



ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL

ASC Public Art Program

Tips for Applying for a Commission

START EARLY—DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE TO APPLY!

Letter of Interest or Video

- Express your interest in the project. What are your essential interests as an artist?
- Mention any relevant experience you have with public art or community projects, and draw connections with this particular project.
- Discuss your process for conceptual development, designing, and fabricating your work (in general).
- Is your work typically site-specific? Provide examples.
- Are you comfortable involving communities in your artistic process? Provide examples.
- Indicate ways a viewer may experience your work up close and from a distance.
- Close with why you think you would be the best artist for the commission.

CV's/Resume or Biography

- A resume includes all art-related work experience, starting with your most recent.
- A biography may only include the art-related work experience you want to highlight.

Portfolio Images

- Images should align with the type of project outlined in the RFQ/RFP.
- Image quality is extremely important. The images should be clear and focused.
- Don't submit composites (multiple perspectives or artworks on one image).

Image Annotations

- Include the title of the artwork, date and location, brief project description, medium and dimensions, budget, and commissioning agent or client.

References

- References for the finalists will be checked, please confirm contact information is accurate.

ASC administers the public art program for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.



Tips for Applying for a Commission

STUDIO ART

- Emphasis on personal vision
- Requires limited business interaction; often handled by art dealers.
- Personal expression that does not consider characteristics, interests and concerns of the audience.
- Scale is a personal decision usually within parameters of gallery space.
- Emphasis is on studio art skills
- Durability of art needs to be sufficient for indoor gallery conditions.

PUBLIC ART

- Includes collaborative vision often involving architects, landscapers and community members.
- Requires substantial interaction with public agencies, fabricators and consultants.
- Personal expression that does consider characteristics, interests, and concerns of the audience.
- Scale is determined in relation to specific public space, is often larger, considering visibility from a distance.
- Involves additional design and business skills working with professionals in related fields and with the community.
- Necessitates careful attention to and knowledge of various materials and construction in order to address location, safety and high traffic conditions.

