



## **Call for Artists: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. & Coretta Scott King Artist Residency (King Residency)**

**Application Deadline: February 2, 2024 at 23:59 pm (PST)**

**Opportunity:** Come be the next Artist-in-Residence for the City of Palo Alto! The Palo Alto Public Art Program invites experienced public artists, art collectives, and community leaders/artist partnerships with a history of community engagement and conversation as part of their art practice, to apply to be the next **King Artist in Residence** for the Palo Alto Public Art Program. The selected artist or team will engage the community in conversations on the topic of their choice focused on equity, inclusion, and belonging in Palo Alto, resulting in a final artwork that may be displayed on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King Plaza in front of City Hall for a period of six months to one year.

**Eligibility:** This opportunity is open to individuals over the age of 18 and residing in Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Cruz and San Francisco counties. We strongly encourage who are from historically marginalized groups which include but are not limited to African-American descent, Latino (x)/ Hispanic, Asian-American Pacific Islander and Indigenous people to apply.

An Ideal candidate would be an individual or collective, whose artistic practice is rooted in empathetic collaboration, civic engagement, and critical discourse. They would be open to meaningful community outreach and partnerships, aware of their own biases, able and willing to recognize and address shared challenges in the Palo Alto community, and able to amplify the voices of diverse community members.

**Residency Scope:** The goal of King Artist Residency is to engage the community in conversations about diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in Palo Alto. The selected artist/team will have access to a shared studio space with public wifi in Palo Alto to use as their designated workspace. It is anticipated that the artist will take approximately six months to conduct the research and community outreach and spend about 16-20 hours per week focused on the residency project and outreach efforts, and out of that time, be physically present in Palo Alto (provided studio space or other relevant locations) approximately 8 – 16 hours weekly. Public Art Program staff will work closely with the Artist in Residence throughout the entire duration of the King Residency project to ensure that the Artist is provided with the resources and contacts necessary to undertake the residency. The Artist will be asked to attend biweekly check-ins with staff via phone or zoom on the progress of the outreach and project development. The overall project includes the following phases:

1. **Project initiation and research.** During this phase the Artist will develop a conceptual framework for their project and conduct research to gain a deeper understanding of the context and issues, identify relevant community partners and identify engagement strategies. At the conclusion of the phase, the Artist will provide a written report to Public Art Program staff reflecting on their initial research findings, list of community partners and stakeholders and stated level of participation, scope of core questions and discussion points for community outreach, and type(s) and means of community engagements and needed materials and resources.
2. **Creative Community Engagement and synthesis of emerging themes.** During this phase the selected artist(s) will conduct outreach to potential community partners, implement creative community engagement with the goal of gathering feedback and stories about equity, inclusion, and belonging in Palo Alto. Community outreach and engagement may take many creative approaches and ways including art making, creative storytelling, music, movement, or other methods. The artist will then synthesize community stories and themes based on feedback received from the community. The Artist will provide a written summary to the Public Art Program staff with the scope and methodology and impact of their community outreach and synthesized themes.
3. **Concept and Design Development for Temporary Artwork.** At the conclusion of the Community Outreach phase of the Residency, informed by the synthesized themes derived from interactions with the community centering on a particular equity topic, the Artist will create a proposal for an outdoor temporary artwork. As part of their proposal submittal, the Artist will be asked to prepare final documentation, including in-situ renderings and budget estimates for the production/fabrication and placement of the temporary artwork. At the conclusion of this phase the Artist will also make a presentation to the Public Art Commission highlighting the community outreach process and impacts, synthesized themes, and proposal for the temporary artwork. The temporary artwork may be two dimensional and recreated on a banner format on the front of City Hall or may have a more sculptural form on King Plaza. (Public Art Program staff is open to various ideas about methodologies and manifestation of final artwork). The artwork must be suitable for all ages viewing.

**Compensation:** The Artist will enter a contract in the amount of \$20,000 for the period of the residency (including the research, community engagement and concept and design development of artwork phases). The Public Art Program has allocated an additional budget of up to \$10,000 for the funding of materials for the creative outreach and language interpreters as needed. Monthly invoices may be submitted for reimbursement for materials.

Additionally, the Public Art Program has allocated up to \$15,000 for fabrication and placement of an artwork on King Plaza, should the design proposal be approved by staff and the Public Art Commission. The artwork may be a sculptural work displayed at King Plaza or two-dimensional work that will be translated to a banner format and installed on the front of City Hall. A separate agreement will be issued for that fabrication and placement of artwork either with the Artist and their fabricator or the City may enter into an agreement with a third-party fabricator and installer.

### **Tentative Application / Project Timeline:**

**December 19, 2023** at 5-6 PM on Zoom - Informational Meeting for Potential Applicants –. Join the webinar: <https://cityofpaloalto.zoom.us/j/83527523181>

**January 10, 2024** at 12-1 PM - Informational Meeting for Potential Applicants. Join the webinar: <https://cityofpaloalto.zoom.us/j/89215212382>

**February 2, 2024 by 23:59 pm (PST)** - Deadline to submit applications via SlideRoom

**February 9, 2024** – Shortlisted finalists announced. Selected finalists will be asked to prepare their residency proposals and offered a \$1,500 stipend.

**Week of March 11, 2024** (Exact date and time TBD) – Finalist public presentations. In-person presentations to the selection panel followed by a Q&A session will take place in Palo Alto (specific location TBD), will be public and open to community members.

**Week of March 18, 2024** – the Artist-in-Residence is announced.

**April 2024** – Contract signed. Studio is provided. Residency begins.

**October 2024** - Residency ends.

**November 2024** - Exhibition of artwork at King Plaza for a period of 6-12 months.

**Submission Requirements:** All applications must be submitted by Friday, February 2, 2024 at 23:59 pm (PST). All applications must be submitted electronically via SlideRoom (<http://CPApublicart.slideroom.com>), an online application system for artist calls. There is no application fee for artists to submit their application using SlideRoom. Applications that are submitted via email, post, fax or in person will not be considered.

First-time SlideRoom users will be required to create a username and password and set up an account. All submitted application information, including artist's resume, images of previous projects and annotated descriptions will be automatically archived and saved and can be accessed by the Public Art staff in the future. All applicants should allow adequate time to submit their applications, and we recommend that you complete your application well ahead of the deadline in case of complications. SlideRoom technical support is available at <https://support.slideroom.com/>. You may also contact the Palo Alto Public Art Program Office at 650.329.2227.

All submitted applications should include the following materials:

1. **Letter of interest** highlighting previous community engagement experience and potential areas/topics of interest. Please also share your lived experience and/or experience working with specific audiences and underserved populations which may include youth, elderly, unhoused, food insecure, individuals with disabilities, non-English speakers, LGBTQ and BIPOC and / or other audiences.

2. **Images or videos and descriptions of community engagement experience and public artwork.**  
If operating as a team / collective, please specify roles and responsibilities. Please include budget information and if the project was realized.
3. **Resume** (optional).
4. **Links to websites or social media sites.**

#### **Artist Review and Selection Process:**

The selection panel will be scoring artists based on:

- Artistic merit
- Experience with community engagement

The panelists will review the applications and select up to four finalists who will be paid a stipend of \$1,500 to research a topic of interest and create and present a proposal for their project in Palo Alto. Proposals must include:

- topic of interest (equity and accessibility around education, food, healthcare, housing, labor, mental health and wellbeing, transportation, etc.)
- proposed strategies for community engagement
- timeline /availability to take on the residency project
- potential non-profit / community partners
- budget

Finalists will present their residency project proposals, and any previous relevant work and community engagement experience in person followed by a Q&A session with the panel. The Presentations will be public and may be attended by community members. The public will have the opportunity to review artists' residency proposals and give feedback to the selection panel regarding the candidates before they deliberate.

Up to two artists will be selected for the residency as part of the King Residency temporary public art program.

**Background:** In the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King and Coretta Scott King, for whom King Plaza is named, the Council asked the Public Art Commission to consider commissioning a permanent work signaling the City's commitment to race, equity, and belonging. The Public Art Commission is committed to a permanent platform for ongoing conversations about equity, inclusion, and belonging in Palo Alto through the arts. As a result, the King residency program was established.

**City of Palo Alto's Equity Mission Statement:** The City of Palo Alto is committed to creating a respectful, fair, and professional workplace and city. We will identify prejudices, eliminate inequities, welcome many perspectives, and use a collaborative approach to create an environment that works for everyone. The City's commitment to achieve equity in Palo Alto is the shared responsibility of our residents, organizations, governments, and other institutions.

## Helpful Links:

- To learn more about the City of Palo Alto Public Art Program, visit the website: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/publicart>
- To learn more about the King Artist Residency, previous Artists-in-Residency and their projects, visit: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Community-Services/Arts-Sciences/Public-Art-Program/King-Artist-Residency>
- Link to the City's [Race and Equity Page](#).
- To learn more about the City's Office of Human Services and its programming and efforts, visit <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Community-Services/Human-Services>
- [ODEB - Division of Equity and Social Justice - County of Santa Clara \(sccgov.org\)](#)
- [BARHII - Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative](#)
- [Strategic Plan for the Public Health Department - Public Health - County of Santa Clara \(sccgov.org\)](#)
- [Health data - Public Health - County of Santa Clara \(sccgov.org\)](#)
- [Racial and Health Equity - Public Health - County of Santa Clara \(sccgov.org\)](#)
- [Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey Reports - Office of Supportive Housing - County of Santa Clara \(sccgov.org\)](#)
- [Human Relations Commission Report about Black and Brown History in Palo Alto and HRC Recommendations on #8CantWait](#)

## ABOUT THE PALO ALTO PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

**Mission Statement:** The Palo Alto Public Art Program promotes the highest caliber of artwork, commissioning memorable public artworks and experiences that stimulate discussion and thoughtful reflection, celebrating Palo Alto's character and enhancing civic pride and sense of place.

**Vision Statement:** Public art reflects Palo Alto's people, diverse neighborhoods, the innovative and global character of its businesses and academic institutions, and the beauty of its natural environment.

**Program Overview:** The Program operates in accordance with Chapter 2.26 Visual Art in Public Places Policy of Palo Alto Municipal Code which specifies that the City will budget one percent (1%) of its construction costs to include public art for City capital improvement projects. In addition, in 2013 the City adopted an Ordinance to add chapter 16.61 to the Municipal Code establishing a requirement for public art in private construction projects requiring Architectural Review over 10,000 square feet, with an estimated construction value of more than \$200,000. The Ordinance provides the option of commissioning artwork on the development site equal to the cost of one percent (1%) of the estimated construction valuation or making the one percent (1%) in-lieu contribution to the Public Art Fund. The program also supports an active temporary public art program.

**Contact:** Contact us at [nadya.chuprina@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:nadya.chuprina@cityofpaloalto.org) with any requests for additional information.

**Stay in Touch:** Interested in other public art opportunities? Visit the City of Palo Alto Public Art Program webpage <http://cityofpaloalto.org/publicart>, subscribe to our monthly newsletter, or follow up on social media @publicartpa.

## **PUBLIC ART PROGRAM POLICIES**

**Acceptance of Applications:** The City of Palo Alto Public Art Program reserves the right in their sole discretion not to accept any applications to not accept any artist recommended by any of the selection panels, to initiate an alternate selection process, or to reissue the RFQ for additional pre-qualified artist candidates.

**Maquette Policy:** In the event Applicant is asked to develop a proposal, maquette, or other conceptual design materials, the City of Palo Alto will compensate the artist for the design work and the following policy shall apply. The City of Palo Alto Public Art Program shall:

- At its sole discretion, have unconditional rights to own maquettes or other design materials produced as part of this selection and/or commission process.
- Have the right to display and/or reproduce any maquettes or proposal commissioned, whether selected for implementation or not.
- Require that all proposals and/or maquettes submitted are original and unique.

Applicant shall retain all copyright in the work which may be held by Applicant.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The selected artist / artist team will be required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements in addition to related federal, state and local codes and will be encouraged to develop artwork(s) sensitive to programmatic as well as physical accessibility issues.

**Other Requirements:** As part of the City of Palo Alto's procurement process, artists and artist teams selected and approved by the Public Art Commission will enter a contract with the City for the entire duration of the project. Based on the specific scope of the project, the artist may be required to secure and maintain various types of insurance, including Automobile Liability, General Liability and other insurance as needed. While some items specific to individual projects such as scope of work, payment schedule and schedule of deliverables may be negotiated, the terms of the contract as approved by the City of Palo Alto will not be changed.