



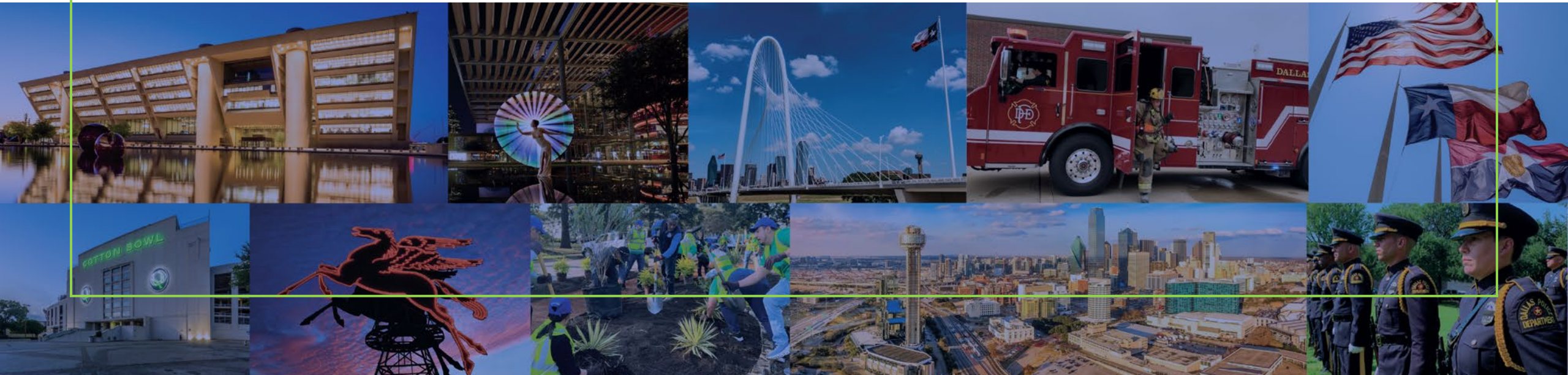
**SERVICE
FIRST,
NOW!**

Sabine Senft

Sr Public Art Project Lead
Office of Arts and Culture

Preston Royal Community Meeting Friends of the Library

February 26, 2026



Who are we?

- Sabine is a seasoned Public Art Project Manager for the Public Art Team, City of Dallas. She earned a BFA and an MA and MEd in Fine Art, specializing in managing and implementing impactful public art projects from \$50,000 to \$500,000+. She delivers turn-key public art by managing project initiation, community engagement, artist selection, design, contracting, fabrication, installation and dedication ceremonies for each project.
- For over 10 years, Sabine has fostered community and stakeholder engagement in public art, leading installations for hospitals, government centers, museums and community spaces in Dallas, statewide, and beyond.
- With a background as a public artist, she brings a unique blend of artistic creativity, hands-on skills, and project management expertise.
- Sabine's work extends beyond the U.S. In addition to solo exhibitions at Artpace San Antonio, reviews in Sculpture Magazine and Berlin's B2B Magazine, she is a 2022 recipient of the Blue Star Residency Fellowship in Berlin and part of the Berlin prequalified public art services list.
- **She has just been nominated one of the 2026 CREATIVE REVOLUTIONARIES globally by the leading public art organization Codaworx.**
- Having lived and worked globally in Germany, England, Japan, and Brazil, Sabine's international perspective drives her contribution to the world of public art, transforming spaces into vibrant cultural landmarks that resonate with people from all backgrounds.

Today's goals:



- Introduce and update on the public art process
- Present examples of public art
- Gather public input for the theme and location of the art project via online survey and dot exercise

What is Public Art?

An investment in

- identity,
- community,
- health & the future



Stacked Friends by Dallas artist Brad Oldham, Hillcrest

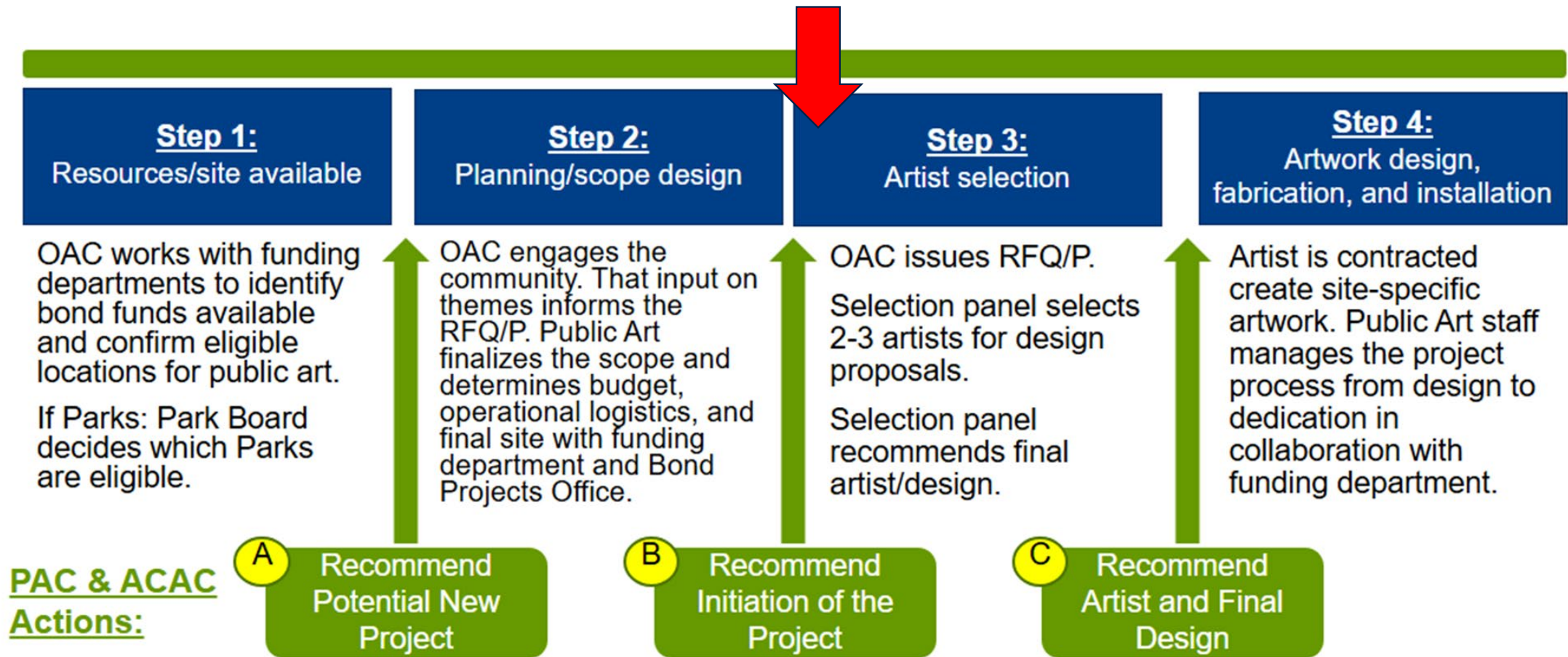
- Site-specific, typically outdoors
- Beautifies our surroundings
- Fosters a sense of community identity and well-being
- Catalyst for social and economic development
- Educates, celebrates or commemorates history and/or community
- Engages viewers, encourages dialogue, activates a site for placemaking or serves as wayfinding landmark
- Funded by public sources

Who pays for Public Art?

- City of Dallas **Percent for Art Program** began in **1989**
- **Bond Funds voted on by the public** are commonly used to fund public art projects
- **0.75% - 1.5%** of the total budget from bond projects like street improvements and new or renovated city buildings:
 - 1989 City Public Ordinance applies a "percent for the arts" to all capital improvement projects to be used in a manner consistent with the proposition*
 - **0.75 percent** of project is exclusively street, storm drainage, utility or sidewalk improvements
 - **1.5 percent** of the total project appropriation for all other capital improvement projects
 - **0.75 percent** of project is trail improvements
- Public Art is developed for each location **specifically for the site and managed by the Office of Arts and Culture**

More info on Dallas Public Art: dallasculture.org/publicart/

How is Public Art created?



How long does it take?



RFQ submissions

Feb – March 2



Selection panel work

April –June 2026

Selection panel has reviewed qualified submissions

Selection Panel identifies three artists to create design proposals/portfolios. Each artist will receive a \$1,000 stipend to produce a turn-key, site-specific design proposal to be reviewed and scored by the Selection Panel in a final round



PAC, ACAC, Contracting

July 2026: PAC and ACAC recommend the project to Council or for AA

project lead works with ORM on risk review and drafts contract and payment schedule

Artist registers with State, CAO reviews contract



Fabrication of artwork

September 2026
Contract start

September 2027
Install or in line with construction timelines

Who selects the artwork?



Shadowlines, Martyrs Park, Dallas, by Houston artists Re:site

Selection panel meets to review qualified artist submissions and recommend a finalist

- Typically 2-3 meetings, virtual
- Selection Panel includes:
 - one representative from the community
 - one representative from the host department (DLS)
 - 2-3 art & design professionals (curators, artists, art educators, designers, architects etc.)

Selection Criteria

- Artwork must be **innovative**, **highly visible** and visually compelling
- Artwork must be appropriate to **scope** and theme of the project
- Artwork must respond to our community survey and be **site-specific**
- Artwork must **spark curiosity** in viewers of all ages tempting them to **engage** with it
- Artwork must be of **professional quality** and **high artistic merit** to enhance the Dallas Public Art Collection at **world-class standard**



Harmony by Dallas artist Laura Walters, Everglade Park

Preliminary Scope of the Project

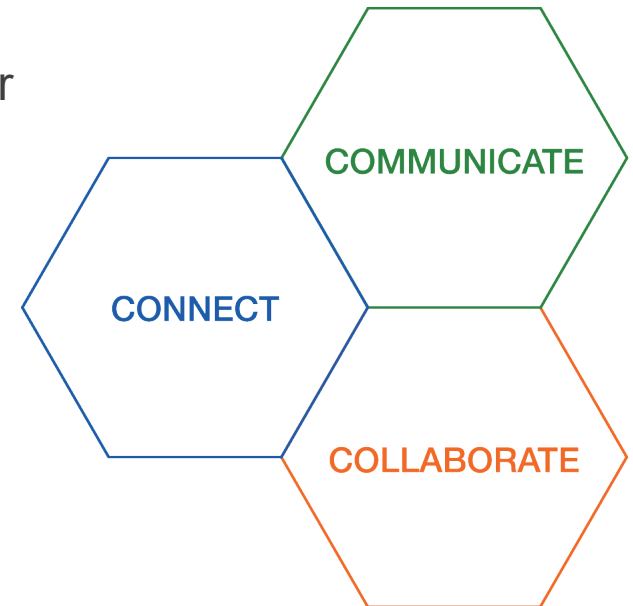
- Artwork must be suitable for **indoors/outdoors**, require **minimal maintenance** and be resistant to graffiti and vandalism
- Artwork must have an expected life span of **20+ years**.
- If seating is part of a design, it must be safe, slip-resistant, and comfortable seating with smooth, even surfaces and curved edges and comply with City of Dallas and ADA requirements.
- Artwork must **be free of safety hazards** (no sharp or loose objects).
- We strive for variety of style, materials and artists



Comunidad by Dallas artist Brad Goldberg, Crawford Park

Community Feedback: *from our survey*

Residents want to the artwork to feel **inclusive, inspiring** and **engaging** for all ages, celebrating local identity and the library's **history** in the neighborhoods, where it has served several **generations** of readers. Desired themes include **learning, creativity and resilience**. **Vibrant colors** are desirable, as **are interactive elements**. The artwork should integrate with or complement the library's mid-century modern architecture, enhancing the space without overwhelming it, while remaining **playful, durable, joyful and timeless**.



Outdoor play zones and a garden were suggested but are beyond the scope of the public artwork.

Preston Royal Branch Library Locations



Several smaller sculptures for the flowerbed



Opportunity for a floor mosaic that could extend into the lobby, or a even a small seating arrangement, as the area is shaded by trees



Preston Royal Branch Library Locations



Sculpture behind the seating



Sculpture at the new south entrance that will likely be created

Art budget: \$84,000



Location that is highly visible from the street between trees



Wellspring, 2020
\$110,000



City of Dallas

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Paplona Rose, 2021
Julie Richey
\$150,000



Ruby
Valerie Theberge,
2019
\$75,000



2ftx8ftx3ft

Garrison Elementary
Valerie Theberge,
2018
\$50,000

5ftx6ftx1ft



Garrison Elementary
Josh Garber, 2018
\$90,000





Garden Guardians, 2016
Wowhouse
\$37,000



27 fantastical creatures
hidden in a park

Sunnyside
Menagerie, 2006
Wowhouse
\$75,000



**SERVICE
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Unwoven Light, 2012
Houston, TX
\$155,000



\$320,000



The Heartbeat of Austin, 2024
The Mosaic Workshop
\$100,000
As floor mosaic

21ftx17ftx5



Dedication and ribbon cutting:
Friday, March 27, 10 am

Crockett Dog Park,
Sujin Lim, 2025
\$200,000

How can the community participate?



**PUBLIC ART IS COMING TO
PRESTON ROYAL BRANCH LIBRARY**

We want to hear from you!

Share your ideas for a new public artwork commissioned by the
**City of Dallas
Office of Arts and Culture**

Questions?
E-mail: sabine.senft@dallas.gov






- Tell us about your neighborhood
- What is unique to your community?
- What stories need to be told?
- Volunteer to serve on future Artist Selection Panels

Additional questions and comments
sabine.senft@dallas.gov
Department of Arts and Culture

Deadline for comments is **3/31/2026**



Sabine Senft, Sr. Public Art
Project Lead
Office of Arts and Culture

Sabine.Senft@dallas.gov
cell 469-921-2200

THANKYOU!

For your time and expertise!

Pros & Cons: *Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet*

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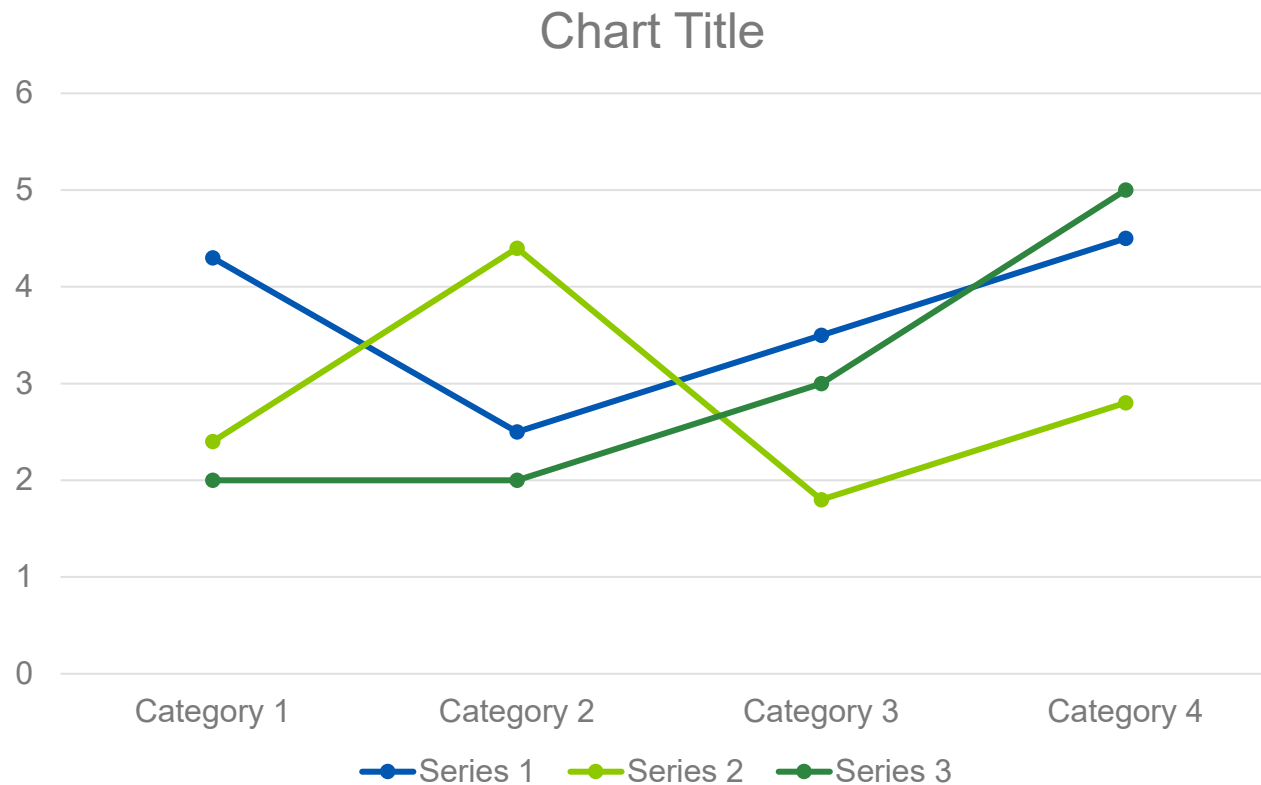
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SERVICE	FY 2025-2026 Actual	FY 2025-2026 Adopted Budget	FY 2025-2026 Forecast	FY 2026-27 Planned Budget
Grant	\$X	\$X	\$X	\$X
Operating	\$X	\$X	\$X	\$X
Performance	\$X	\$X	\$X	\$X
Expense Total	\$X	\$X	\$X	\$X

Graph: *Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet*



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