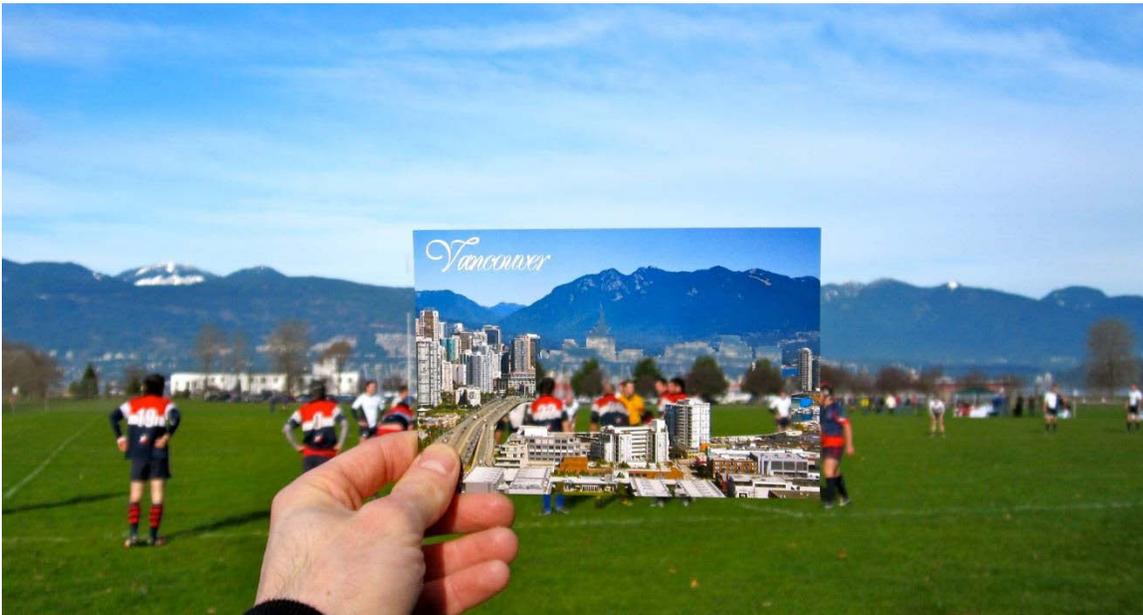


Open Call for Artist-Initiated Projects



Vanessa Kwan, *Vancouver Vancouver Vancouver* (2010), Photo: Rowan Barrett

The City of Vancouver Public Art Program invites artists to submit their ideas for public art projects. Artists can propose artworks in any scale, scope, and medium, including the performative and temporary. We are most interested in proposals that reflect on the complexities of place and publics, engage cultural practices, and engender critical dialogue. This is an invitation for artists to experiment and propose meaningful gestures within public space today. Initial applications require only a short statement of interest, resume and images of previous work.

The Artist-Initiated Call is open to both established and emerging artists, including those interested in expanding their practices into the public realm for the first time. The City of Vancouver's Public Art Program is committed to supporting artists in the creation of new works, by providing necessary resources and staff support through the course of project development and realization.

Submission Deadline: Thursday, June 6, 2019, 3pm PDT

Background

Over the past decade Public Art has periodically invited artists to propose ideas for new public artworks through open calls for Artist-Initiated Projects. Through this process, artists have realized an extraordinary range of projects expanding on ideas of what public art can be. These projects have included temporary and permanent works such as Cease Wyss and Anne Riley's *A Constellation of Remediation* (2018-), Paul Wong's *Occupying Chinatown* (2018-19), Sabine Bitter and Helmut Weber's *A Sign for the City* (2011-12), Geoffrey Farmer's *Every Letter in the Alphabet* (2009-10), and Ken Lum's *Monument for East Vancouver* (2010).

For a complete list of previously commissioned projects visit: vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/artist-initiated-commissions

Unceded Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh lands

Located on the unceded ancestral homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples, the City of Vancouver is committed to supporting artworks that increase the visibility of these three Nations on the land.

Public Art Program, City of Vancouver

Artist-Initiated Projects are commissioned and supported by the City of Vancouver through the Public Art Program, Cultural Services. The Public Art Program works with artists, communities, City departments, and developers to commission new public artworks across the city. Contemporary art is incorporated into city planning and development through public art plans, civic commissions, public art requirements for private development, non-profit partnerships and temporary projects. Since 1991, the program has offered a range of opportunities, supporting significant public art projects in various media, including commissions by Liam Gillick, Rodney Graham, Myfanwy MacLeod, Susan Point, and Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas.

Eligibility

The Artist-Initiated Call is open to all artists, working individually or in collaboration. Artists and cultural practitioners of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations are especially encouraged to apply.

For the purposes of this call, the definition of an artist is a regular practitioner who:

- has completed basic academic training in art or an apprenticeship with an accomplished practitioner in the field, or
- maintains an artistic practice and has publicly shared an independent body of their work for at least two years, or
- is recognized as an artist by peers within their community

You do not have to be a resident of Vancouver, but you must have significant experience with and relationship to this place.

Goals for Artist-Initiated Projects

- Enable artists to create their own public art opportunities
- Commission significant public artworks
- Support Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh visibility on the land
- Engage established understandings of the city
- Mentor and support artists in producing public art

Sites

Artists should propose sites of interest for their project. Shortlisted artists will work to confirm a site during a Concept Development and Detailed Design stage.

Potential locations for site-specific works on city-owned properties could include plazas, greenways, community centres, libraries, and civic infrastructure. Privately owned sites may be considered if they are publicly accessible and an agreement with the owner can be reached. Projects proposed for parks must be approved by Park Board.

No proposals will be considered for Stanley Park, Locarno Beach, Vanier Park, or Jericho Beach at this time. Sites of significance to the local First Nations, including shoreline areas, will only be pursued with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh support.

Anticipated Schedule

Open Call Released: Thursday, April 4

Artist information sessions: Thursday April 25 & Tuesday, May 7

Submission deadline: Thursday, June 6, 3pm PDT

Shortlist selected: Week of June 24

Orientation of shortlisted artists: Week of July 8

Concept proposals due: Week of September 16

Finalists selected: Week of October 1

Artworks commissioned: Week of October 14

Information Sessions for Artists

Staff will discuss the opportunity and answer questions. Notes from the Q&A will be posted online at: vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/public-art

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2019

Time: 6:30 pm

Place: nəc'aʔmat ct Strathcona Branch Library, 730 East Hastings Street

Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Room B, Roundhouse Community Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews

Selection

Proposals will be evaluated by a panel of artists, curators, and members of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations in a two-stage process. In the first stage, the Selection Panel will shortlist artists who will be paid an honorarium to develop Concept Proposals. In the second stage the panel will recommend the final projects to be commissioned.

Artist selection for the shortlist will be based on these criteria:

- Strength and creativity of past work
- Demonstrated ability to produce and present work
- Connection and relevance to place
- Contribution to the public art collection of the City
- Engagement with critical dialogues in contemporary art
- Consistency with the recognition of Vancouver as the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations

How to Apply

All proposals must be submitted via the online application form. Only one submission will be accepted per artist, though works may be proposed for more than one site. Completed proposals are not requested or required at the first application stage. If you have any questions please contact publicart@vancouver.ca.

Application Support

Applicants who are Deaf, live with a disability, or might not be able to access the online system and need support to complete their applications may receive funding to cover the costs of assistance from service providers. Please contact publicart@vancouver.ca, or (604) 829 9555 for more information.

Submission Requirements

1. A statement about your approach to this opportunity, how you see the work situated, and how this idea relates to your practice. (300 word maximum)
2. Up to 8 images or 2 videos of previous work, with a corresponding image list.
3. A resume.
4. A brief summary of your approach to this opportunity. (25 word maximum)

Deadline for submissions: Thursday June 6, 2019, 3pm (PDT)