## 2021 Year in Review Art in Public Places Program



Art in Public Places (AIPP) is a program of the Cultural Arts Division within the Economic Development Dept.

#### **Municipal Code**

# TITLE 7 LIBRARIES AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

### CHAPTER 7-2 ART IN PUBLIC PLACES



Voyage to Soulsville
John Fisher, 1986
Carver Museum



Confabulating Orbits, Ben Livingston, 1996 Austin Convention Center



El futuro es una página en blanco... Connie Arismendi, 2005 Terrazas Branch Library



Reflections on the Brazos, Ryah Christensen, 2015 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & Brazos

From the City's municipal code 7-2-1 DEFINITIONS:

ART means [...] that enhances the aesthetics of a building, bridge, streetscape, park, or other project [...] that appeals to the senses or the intellect.

Since 1985, the Art in Public Places (AIPP) program has executed the Art in Public Places Ordinance, commissioning and managing works of public art for City of Austin facilities.

#### Why public art?

Public art is a part of our physical history, collective memory and evolving culture.





# How does the AIPP process work?



Rayo de Esperanza/A Beacon of Hope: Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Sculpture, 2009 by Connie Arismendi and Laura Garanzuay, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez St.



Reviews and approvals by AIPP Panel and the Arts Commission throughout

# Art in Public Places Program 2021 Program Accomplishments



AIPP program video created



Repair of public art in the AIPP collection



Planning for application cycles



2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool approved



Launch of online juror application

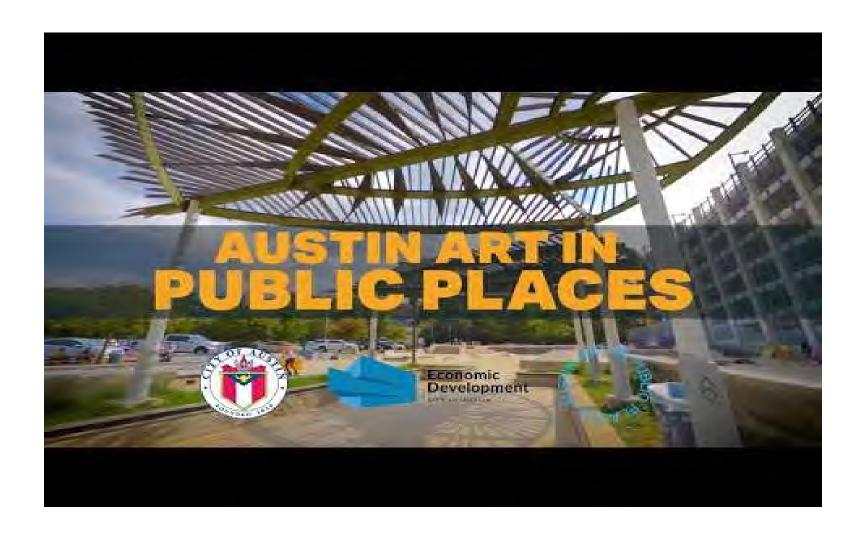
AIPP worked with local videographer Funmi Ogunro to create a short video to better explain what the AIPP program is and how it works to artists and community members.

AIPP staff made repairs to artwork and hired artists and art conservators to repair artwork, for a total of 14 repairs in 2021. AIPP conducted focus groups and worked with communications staff to organize the release of artist applications on a new quarterly cycle, starting in 2022.

After receiving 394 application through a national call, 91 new artists were approved for AIPP's 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool, bringing the total number of artists in the Pool to 305--including 164 local artists.

AIPP staff launched a new online juror application form, making it easier for artists and community members to express interest in participating in AIPP's artist selection process.

AIPP projects supported over 330 creative sector jobs in FY21.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcwxC6g4zV0















2021-2023 PQ POOL

**38% BIPOC** (115 artists/teams)

11% LGBTQIA community member (35 artists/teams)

3% Disability community member (9 artists/teams)

2% Veteran community member (6 artists/teams)

46% Female (140 artists/teams)

1% Gender-Nonconforming, Genderqueer, and Non-Binary & Teams including GN, GQ, and NB

**0.3% Transgender** (1 artist/team)

(4 artists/teams)





























Interested in serving on an artist selection Jury (or nominating someone to be on a Jury)?
https://bit.ly/3s43l4i



In 2021, AIPP staff facilitated 19 Jury meetings, consisting of approximately 45 community members, including members from every district.

# Art in Public Places Program 2021 Artwork Installations

#### Artwork completed in 2021

Title: *Meanderwing*Artist: MARC FORNES /

**THEVERYMANY** 

Location: Austin-Bergstrom International

Airport

Sponsoring Department: Aviation Materials: Coated aluminum

**Budget:** \$1,626,500

Along the main concourse between parking and the airport terminals, the *Meaderwing* structure gives a dynamic presence to the circulation in and out of the airport. Following the twisting contours of live oaks and limestone grottos native to the Texan landscape, its distinct structural network forms a dramatic canopy over the pedestrian pathway.



Photo by Jeremy Green

#### Artwork completed in 2021

Title: Wallscape (BECOME)

Artist: Jimmy Van Luu

**Location:** Austin Animal Center

**Sponsoring Department:** Austin Public

Health, Austin Animal Center

Materials: Elgin Butler glazed brick, Concrete Masonry Units, custom glaze

**Budget:** \$56,180

The building components of Wallscape (BECOME) suggest to the viewer questions about the past and future. Colorful bricks cover cinder blocks that appear to be remnants of previous structures. Patterns and words on the brick appear and disappear as the light changes throughout the day. What traces are left behind as a city comes into being?



Photo by Philip Rogers

#### Artwork completed in 2021

Title: Batadillo

Artist: Gigi Griffin Miller
Location: Ricky Guerrero Park
Sponsoring Department: Parks and

**Recreation Department** 

Materials: Glass and ceramic mosaic

**Budget:** \$31,000

The story of the Guerrero family inspired artist Gigi Miller. The sculpture is a vision of the past, a hope for an optimistic future, and a tribute to hearts that serve. Whether you see a migrating Monarch butterfly, a football-playing armadillo, or a native Austin Mexican free-tail bat, the tile mosaic sculpture reminds viewers to look deep and let their love shine bright.



Photo by Philip Rogers

#### Artwork completed in 2021

Title: St. John Community Pillar

Artist: Damon Moseley
Location: St. John's Pocket Park
Sponsoring Department: Parks and

**Recreation Department** 

Materials: Concrete, steel, paint

**Budget:** \$31,500

The St. John Community Pillar is a monument that illustrates the lofty ideals of the neighborhood's founders. It highlights historical milestones, in colorful finishes, to symbolize the diversity of the community.



Photos by Philip Rogers



https://youtu.be/0X0lxW-mRsU

#### Artwork completed in 2021

Title: Like Water

Artist: J Muzacz + Polis Interactive Location: Rosewood Neighborhood Park Sponsoring Department: Parks and

**Recreation Department** 

Materials: Glass tile mosaic, LEDs, C++

code, steel, acrylic **Budget:** \$46,200

The artists combined their mediums of mosaic and technology together to create a series of artistically backlit mosaics, the first of their kind, that wrap around the bath house and feature outstanding members of the Rosewood community.



#### Artwork completed in 2021

Title: *Interimaginary Departures* 

Artist: Janet Zweig

**Location:** Austin-Bergstrom International

Airport

**Sponsoring Department:** Aviation

Materials: Wood, walls, bronze, steel, leather,

electronics, paper tickets, carpet, audio

**Budget:** \$1,052,000

A boarding hold room intersects the existing airport furniture and walls at a seven-degree angle. Flights board there for 120 fictional locations from literature, gaming, science fiction, film, animation, and comics. There is a Flight Information Display board, an upcoming flight board, a ticket machine, and flight announcements.

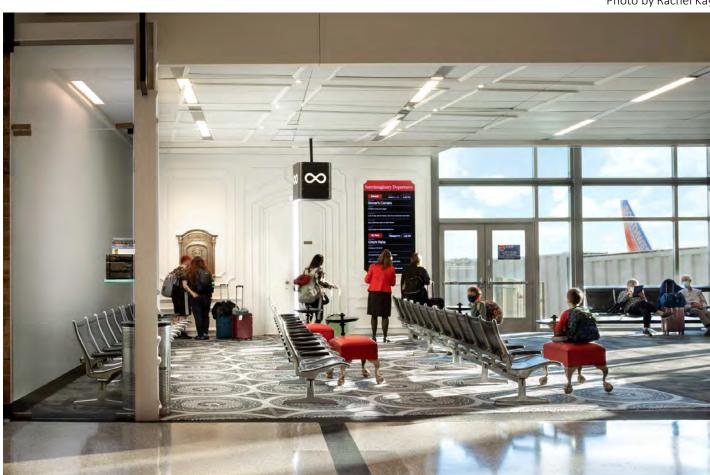


Photo by Rachel Kay



Video by Robert Garcia

#### Austin Storybox

Adrian Armstrong Dawn Okoro Mobley

Each side of a four-sided box (8' x 5' x 5') bears a life-sized portrait of an elder Black Austin artist. All the featured artists are Central Texas natives and have called Austin home. A solar-powered, low-volume audio playback system attached to a motion-proximity sensor broadcasts a piece of documentary sound art composed of recordings made by Mobley in participation with the subjects.

District 1 Carver Branch Library



#### Quinquagenary

Veronica Ceci

Portraits, initially conceived as ink drawings, are digitized and replicated in laser-cut balsa wood. Eight lighted portraits are mounted to the lip of the existing casing, projecting the shadow of the portrait to the ground. The projections are divided among the existing lights with less than half of the total lights used. It is visible after dark, but it is still experienced by the community. This is an innovative way to illuminate a bit of history behind the venerable namesake of the library.

District 3
Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library



## Two Aztec Parrots

Reynaldo Alaniz

Two large limestone sculptures are composed of several images representing the pre-Hispanic culture of Mexico. Aztec and Mayan imagery are connected with the face in the center of the Aztec calendar. The intent is to promote more interest in the study of archeology, language, architecture and, promote pride in the history of the pre-Hispanic culture of Mexico before the conquest.

District 4 Little Walnut Creek



#### Flow

Victoria Marquez

This large-scale installation is a study of fluidity, repetition, color, the surreal, and the uncontrollable. Objects pressed into wet paint in the initial step of these paintings results in unforeseen patterns, and textures are exploring a way to make something out of uncertainty. The installation is installed on painted, 4' x 8' panels and mounted onto the brick building.

District 5 Manchaca Branch Library





#### Photo by Philip Rogers

#### LA SILLA DEL SOL

Jonas Criscoe Mai Gutierrez

This representation of a Mesoamerican sculpture acts as both a glorification and tool to interpret the natural world. Driving inspiration from ancient pyramids touched by the sunset, it becomes a safe and shaded nook for library visitors to spend some time. The intention is for visitors to be able to congregate while surrounded by colored concrete blocks—a very commonly used building material in the countries of Mesoamerica.

District 6 Spicewood Branch Library



#### **Emerging**

Lys Santamaria

Three colorful, mosaic domes have a spiraled mirror mosaic center where the viewer sees themselves in the artwork. Radiating from the mirror is a magical blend of colors based on the study of the chakra system, color therapy, and color symbolism. By viewing, touching, and interacting with the domes, a feel of joy, wonder and happiness emerges to help promote healing for all the residents of our beautiful city.

District 7
Milwood Branch Library



Photo by Philip Rogers

#### Little Picchu

Suzanne Wyss Ilya Pieper

The setting of the ancient Peruvian city of Machu Picchu is created by a 1"= 60' scale, triangulated, welded, steel sculpture. The mountain of Huayna Picchu that grows out of the ground forms three peaks and has dichroic plexiglass mounted inside some triangles. Prismatic light is reflected inside the sculpture on the ground below and changes with the natural light throughout the day.

District 8 Hampton Branch Library



Photo by Philip Rogers

#### ReConnected

Laurn Malkani

This 50,000-LED installation is built from 24 daisy-chained matrix panel displays controlled by a Raspberry Pi 4 and suspended from a rail and cable mounting system. This sculpture explores this universal connection by creating a living poem, restitching messages of longing scraped from online forums and bringing these fragments together into a new whole. Each poem is made by scraping intimate public messages from online forums like Twitter and Reddit about the pandemic, loneliness and longing.

District 9 Central Library



#### Brighter Day Ahead

Olaniyi R. Akindiya

Steel plates are CNC cut in the shape of a circle and mounted to a center poll. Abstracted human figures are also cut into the steel. This freestanding sculpture explores the cultural traditions of what parents pass on and are continued by the new generation. Text that reads BRIGHT DAYS AHEAD and CNC cut into the steel, illustrates immigration of cultures, religions, traditions, beliefs and fashions.

District 10 Howson Branch Library



Photo by Philip Rogers



#### City of Austin Art in Public Places staff











Top to bottom, left to right Anna Bradley, Senior Project Manager Marjorie Flanagan, Senior Project Manager Curt Gettman, Senior Project Manager Alex Irrera, Project Manager Frank Wick, Senior Collection Manager

Find more information about the Art in Public Places Program and contact information for Cultural Arts Division staff at

www.AustinCreates.com

@cityofaustinarts