

FY27 Public Art Across Maryland- New Artworks Scoring Rubric - Project grant

1. Public Art Project Overview

Provide a detailed description of the proposed public art project including:

- The artwork concept: Is the work based on something specific or responding to a particular need or inspiration?
- How was the site selected? Is the site important to the design of the artwork? If so, how or in what ways?
- What is the intended duration for the artwork to be installed?
- How the final artwork will be realized? What is the role of the lead artist? Will fabricators or subcontractors be involved? What materials will be used?
- How will the work be transported to the location and installed? What kinds of permissions or permits were required for the location?
- Who are the key stakeholders in the project? Please describe any key members of the project team or community who will be instrumental in ensuring the project's success.

***Note:** The narrative response to this question can and should reference the visual materials submitted in **Attachment A**.*

Response includes a clear, specific, and thorough explanation of the proposed public art project. Response includes clear and thorough evidence of the concept, intention, timeliness, and/or inspiration in relation to the location where it will be located and/or the community it is responding to. Response provides a clear, specific, and thorough explanation on how the artwork will be created and installed, and the key individuals who will collaborate on ensuring its success.	Response includes a clear explanation of the proposed public art project. Response includes clear evidence of the concept, intention, timeliness, and/or inspiration in relation to the location where it will be located and/or the community it is responding to. Response provides a clear explanation on how the artwork will be created and installed, and the key individuals who will collaborate on ensuring its success.	Response includes an explanation of the proposed public art project. Response includes some evidence of concept, intention, timeliness, and/or inspiration in relation to the location where it will be located and/or the community it is responding to. Response provides some explanation on how the artwork will be created and installed, and who will collaborate on ensuring its success.	Responses description of the proposed public art project is unclear. Response includes minimal evidence of concept, intention, timeliness, and/or inspiration in relation to the location where it will be located and/or the community it is responding to. Response provides minimal explanation of how the artwork will be created and installed, and who will collaborate on ensuring its success.	Responses provides little to no description of the public art project supported by this grant. Response includes little to no evidence of concept, intention, timeliness, and/or inspiration in relation to the location where it will be located and/or the community it is responding to. Response provides little to no explanation of how the artwork will be created and installed, and who will collaborate on ensuring its success.
Excellent to Outstanding	Good to Very Good	Satisfactory	Marginal to Fair	No Evidence
28-30	18-20	8-10	3-5	0

2a. Describe your community

- Describe where the project will be located. What are the defining characteristics of the neighborhood or community?
- Who is the intended audience for the public artwork?
- Who will be involved in, or affected by, this project in the short and long term?

2b. Community Engagement

- Describe how the public, especially local community members, were involved in the planning process that led to this artwork.
- How was the intended audience aware of or part of the planning process that led to the artwork?
- How will the intended audience be aware of or involved in the artwork's creation or installation?
- Are there any related activities or public programs that will take place as a result of this artwork being installed? (this could include a dedication event, but also any additional programming provided by the organization or local partners that relates to the installation of the artwork).
- List any additional programming or community engagement activities that panelists should be aware of in the context of the proposed artwork.

***Note:** The narrative response to this question can reference the visual materials (maps, photos) submitted in **Attachment A**.*

Response includes a clear, specific, and thorough description of where the project will be located, as well as the intended audience awareness, involvement, and investment in the project, before and after it is installed. Response thoroughly demonstrates prior and sustained communication with and engagement of the intended audience, and/or nearby community that will be impacted by the project.	Response includes a clear description of where the project will be located, or the intended audience awareness, involvement, and investment in the project, before and after it is installed. Response demonstrates prior communication or engagement of the intended audience, and/or nearby community that will be impacted by the project.	Response includes a description of where the project will be located, or the intended audience involvement in the project, before and after it is installed. Response includes some evidence of prior communication with the intended audience, and/or nearby community that will be impacted by the project.	Response includes minimal description of where the project will be located, or the intended audience involvement in the project. Response includes minimal evidence of prior communication with the intended audience, and/or nearby community that will be impacted by the project.	Response includes little to no description of where the project will be located, or the intended audience. Response includes little to no evidence of prior communication with the community that will be impacted by the project.
Excellent to Outstanding	Good to Very Good	Satisfactory	Marginal to Fair	No Evidence
18-20	13-15	8-10	3-5	0

3. Prior Experience

Describe the team's prior experience that demonstrates an ability to manage and implement the proposed artwork:

- For the applicant organization, describe relevant experience with project management or public art installations
- For the lead artist, describe their background and experience.
- Is this the artist's first public art project? How does the project relate to their prior work?
- Is this their first time working with a specific method or new materials?
- For other key stakeholders, describe the prior experience or role they will play in ensuring the project's overall success

***Note:** The narrative response to this question can reference the visual materials included in both **Attachments A and B**.*

Response includes clear, specific, and thorough evidence of the applicant, artist, and/or project partners' experience in managing and implementing comparable projects. Response includes clear and thorough evidence that the applicant and/or lead artist has successfully implemented public art projects to a similar scope and scale in the past; or clear and thorough evidence that the applicant and/or lead artist has assembled a project team of collaborators and stakeholders that bring the combined experience to implement a safe and successful public art project.	Response includes clear evidence of the applicant, artist, and/or project partners' experience in comparable projects. Response includes clear evidence that the applicant and/or lead artist has implemented public art projects in the past; or clear evidence that the applicant and/or lead artist has worked with a project team of collaborators and stakeholders to implement a safe public art project.	Response includes some evidence of the applicant, artist, and/or project partners prior experience. Response includes evidence that the applicant and/or lead artist has worked on public art projects in the past; or that the applicant and/or lead artist has worked with a project team to implement a safe public art project.	Response includes minimal evidence of the applicant, artist, and/or project partners prior experience. Response includes minimal evidence that the applicant and/or lead artist has worked with a project team to implement a safe public art project in the past.	Response includes little to no evidence of prior experience. Response includes little to no evidence that the project team has experience implementing a safe public art project.
Excellent to Outstanding	Good to Very Good	Satisfactory	Marginal to Fair	No Evidence
13-15	8-10	3-5	1-2	0

4. Project- Implementation Timeline

Use the schedule template to describe the timeline of your proposed public art project. Include all of the significant steps in implementing your project, including steps of planning, community/public engagement, design, approvals, material acquisition, fabrication, installation, dedication, and evaluation of the final product.

Note: Planning and community engagement activities may have already taken place, but activities supported by the Project-Implementation grant should not start before grant notification in March 2026.

Response includes a clear, specific, and realistic timeline of the steps to implementing the proposed project, including any community events and/or programming supported by the project-implementation grant.	Response includes a clear timeline of steps to implement the proposed project, including community events and/or programming supported by the project-implementation grant.	Response includes a timeline of steps to implement the proposed project supported by the project-implementation grant.	Response includes a timeline with minimal details or relationship to the proposed project supported by the project-implementation grant.	Response does not include evidence of a relationship to the proposed project supported by the project-implementation grant.
Excellent to Outstanding	Good to Very Good	Satisfactory	Marginal to Fair	No Evidence
13-15	8-10	3-5	1-2	0

5. Project-Implementation Budget

Use the budget template to describe a clear list of all projected expenses to implement the proposed project, include sources of funding beyond the MSAC request, and how MSAC funding will be used. Please use the "Notes" column to provide descriptions when selecting "Other" expenses or income and/or to provide further information.

Note: Additional project-specific categories may be added as necessary. All applications are expected to compensate all artists and artisans involved fairly, for their time and labor. Applications that do not pay artists or count the sum of the artists time as donated or in-kind will not be considered eligible.

Response includes a clear, detailed, and realistic financial plan for income and expenses tied to the proposed project. Response clearly and realistically aligns the financial plan described in the budget with the project overview described in the response to Question 1 and the Implementation Timeline described in the response to Question 4.	Response includes a clear financial plan for income and expenses tied to the proposed project. Response aligns the financial plan described in the budget with the project overview described in the response to Question 1 and the Implementation Timeline described in the response to Question 4.	Response includes a financial plan for some expenses tied to the proposed project. Response somewhat aligns the financial plan described in the budget with the project overview described in the response to Question 1 and the Implementation Timeline described in the response to Question 4.	The financial plan for contains minimal information about expenses tied to the proposed project. Response is minimally aligned to the financial plan described in the budget with the project overview described in the response to Question 1 and the Implementation Timeline described in the response to Question 4.	The financial plan contains little to no information about expenses tied to the proposed project. There is little to no evidence that the financial plan aligns the project overview described in the response to Question 1 and the Implementation Timeline described in the response to Question 4.
Excellent to Outstanding	Good to Very Good	Satisfactory	Marginal to Fair	No Evidence
13-15	8-10	3-5	1-2	0

6. Collection & Maintenance Plan

Please describe the maintenance required, and the organization or entity that will be responsible for artwork oversight and funding maintenance.

-For artwork that is "temporary" or intended to be installed for less than 5 years:

How long will the installation be up?

Who will monitor the artwork's condition over that time period and how often will it be checked?

At the end of the installation period, who will be responsible for the artwork and who will sign off on the complete removal of the work?

-For artwork that is "permanent" or intended to be installed for 5 or more years:

Who is the "owner" of the work?

Is it included in a local public art collection or inventory? Whose collection and where is it documented?

Who will monitor the artwork's condition over time and be responsible for periodic cleaning and maintenance? How often will it be checked?

-In the case of accidental harm, vandalism, impacts of seasonal exposure, etc. who is responsible for assessing and addressing repairs and who will pay for them?

***Note:** The lead artist can be contracted to perform maintenance or repairs, but cannot be the sole party responsible for long-term monitoring and oversight. The narrative response to this question can reference the materials included in both **Attachments A and C**.*

Response provides a clear, specific, and realistic plan for the artwork maintenance, oversight, and on-going funding; roles and responsibilities are clear, specific, and sustainable over the life of the artwork (including removal, if temporary)	Response provides a clear plan for the artwork maintenance, and on-going funding; roles and responsibilities are clear, over the life of the artwork (including removal, if temporary)	Response provides a plan for the artwork maintenance, and on-going roles and responsibilities over the life of the artwork	Response includes minimal description of an artwork maintenance plan or on-going roles and responsibilities over the life of the artwork	Response includes no description of an artwork maintenance plan or on-going roles and responsibilities over the life of the artwork
Excellent to Outstanding	Good to Very Good	Satisfactory	Marginal to Fair	No Evidence
5	4	3	1-2	0

Required Attachments

Attachment A: Public Artwork Proposal

This attachment should include the following:

- Map(s) showing the geographic location of the artwork (the location can be marked on an aerial or satellite view google map, or other forms of maps providing context for the location)
- Photos and/or drawings or plans that communicate the context and relevant details of the existing site or location where the artwork will be installed
- Drawings, renderings, collages, plans, or diagrams, that visually communicate the proposed artwork as designed by the artist, and how it will be installed. Text may be used to label or explain details in the drawings, such as: materials, colors/finishes, artwork or site dimensions and scale, etc...
- Any further documentation, such as photos or graphics that describe the community/public engagement, the artist's design process, or other relevant visuals to support your narrative responses in the application.

Attachment B: Prior Work Samples

This attachment should include the following:

- Images of prior artwork completed by the lead artist(s). Artwork samples should include at least 5 prior works by the artist. It is not required that prior works be of the same medium or style as the proposed project.
- Images of any relevant prior projects completed by the lead applicant or key stakeholders that are relevant to the proposed project or final artwork.

Attachment C: Letter(s) of Permission

This attachment should include letters of permission or acknowledgement from the property owner, or owners agent, that legal permission or “right-of-entry” will be granted to the applicant and/or artist to install the proposed artwork if funding is awarded.

Note: Press releases and announcements are not accepted as a Letter of Permission. Applicants and property owners are expected to abide by all state and local rules, regulations, and design guidelines applicable to the location where the artwork is to be installed. Please check with your local department of planning or permitting office to ensure you are working with the right department or agency to review and approve your public art project.