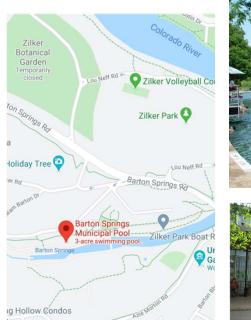
# Selection Process Recommendation Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation AIPP Project

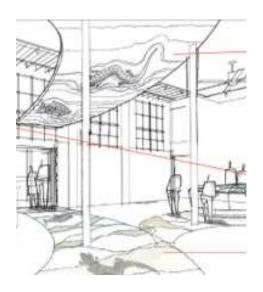


# **Project Overview: Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation**

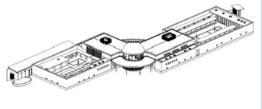
- Sponsor Department: Parks and Recreation
- Estimated Project Completion: 2024
- District 8
- AAC approved Prospectus in May 2020
- Artist Selection: Pre-Qualified Artist Pool
  - Pandemic/Budget Delays
  - Pre-Qualified Local Artist Pool Availability
  - Community Member Artist Selection
  - Better Alignment with Architect/ Design Team
  - Leverage AIPP \$ for true Project Integration













## Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation: Opportunity

**Budget: \$104,000** and is all inclusive, including:

- Artist's time;
- Fabrication and installation, including engineering/permitting fees;
- Travel and shipping expenses;
- Insurance; and
- Other project-related costs.

**Opportunity: Floor Artwork - Integrated** 

# **Barton Springs Project Goals**



#### Importance

Honors the importance of **Barton Springs**, including the historic Barton Springs Bathhouse;



Environment Fosters stewardship of Barton Springs and the Edwards Aquifer;



#### Historic

Consistent with the historic context of the site, possibly illuminating the history experienced by African Americans



#### Integration

Conceptualizes a strong overall artwork design approach that **integrates** with the work of the bathhouse rehabilitation project;



#### Maintenance

Be **easily maintained** and vandal resistant; and



#### Contribution

Contributes to the depth/breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection.

# **Selection Team**

### **Voting Community Members:**

- •Mike Cannatti\*, Friends of Barton Springs Pool, Barton Springs Conservancy
- •Emily Little\*, Architect, Barton Springs
- Conservancy, former AIPP Panel member
- Mohammad Firoozi, longtime Barton
- Springs swimmer, artist/musician
- •Karen Kocher, Living Springs project creator, Barton Springs Conservancy
- •Courtney Moreau, Barton Springs recreator
- Judith Sims, Austin Museum of Art, Barton Springs Conservancy

### **Voting Project Advisors:**

- •Ellen Colfax, PARD PM, Preservation Architect
- Jessica Gilzow, PARD, Culture & Arts Program Manager
- •Sarah Carr, Art in Public Places Panel
- •Celina Zisman, District 8 Arts Commissioner

### Non-Voting Project Advisors:

- •Riley Triggs, Public Works PM
- Jodi Jay, PARD Aquatics Manager
- •Al Godfrey, Architect

**AIPP Staff:** Susan Lambe, Laura Odegaard, Maria Teresa Bonet, Alex Irrera

### \*Mike Cannatti attended Meeting 1 (application review) and was replaced by Emily Little during Meeting 2 (interviews)

# **Selection Process Summary**

#### 2020

**May 4:** Initial Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation AIPP Project Prospectus approved by AIPP Panel

May 18: Initial Prospectus is approved by Arts Commission

#### 2021

February 1: Revised Prospectus approved by AIPP Panel

March 15: Revised Prospectus approved by Arts Commission

**July 20:** Request for Opt-In distributed to 164 visual artists and artist teams who live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties and are in the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool

#### 2021 - Continued

August 3: Artist Information Meeting

August 10: Call closes, 36 applications received

August 26: Jurors + Advisors meet to review applications and select 5 local finalists: Melissa Borrell, Ryah Christensen, Hollis Hammonds, Dawn Okoro, and Lys Santamaria. Dawn Okoro later withdraws her name from consideration.

**October 12:** Jurors + Advisors meet to interview finalists and selected **Lys Santamaria** as the **recommended artist** and **Hollis Hammonds** as the **alternate**.

# Selection Process Demographics

#### **Demographics – Barton Springs Bathhouse Selection**

#### Total Opt-ins: 36 artists

Ethnic representation of all opt-in applicants and team members (note: multi-racial individuals could choose from multiple categories, not a "head count").

- Asian: 6%
- Black/African American/African Diaspora: 8%
- Hispanic/Latinx: 22%
- Middle Eastern or North African: 3%
- Native: 8%
- Pacific Islander: 3%
- White: 64%
- Unknown: 19%

Gender Representation of all opt-in applicants and team members.

- Female: 64%
- Gender-Nonconforming, Genderqueer, and Non-Binary: 0%
- Unknown: 17%

Opt-in applicant Equity. Out of 36 applications.

- Applications with at least one BIPOC individual: 31%
- Applications with at least one LGBTQIA community member: 17%
- Applications with at least one Disability community member: 3%
- Applications with at least one Veteran community member: 0%

### Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation | Selection Process Recommendation

## Artist: Lys Santamaria



Portfolio image: Potrait of Sylvia Orosco, 2021

#### Juror Comments:

"The artist provided a piece that included a holistic history of the space along with a comprehensive plan on how to approach it. Her enthusiasm and confidence in her ideas, particularly as it applied to the social and environmental history of space were major factors in my selection of her as the artist for this commission."

"Her presentation was inclusive of the environmental and cultural context, a passion for the site and its history, and a strong concept for the piece and its integration with other works in the space."

"Lys was notably skillful in her interview. She conveyed a deep grasp of the complexity of components to be addressed with this art piece. It was her lack of experience with projects of this scale as well as a lesser depth of conveyed artistic expertise in her presentation that caused me to vote for her as the Alternate."

"Lys demonstrated a passion for exploring the site's human history and healing some darker aspects of the past. She is well organized, confident, and thoughtful about how she will proceed. Lys is an emerging artist and her selection demonstrates faith in the future of Barton Springs pool and Austin as a whole."

## Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation | Selection Process Recommendation

## **Alternate: Hollis Hammonds**



Portfolio image: Domestic Brutality, 2019. Detail.

#### Juror Comments:

"Hollis presented compelling imagery for this commission. Her existing body of work communicates an emphasis on environmentalism, which is directly tied into the significance of this space."

"Hollis showed a strong understanding of the environmental importance of Barton Springs, and a willingness to educate herself on other historical context."

"Hollis's proposal and interview responded to all the project requirements. Her depth of artistic experience conveyed strong ability to include layered, complex meanings with highly skilled artistic methods. I felt her depth of experience with projects of this scale and her artistic skills and maturity were key in my voting for her a choice number one."

"Hollis has excellent artistic and design skills, top management experience with people and budgets, sensitivity to and knowledge of the project's goal of educating the public about the importance of protecting the water and preserving habitat as well as the cultural history and issues of equality of access to the pool."



# Timeline subject to change

#### **Completed to date:**

- ✓ September: Prospectus to AIPP Panel for Review
- ✓ November: Prospectus to AIPP Panel and Arts Commission for Approval
- ✓ July 20: Request to Opt-In released
- ✓ August 10: RFQ closed
- ✓August: Selection Meetings #1
- ✓ October: Selection Meeting #2 (Interviews)
- ✓ November: Selection Process
  Recommendation approved by AIPP
  Panel

**TODAY:** Approval of selection process recommendation by Austin Arts Commission

### Next Steps:

Nov. 2021 - Feb. 2022: RCA to Council for authority to contract; Artist contract executed Feb - April.: AIPP kick-off meeting; Artist community engagement; meeting(s) with Advisory Board

May: Mid-Design review by AIPP Panel

July -August: Final design review by stakeholders; Conservation review; PARD review

Sept: Final Design approval by AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission

Oct. – Nov. 2022: Final Planning and Installation to coincide with Sponsor Project timeline

Dedication (planned with PARD and Advisory Board)