

EDMOND VISUAL ART COMMISSION COLLECTION POLICY

The following collection policy provides a framework for decisions relating to the duties and responsibilities of the Edmond Visual Arts Commission (EVAC) under the Edmond Municipal Code:

A. BACKGROUND

On October 8, 2001, Ordinance No. 2653 was passed to provide for means to fund the acquisition of works of art by the City, which shall become the City's collection, to provide a means of selection of works of art for the collection and to provide for the display of the collection and to provide for the maintenance and repair of the works of art in the collection. On May 24, 2004, Ordinance No. 2841 and 2852 were passed to provide a mean for each major city construction project to have an appropriate display of art integrated into the project, to provide for dedication of art, and to provide for administration of funds and to provided ownership of artwork. On December 14, 2020, Ordinance No. 3806 was passed to allow for a sponsor to provide funding for an item of utility infrastructure to be visually enhanced with a vinyl wrap. Details and provisions are available through the city of Edmond's Code of Ordinances under Chapter 2.94, and Chapter 2.96.

Under the ordinances a reserve account for Art in Public Places is established. A commission consisting of nine (9) voting members appointed by the City Council administers the Art in Public Places Program.

Art in Public Places means any visual work of art displayed for two weeks or more in an open City-owned area, on the exterior of any City-owned facility, inside any City-owned facility in areas designated as public areas, or on non-City property if the work of art is installed or financed, either wholly or in part, with City funds or grants procured by the City.

Works of Art or Artwork include, but is not limited to, a sculpture, monument, mural, fresco, relief, painting, fountain, banner, mosaic, ceramic, weaving, carving and etched or stained-glass installation. Work of Art would normally not include landscaping, architectural ornamentation, or signs.

B. GOALS

The principal goals of the Art in Public Places Program are:

1. To enrich the public environment for both residents and visitors to the area through the incorporation of the visual arts.
2. To nurture and enhance our art community.

3. To enable Edmond to attain recognition on a state national level as a leader in the visual arts.
4. To increase public access to works of art and to promote understanding and awareness of the visual arts in the public environment.
5. To promote diversity and pluralism in Art in Public Places and to reflect as wide a range of multi-cultural expression as possible.
6. To contribute to the civic pride of our community.
7. To coordinate with the private sector and other governmental agencies in promoting art excellence as a tool for the encouragement of economic development in the City of Edmond.

The EVAC recognizes that works of art often significantly alter public places, becoming a major new presence in the environment.

C. PROCESS OVERVIEW

Selection and placement of a work of art may be through a donation, direct selection, or competition. A budget is established for the project and final decisions are made on a site, method of selection, funding, installation, and maintenance. For direct selection or a competition, a majority vote of the EVAC members will be required for approval of a site or work of art. All EVAC agendas will be provided to a local newspaper of general circulation to facilitate public input during the process and a copy of the minutes will be sent to everyone who presents a proposal. The process will normally end with dedication, and recognition of all whose efforts contributed significantly to the project.

D. ARTWORK SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Conceptual compatibility of the design with the immediate environment of the site.
2. Appropriateness of the design to the function of the site.
3. Preservation and integration of natural features for the project.
4. Appropriateness of the materials and design (texture, color, lines, shape, and value) to the expression of the artist's concept.
5. Representation of a broad variety of tastes within the community and the provision of a balanced inventory of Art in Public Places to insure a variety of style, design, and media throughout the community.
6. Permanence of structural and surface components.

7. Art as a communicative function.
8. The Art in Public Places fund shall not be used for:
 - (a) Reproductions or unlimited editions of original work.
 - (b) "Art Objects" that are mass-produced.
 - (c) Works that are decorative, ornamental, or functional elements of the architecture landscape design, except when commissioned from an artist or as an integral aspect of a structure or site.
 - (d) Architectural rehabilitation or historical preservation, although works may be acquired in connection with such projects.

E. SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

When considering a possible site for an artwork, it is the role of the EVAC to determine the relative importance of each of the considerations listed below for a given proposal. The EVAC shall compare a project to these considerations to assure that a proposal contributes positively to the community. The generating project site, where applicable, shall receive first consideration.

1. Relationship of artwork and site shall be considered in terms of the physical dimensions, social dynamics, local character, and surrounding context of the site, existing or planned.
2. The visibility of the site by the general public.
3. Public safety.
4. Helps to improve the design of an area by emphasizing a particular location through landmarks, gateways, and/or linkages to other parts of the community.
5. Interior and exterior vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns.
6. Site design, including landscaping, drainage, grading, lighting, and seating considerations.
7. Relationship of proposed artwork to existing artworks within the site vicinity.
8. Environmental impact such as noise, sound, light, and color.
9. Public accessibility to the artwork, including ADA accessibility.
10. Impact on adjacent property owners' views.

11. The possibility of vandalism.
12. The cost of development.
13. Compatibility of the design and location with the historical character of the site.
14. Cost of maintenance.

F. SITE SELECTION PROCESS

If a piece is donated to or purchased by the Edmond Visual Arts Commission without a designated site, the process shall be as follows:

1. Donor's recommended site(s), if applicable, will be reviewed by EVAC or the designated representative(s) of EVAC and given first priority. (Once a piece is installed it will not be moved to another location without the donor's consent.)
2. EVAC will discuss possible site locations, and, if necessary, appoint a subcommittee to view the suggested sites.
3. The subcommittee will report back to EVAC for site approval. If not approved, the subcommittee begins again, possibly with more EVAC members.
4. After site approval, an installation plan shall be developed by EVAC, the artist, donor, or contractor, as appropriate, for EVAC approval.
5. If the recommended site(s) is within the City's park system:
 - (a) The Edmond Parks and Recreation Director and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be notified, in writing, of site(s) recommended. EVAC representative(s) will meet with the Edmond Parks and Recreation Director and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board representatives at the site(s) to address any concerns, e.g., interference in Parks and Recreation programming, maintenance, irrigation, plant removal, mow strips, etc. If agreed upon by both parties, installation will proceed.
 - (b) Site grade work, bed mulch and site restoration necessitated by the installation will be the responsibility of the installer, which may be the donor or an EVAC subcontractor. The installer will submit an installation plan for approval by EVAC and the Edmond Parks and Recreation Director.
 - (c) After installation, the designated representative(s) of EVAC and the Edmond Parks and Recreation Director will meet to inspect the site. Any/all deviation from the approved installation plan will be addressed at this time.

G. ARTIST CRITERIA

The following shall be considered when purchasing or agreeing to accept Art in public Places:

1. **Cooperation.** Ability of the artist to work closely and cooperatively with the Commission, staff, and community.
2. **Artist's Presentation.** The artist must have the ability to clearly describe concepts verbally and through quality written materials. In addition, specific drawings of the artwork as placed at the primary site will be required. (The site plan drawing may be waived.)
3. **Technical Feasibility.** Each work shall be examined for its feasibility and convincing evidence of the artist's ability to successfully complete the work as proposed. The EVAC will secure at least three positive references on artists from other cities or clients with whom the artist has worked. The artist must have demonstrated an ability to finish the project within budget, in a timely fashion, and resembling the presentations to the EVAC.
4. **Aesthetic Standard.** The EVAC shall have the right to withhold acceptance of a work until it clearly meets standards of artistic achievement agreed upon by a majority of EVAC members. The work must be available for viewing in progress by the EVAC in order to order to make this determination.

H. ACQUISITION PROCESSES

DIRECT SELECTION: A process used to acquire an existing exceptional work of inherent artistic or historical significance or to provide for unusual purchase circumstances such as a partial gift or unique economic advantage.

SUBMISSION FOR DIRECT PURCHASE

Artists who have finished work available for direct purchase should submit the following to the EVAC:

1. A slide of the piece. Slides must be submitted in a clear plastic slide display page. Each slide should be marked with the artist's name and the title of the artwork. The slides shall become the property of the EVAC and may not be returned. The EVAC may request a photograph of the piece instead of a slide.
2. A proposal sheet with the artist's name including the following information on each piece (Sec. G, 2.): title of artwork, dimensions, medium, date produced, price, location, number of reproductions (if applicable), restrictions on reproduction, and other information the artist deems pertinent.
3. Resume and references.

4. EVAC members may recommend a particular work for consideration by the EVAC.

OPEN ENTRY OR INVITATIONAL

Open entry competitions are open to entries from all artists within the geographic limits set by the EVAC. Invitational entry is the process used when the choice of the artist is to be within special limitations of a project or when there is a need to provide a balance of media or styles.

SUBMISSION PROCESS FOR COMPETITIONS

1. The EVAC may but is not required to advertise for selection competitions. Advertising will be paid for by the EVAC. The EVAC shall provide a project description, budget, time schedule, and a detail of duties and obligations of both the EVAC and the artists.
2. The artist shall provide a maquette and site drawing (if appropriate), design, concept statement, budget, photographs, resume, and references.
3. A jury selected by the EVAC shall be used to select artists or works of art chosen by competition. Every jury shall include at least one EVAC member and may include artists or advisors with expertise in a specific field, representatives from the appropriate city department, project architect, if artwork is part of a new building, or EVAC members only. The final selection shall be treated as a commission. Proposals shall be considered by the jury and a final choice, or choices will be presented to the EVAC for acceptance.
4. Entry materials will be returned to the artist only if appropriate packaging, postage, and insurance are included with the entry by the artist, if requested in the prospectus. Non-selected artists will be informed of the final choice(s) when the entry materials are returned.

I. DONATIONS - PROCESS OVERVIEW

1. It is recognized that donations may be a large portion of the city's collection. It is also recognized that donations are presented to the EVAC in a variety of forms and that each donation proposal is unique.
2. The EVAC is responsible for accepting only those works of art that will further the objectives of the Art in Public Places Program which include all the criteria set forth in Sections D, E, F, and G involving artwork selection, site selection, artist criteria and installation location.
4. Donation proposals are reviewed at any regular meeting of the EVAC, and a timetable established if tentative approval is given to proceed to the next step.

5. The donor and EVAC shall work together to meet all pertinent deadlines. All EVAC agendas will be posted which meets legal publication notices under the State of Oklahoma.
6. The process will normally end with a dedication (if desired) and recognition of all whose efforts contributed significantly to the project.

J. CONTRACTS

Following the final selection of an artist whose work is to be either purchased, commissioned, or donated:

1. That artist shall enter into a written contractual agreement with the City of Edmond ("Purchaser"), c/o The Park Conservancy Trust.
 2. All agreements between the EVAC and the artist shall be in writing.
 3. All contracts, as to form, shall be subject to approval by the City Attorney.
 4. The completed and approved contract shall be filed with the City Clerk.

K. INSTALLATION

At the time of acquisition, whether by donation or purchase, the budget should cover costs of installation which may include:

1. Plinths or other display components.
2. Site development.
3. Identification plaque.
4. Annual maintenance is approved in each year's budget.