

Illinois Capital Development Board

Art-in-Architecture Program

FACT SHEET for Artists

WHAT IS ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE?

The Art-in-Architecture program, administered by the Capital Development Board, enriches communities and provides “for the promotion and preservation of the arts by securing suitable works of art for the adornment of public buildings constructed or subjected to major renovation by the State or which utilize State funds, and thereby reflecting the diverse cultural heritage of Illinois, with emphasis on the works of Illinois artists.” 20 ILCS 3105/14

WHAT IS PUBLIC ART?

The Art-in-Architecture legislation defines art as:

- » Paintings
- » Prints
- » Sculptures
- » Graphics
- » Mural decorations
- » Stained glass
- » Statues
- » Bas reliefs
- » Ornaments
- » Ornamental gateways
- » or other creative works that reflect form, beauty, and aesthetic perceptions.

DO I QUALIFY AS AN ARTIST?

Artists are skilled practitioner who generate original designs and concepts for creative works that reflect form, beauty, and aesthetic perception.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR AN ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE (AIA) PROJECT?

All professional artists living and working in Illinois are eligible to apply for AIA projects. The staff, faculty, or employees of the Client Agency are not eligible to apply.

HOW ARE PROJECTS ANNOUNCED?

Each AIA project is announced on the [Commission Opportunities](#) page via a Request for Qualifications (RFQ).

HOW DO I APPLY?

Review the “How to Apply” section in the RFQ to learn about project-specific portfolio requirements. Email your portfolio to CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov.

HOW IS WORK SELECTED?

A Fine Arts Review Committee (FARC) is assembled by the AIA Coordinator for each project. The FARC reviews applicants’ portfolios and recommends artists to contract and/or artwork to purchase. For commissions, at least three artists are selected as semi-finalists to develop and present site-specific design proposals. The FARC votes for a winning proposal.

Members of a FARC include:

- » Client agency designee
- » Designing architect
- » Illinois Arts Council designee
- » Illinois State Museum designee

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the [Art-in-Architecture website](#) for the Policy and Procedure Manual, contract examples, photographs of completed projects, and other Program details.

HOW DO I CONTACT THE AIA PROGRAM?

Email or call the program at:
CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov
217-782-9561

Art-in-Architecture Coordinator
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