



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-1585, Agenda Item #: 6.

5/19/2022

Posting Language

Authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Brian Joseph for artwork for the Austin Convention Center Warehouse Art in Public Places Project, District 3, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Lead Department

Economic Development.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available in the capital improvement budget of the Austin Convention Center Department.

For More Information:

Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3131 and Marjorie Flanagan, Acting Manager, Art in Public Places Program, 512-974-8706.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

On October 4th, 2021, the Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Austin Convention Center Warehouse Art in Public Places Project, naming Brian Joseph as the selected artist and Fidencio Duran as the alternate artist for the \$100,000 commission. (Motion by Carr, second by Muzacz; approved 7-0-0).

On October 18th, 2021, the Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Austin Convention Center Warehouse Art in Public Places Project, naming Brian Joseph as the selected artist and Fidencio Duran as the alternate artist for the \$100,000 commission. The item passed on consent. (Motion by Commissioner Gray, second by Commissioner Flores; approved 10-0-0).

Additional Backup Information:

Art in Public Places (AIPP), of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD), sought to commission a local professional visual artist to design, fabricate and install artwork for the Austin Convention Center Warehouse AIPP Project. The budget for this artwork is \$100,000 all-inclusive of artist time, design, insurance, and all fabrication and installation related costs.

The goal of the project is to commission an Austin-based artist and/or artist team who, in collaboration with City staff and community stakeholders, will design artwork that integrates with the Austin Convention Center Warehouse and Marshalling Yard Montopolis site and architecture. The artwork should also be consistent and mindful of the values of the nearby Montopolis community and Austin Convention Center Department. The artist will collaborate with community stakeholders, the project team and City staff to design and create artwork that adds additional value to the site.

On April 9th, 2021, a Request for Qualifications was issued to solicit for eligible visual artists and artist teams over 18-years of age who live and/or work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. Artist outreach included an online artist information meeting held on April 29th, 2021, later available

online, information posted on the AIPP website, announcements in AIPP and Cultural Arts Division newsletters and on social media, direct emails to past applicants, and arts and cultural City leaders as well as both public and private arts and culture organizations.

On September 22nd, 2021, the jury reviewed 59 applications and selected four finalists to interview: Fidencio Duran, Brian Joseph, Raasin in the Sun, and Lucas Aoki/Samson Barboza. On September 29th, 2021, the jury virtually interviewed the four finalists and selected Brian Joseph as the selected artist and Fidencio Duran as the alternate.

Jurors

- Matthew Briar Bonifacio Rodriguez - Austin-based (District 3) previously commissioned AIPP Visual Artist
- Luis Angulo - Austin-based (District 3) previously and currently commissioned AIPP Visual Artist
- Sadé Lawson - Austin-based (District 5) Visual Artist

Project Advisors

- Susana Almanza - Montopolis Neighborhood Association/Director, PODER (District 3)
- Fred L. McGhee, PhD - Founder, Montopolis Neighborhood Association (District 3)
- Amanda Jasso - Equity Office Program Manager, City of Austin
- Alison von Stein - Public Works Project Manager, City of Austin
- Anthony Collier - Austin Convention Center Project Manager, City of Austin
- Jonathan Muzacz - Local Visual Artist and Project Liaison, Art in Public Places Panel.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability, Culture and Lifelong Learning.