



Exterior Plaza Sculpture, Alamo Colleges District, Westside Education & Training Center (WETC), San Antonio, TX

Budget: \$80,000 – \$100,000

Call Summary

The Alamo Colleges District seeks an established artist or artist team to design, fabricate and install a monumental, vertical exterior sculpture on the circular drive/island (approximate 12' radius) (pictured above) at the Westside Education and Training Center (WETC). This exterior roundabout area is a central focal point to the entrance of the main building as a drop off/pick up place for students and community members. This is a prime location for a creative and interpretive sculpture relating to the theme of the building and history of this area of San Antonio.

The commissioned design should thoughtfully respond to this academic community, celebrate the history and the historical role of the WETC and align with the mission and vision of the Alamo Colleges District.

Budget Description

Budget is \$80,000 – \$100,000. Artwork budget is all-inclusive of artist fees, other consultants' and subcontractor's fees, insurance, engineering, materials, fabrication, transportation, installation (including any site modification), lighting, and post-installation documentation.

The foundation for the selected artwork will be provided by Alamo Colleges District once size and weight of the selected artwork is determined.

Project Description

Alamo Colleges and WETC's vision is to encourage artists to reflect and create an artistic expression that welcomes visitors to this location. Artwork should consist of permanent and sustainable media that celebrate and champion curiosity, diversity, creativity, and the aspects of inquiry, observation, and investigation.

Artwork Goals

Artwork should be of the highest technical quality and be fabricated from safe and durable materials. The artwork will be vetted for any safety issues concerning placement and circulation of movement.

Artwork Location Description

(See attached architect's plans.)

Site History

The Westside Education and Training Center (WETC) rests in a historic part of San Antonio known for its rich cultural and linguistic heritage. While much of the Westside's popular history includes a vibrant Mexican American community, a less known but equally important story of African American heritage and culture permeates the area.

San Antonio was one of the first major cities in 1954 to desegregate its schools following the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* and its precursor 1931 landmark case *Roberto Alvarez v. Board of Trustees of the Lemon Grove School District*. Prior to desegregation, Edgewood I.S.D. opened Lincoln Elementary School to educate African American and Mexican American children with Elizabeth T. Wrenn as the school's first principal and Edgewood's first African American teacher and administrator.

Over 70 years later, this site continues to provide a wealth of resources, education, and training to all members of the Westside community. The Alamo Colleges District completed a brand new \$24.3M facility on this site. While the former Lincoln Elementary School is expected to be

demolished, the Alamo Colleges District seeks to honor the past and recent history of the site and continues to activate its mission to empower diverse communities for success through the WETC. An ongoing project between the Alamo Colleges and the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum (SAAACAM) aims to document and amplify the important stories of African American culture, pride, and history in San Antonio's Westside.

Eligibility

- Age 21 or older
- Professional artist: A practitioner of visual and/or interdisciplinary arts, at any stage in their career, whose work is recognized by peer artists to demonstrate serious intent and ability, who has a body of work that supports and demonstrates their focus and artistic practice.
- Lives or works in the Texas region

Preferred Qualifications

- Exhibited in a museum
- Work held in a museum collection

Application Requirements

Resume: 2 pages maximum

Work examples: 5-10

Letter of Interest: 700 words maximum. Please tell us why you feel you are a good fit for this artwork opportunity.

References: 3-5

Artists are allowed to apply in teams. Artists applying as a team must split the allotted number of work examples between themselves.

Insurance Requirements

Insurance requirements for the artist or artist team shall include the following coverage:

- Installation Floater in the value of the contact (\$100K)
- Transit Policy in the replacement value of the completed artwork
- General Liability Policy with \$1M per occurrence limits must include personal injury claims

Selection Information

Selection Process

The selection of an artist/team will occur in two phases.

First, the Alamo Colleges District WETC's Art Advisory Committee (AAC) will have an **Open Call Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**. The AAC will review the submissions and narrow the list to at most three finalists.

Second, the selected finalists from the Request for Qualifications will move forward to a **Request for Proposal (RFP)** process, wherein an artist/team will design and present a proposal for review and consideration to the AAC. The selected finalists are invited to visit the site and schedule to meet with administrators and the community prior to submitting their proposal. The AAC will select one artist/team and one alternate artist/team for review and approval by the Alamo Colleges Art Commission and Chancellor for final selection. Each non-selected finalist will receive a **\$500 honorarium** for their proposal. Award is turnkey, meaning an original or reproduction which is delivered ready to install without additional effort or cost. The Alamo Colleges District shall retain all rights and privileges to submitted proposals, to be included in the archives of the Alamo Colleges District.

Selection Criteria

RFQ will be evaluated in these areas:

- Artistic merit and technical quality of the body of work
- Strong, verifiable professional qualifications and/or experience completing large scale sculpture/public works
- Proficiency in AUTOCAD 2019
- Demonstrated ability to work on time, on budget
- Compatibility with the mission of WETC and Alamo Colleges District

RFP will be evaluated in these areas:

Technical parameters for a successful sculptural artwork:

- Digital rendering of how artwork will look in space
- Dimensions and list of material for proposed artwork
- Use colors, themes or forms that relate and compliment a facility and the Alamo College District's values and discipline principles
- Incorporate historical elements of the former building, location, and/or community
- Have a positive and celebratory message, making a connection to WETC's past, present, and future; acknowledge and reflect the community's historically multiethnic, multigenerational, neighborhood
- Have a proficiency in a variety of technical areas and be able to convey clearly how artwork will be integrated into the space
- Be willing to work with design team and make revisions as requested
- Be able to safely install the work with a rig or lift and have the technical knowledge therein to safely complete

Timeline

RFQ

Post RFQ by January 26, 2024
Artist Information Meeting by March 15, 2024
Artist RFQ submissions by April 1, 2024
Shortlist and interview Artists by April 15, 2024
Select Artist for RFP process due by May 1, 2024

RFP

RFP artists visit site and site administrators by May 15, 2024
Community meeting for RFP artists by June 1, 2024
RFP artist submit proposals by June 21, 2024
Shortlist and interview RFP artists by July 5, 2024
Select artist and alternate for Alamo Colleges Art Commission and Chancellor's review and approval by July 10, 2024
Select artist by July 12, 2024 (ACD Committee of the Whole Meeting on July 16, 2024, and ACD Regular Board Meeting on July 23, 2024, as needed)
Commission awarded by July 31, 2024

Artwork completion by October 1, 2024
Construction completion by November 1, 2024
Installation completion by December 1, 2024

Additional Resources/Information

<https://www.alamo.edu/about-us/offices-departments/departments/education-and-training-centers/acd-center-operations/WETC/>

[En Español \(PDF\)](#)

Alamo Colleges Policy C.2.8, Purchase or Acquisition and Maintenance of College District-Owned Art

<https://www.alamo.edu/siteassets/district/about-us/leadership/board-of-trustees/policies-pdfs/section-c/c.2.8-policy.pdf>

Artist/team selected from RFQ process must become a vendor.

<https://www.alamo.edu/about-us/offices-departments/departments/purchasing/>
<https://www.alamo.edu/contentassets/7a7b6a99ad8247b68002c707d11bbd1e/new-vendor-application-form-w-9.pdf>

Applications should NOT be submitted by mail.

Contact Information

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