

Definitions and terminology

Have you ever wondered about some of the terms or phrases you may have seen associated with the topic of public art? Here is a growing list of definitions that The City of Calgary and the Public Art Program utilize.

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST:

As per the Canada Council for the Arts, **we define a professional artist as someone who:**

- has specialized training in visual art (not necessarily in academic institutions) and has produced an independent body of work;
- is recognized as such by his or her peers (artists working in the same artistic discipline) and has maintained an independent professional practice for at least three years;
- is committed to devoting more time to artistic activity, if possible financially, and has had at least three public installations or exhibitions of work in a professional context over a three-year period.

PUBLIC ART COLLECTION:

The Public Art Collection includes public art commissioned by The City of Calgary as well as a collection of fine art objects donated to The City of Calgary over the past century. The collection is held in trust by The City of Calgary for the citizens of our community and displayed throughout the city in civic space buildings, facilities, and infrastructure.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP):

This is a procurement format commonly utilized at the City of Calgary. RFPs are issued for open competitions and contain relevant information on the public art commission.

RFP submission requirements can vary as not all RFP's ask for creative concepts. Interested artists should read the full RFP document to understand if artist selection will be determined by qualifications or if short-listed artist will be invited to provide a concept proposal specific to the project.

ARTIST'S MASTER AGREEMENT:

The Artist Master Agreement is a blanket agreement, renewable for up to five (5) years, and is not contract specific. Artists who have not signed this agreement with The City, will be required to do so, prior to any award. This agreement addresses important contractual insurance requirements, and performance expectations. Artists are advised to read it fully to understand their commitments to The City. <http://www.calgary.ca/CA/fs/Pages/Bid-and-Vendor-Information/Supply-Management-Terms-and-Conditions.aspx>

If there is a term you would like to see included on this list please contact us to have it included (email: publicart.calgary.ca).