

The Woodlands Arts Council (TWAC)

Public Art Initiative- Art Benches

The Woodlands, Texas is an award-winning, master-planned community of more than 100,000 residents with a strong history of public art. The Woodlands Arts Council invite national and international artists to apply for the next installation of the Woodlands Art Bench outdoor permanent collection. This call is for Six (6) separate Art Benches. These Six (6) Phase 3 Art Benches are being planned for along The Woodlands Waterway and the Hughes Landing commercial area adjacent to Lake Woodlands. Sites can be viewed on the website: www.thewoodlandsartscouncil.org. Thus far, fourteen Art Benches have been commissioned and installed along The Woodlands Waterway through a partnership with The Woodlands Township and the generous funding of underwriters in the community. Walk from The Woodlands Mall to Town Green Park and enjoy the beauty and practicality of these one-of-a-kind Art Benches designed by local, national and international artists.

Three (3) finalist will be chosen for each bench in a preliminary selection process and will receive a \$300 stipend. One (1) artist from these finalists will be chosen to construct a bench, receiving a stipend of \$8,000.

Artists are encouraged to work conceptually with the chosen site and underwriter's vision. The Woodlands is an aesthetically unique district, with its natural landscapes and waterway backdrop. We challenge the artists to conceptualize work that can highlight their own vision in conjunction with both the underwriter and these unique chosen sites.

The images below are captured from of each site. There is also a download link for each image. We ask the artists to download the image and input your design to provide a mock-up preview of the design to be judged.

The Woodlands Bench Competition Call for Artist Instructions can be found here, and official entry to the contest is handled through CallforEntry.org after creating a free profile. There is a \$25 entry fee for the first design submitted to the contest and a \$5 entry fee for up to two additional designs. A coupon code is available in the official rules to discount the second and third and fourth entries.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

In support of the mission to promote art in the community, The Woodlands Arts Council invites artists to apply for the next installation of one of Six (6) sites in the Art Bench outdoor permanent collection. Thus far, fourteen Art Benches have been commissioned and installed in The Woodlands through a partnership with The Woodlands Township. Walk from The Woodlands Mall to Town Green Park and enjoy the beauty and practicality of these one-of-a-kind Art Benches designed by local, national and international artists. Phase 3 Art Benches are being planned for Hughes Landing expansion along the waterway.

The Woodlands Art Bench competition is open to national and international artists. Three (3) finalists will be chosen for each bench in a preliminary selection process and one (1) artist for each bench will have a stipend of \$8,000 to complete their design. Details in the following prospectus.

The winning designs will be selected by a jury committee. Top designs will be selected by the jury at large with site clearance pending appropriate approvals by the Woodlands Arts Council and Committee.

The jury selections will be made based on a blind review of the submitted designs and their decisions will be final. Artists will be notified of the status of their application via email during the week of April 30, 2018 and the three (3) finalists for each bench will have 30 days to submit their final designs to the jury. The selected Three (3) finalists will receive \$300 to complete their designs. All designs must be submitted by May 30, 2018. In the event that the jury requests more information, or if an artwork is considered for a different site, the Committee reserves the right to contact the artist to request additional information or explore alternate placement. Final notification of bench selection will be on July 15, 2018 and artists will be notified via email. Upon notification, artists' agreements will be distributed with payment. The Woodlands Arts Council will begin talks with the winning artists to formalize participation in potential opening events after they are notified of their selection.

ARTWORKS

- The artworks must be site-specific creations designed and created for an outdoor, natural space. The art must work with the site selected and its inspiration with the specified underwriter's vision or proposed conceptual theme
- The artworks must be an original piece created for the Woodlands Art Bench competition
- All works will be in public areas and as such must not present a danger to public safety, health or welfare
- Design must be able to withstand power-washing and necessary maintenance
- Designs should be comfortable and safe for at least 3 people to sit
- Design should discourage skateboarders
- Benches will be bolted into concrete for installation and must be so designed
- Artist will supply the township with necessary information for proper conservation and in the event that maintenance work becomes necessary for an installed work the township will contact the artist to discuss a course of action
- The township may, at its discretion, offer repair of damaged works where mechanical fasteners, anchors or similar have come loose, with approval from the artist

Location Guidelines

Artists are free to select up to Six (6) locations from the available sites listed here for their design. The first application fee will be \$25 and each additional will be \$5. [Click here to view the online application.](#)

MEDIA RIGHTS

Artist acknowledges and agrees that the Woodlands Arts Council et al. reserve all rights to use images, audio, video and other media collected as part of the competition in perpetuity as promotional and educational tools and collateral for the Art Bench competition.

Uses and examples of collected media may include, but are not limited to:

- Professional photographs of installed artworks for promotional use, both in print and on the Web, by the Woodlands Arts Council, Township (etc.)
- Use of artist statements for Web and promotional use (such as installation brochures and placards)
- Video and audio of artists talks to be hosted on the Township and Woodlands Arts Council websites through public media sites, such as YouTube, at their discretion

A full media waiver will be included in the artist contract. The waiver will pertain to the rights of the Township and Woodlands Arts Council to collect and distribute media related to the artworks and artists as it pertains to the Art Bench competition and standard promotional efforts. Intellectual, creative, and display rights regarding the created works will be retained by the artists during and beyond the duration of the installation period in accordance with the terms outlined in the artist contract.

STIPEND

Selected artists (up to 6 individuals) will each receive a \$8,000 stipend. This stipend amount will be paid as follows, \$4,000 upon return of the complete artist contract and will be managed by the artist and the final \$4,000 upon completion and installation of the art bench. The stipend is restricted to cover the items as outlined in the artist's submitted budget and build plans.

APPLICATION

Application period opens with the online application process hosted by Call For-Entry.org. Application period closes and application review begins. Deadline: Completed applications and material due to the Art Bench competition page on CallForEntry.org by February 28, 2018 by 11:59 p.m.

HOW TO APPLY

Applying artists must take the following steps to apply:

1. Review the reference, 360°, and photos of the available worksites on The Woodlands Arts Council web-site (TBD) and select up to four (4) sites to design
2. Six (6) submitted images must meet the CaFE specifications:
 - a. JPG format only.
 - b. JPG file dimensions must be 1920 pixels on the longest side.
 - c. JPG file cannot exceed 5MB.
3. Create a one-page proposal build plan for the artwork with a proposed materials list and estimated budget.
4. Create a one-page or less artist's statement 200 words or less, about each piece, being sure to include what about the site you chose and how it integrates the underwriters vision.
5. Include a professional resume
6. Include three (3) professional references
7. Create a free account through CallForEntry.org and follow the instructions on the Art Bench competition 2017 call to submit your materials and complete your application. There is a \$25 application fee for the first entry and an additional \$5 entry fee for up to two additional entries (please use coupon code "ArtBench2018" for your additional entries).

ARTIST CONTRACT

Each selected artist will enter into a service contract with the Woodlands Arts Council. Once notified that they have been selected as winners of the competition, the artists will receive the contract and a W-9 tax form in the mail to review, complete and return to the Woodlands Arts Council. Upon receipt of the artist-signed contract and completed W-9, the Woodlands Arts Council will finalize the contract and send a copy to the artist along with their stipend check.

Failure to return the contract by the deadline will constitute a withdrawal from the competition. In this case, the Woodlands Arts Council and Committee will have the sole discretion to offer the bench site to another competing artist.

TIMELINE AND DEADLINES

November 17, 2017	Call for artists
February 28, 2018	Application Deadline
April 30, 2018	Notification of three (3) finalists for each bench
May 30, 2018	Finalists Submit final design
June 15, 2018	Selection of Finalists
October 31, 2018	Delivery by

Contact Information. For more information contact: Heather Joy Puskarich, Cultural Arts Director, heatherjoy@thewoodlandsartscouncil.org