommendation to the Vice President for the Arts, who reviews and forwards it to Senior Vice President for Business Affairs for final decision. The Senior Vice President for Business Affairs may ask for more information from PAAC or from relevant stakeholders.

### **Step 6: Notification**

University accepts or declines work in a written response to the originator of the proposal, communicated through the Chair of PAAC and/or liaison to the Senior Vice President for Business Affairs. Any requirements for acceptance will be included with notification.

### **Step 7: Acceptance (if applicable)**

If the work is accepted, the originating University unit will work with PAAC and Facilities Management to arrange for installation and assist with any legal, financial or other considerations. Labels and any other didactic or wayfinding materials accompanying work must be reviewed by PAAC.

## **PROPOSALS**

The PAAC convenes three times a year during the fall, spring, and summer semesters to review proposals. All requests should be given to the Chair of the PAAC in writing at least four months prior to the proposed installation date.

The guidelines set forth in these procedures should guide proposals. All proposals should include:

- Photographs of the work and the proposed location (if available)
- Sketches or drawings
- Fabrication information
- Installation details
- Maintenance requirements
- Artist CV and artist statement
- Narrative justification for the acquisition

Donated or temporary public art works will not be considered without identified funding sources for acquisition, installation, maintenance, and removal (if necessary). A donor or lending institution must have clear title to the proposed work.

Recommendation of works will be based on the work's alignment with University of Arizona mission and values, the artist's background, the proposed location, and the design of the work. Details for each of these criteria are listed below.

### **University of Arizona Mission and Values**

- Artwork is consistent with the University of Arizona's strategic plan and Arizona Art's master plan.
- Artwork aligns with the University of Arizona's mission and core values.
- Artwork enriches the cultural and intellectual life of the campus and inspires contemplation and dialogue.
- Constituent input aligns with approval of the work including, but not limited to, input from students, faculty, staff, administrators, donors, alumni, community groups, and policymakers.

### **Artist's Background**

- Artist's career and accomplishments at a regional, national, or international level, include gallery representation, curatorial recognition, etc., especially in relation to public art works.
- Artist's connection to the University of Arizona.

### **Location**

- Artwork aligns with the physical and aesthetic environment on campus as well as how the location is used by students, staff, faculty, and visitors to campus.
- The location's landscaping is appropriate for the work.
- Vulnerability to vandalism or safety concerns are addressed at the site.

### **Maintenance**

- Safety concerns related to design, including if the artwork can be touched or climbed on.
- Permanence and durability of materials and related maintenance issues.
- Responsible unit is able to maintain work physically and financially.
- Estimated cost or work to maintain the art into the future.

## **EXCEPTIONS TO POLICY**

For those conditions where a faster timeline for approval is needed for a work of art, the proposal must originate from the Executive Office of the President or the Vice President for the Arts. The requested timeline must allow for the committee to seek input from relevant stakeholders.