



PROCESS SUMMARY

University Hills Branch Library ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROJECT

SELECTION PANEL

- Jimmy Luu, artist and professor, St. Edwards University
- Laura Schwartz, head librarian, Fine Arts Library, UT Austin
- Norma Yancey, artist and architect, Sidetracked Studio

PROJECT ADVISORS

- Crystal Pirone, Library Department, City of Austin
- John Gillum, Library Department, City of Austin
- Chris McCray, Art in Public Places Panel
- Alissa McCain, Austin Arts Commission

PROJECT SUMMARY

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department, seeks to commission a professional visual artist, or artist team, to design, fabricate, and install artwork for the University Hills Branch Library located at 4721 Loyola Ln in Austin.

AIPP requests qualifications from professional visual artists, or artist teams, who live in the Austin metropolitan area. This includes Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Caldwell, and Hays counties. The total budget available for this project is \$55,000.

Renovations at University Hills Branch Library include expanding the parking lot to accommodate 25 additional parking spaces, sidewalk improvements and landscape enhancements. The building has not been renovated since its completion in 1987. This busy branch serves one of Austin's most diverse neighborhoods and is currently the eastern-most branch of the Austin Public Library system.

In 1988, *Color At Play* by Mary Visser (right) was donated to the library by Walter and Raye Carrington in memory of Cathy Carrington and Adriana Visser. In 1990 it received a Design Excellence Award from the Austin Design Commission. It was for years located at the entrance to the library, but was deaccessioned in 2009 when the interior framework was found to be damaged beyond repair.

SELECTION PROCESS

On July 11 and July 22, 2015, AIPP staff hosted public meetings at the University Hills Branch Library for the community to weigh in on the project goals. AIPP staff also outlined the project schedule and other opportunities for the community to engage with the project. The feedback gathered at these meetings was used to craft the project goals that were later approved by the AIPP Panel and Arts Commission.

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was released on September 3, 2015 to professional visual artists and artist teams, at least 18 years of age, who live and work in the Austin metropolitan area which includes Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Caldwell, and Hays Counties.

RFQ announcement outreach:

- » Announcement and pdf of the RFQ was emailed to artists on the AIPP Call to Artists and Media list, Project Advisors, and AIPP Panel.
- » Targeted outreach to community members who attended the public meetings.
- » Targeted outreach to neighborhood associations near the library.
- » The AIPP website featured the opportunity for the duration of the RFQ period.
- » Notice was included in multiple AIPP and CAD e-newsletters.
- » Announcement of RFQ was posted on the AIPP and CAD Facebook pages. A Facebook event was created for the Artist Information Meeting held on September 16, 2015.
- » FAQ from Artist Information Meeting was posted on the AIPP website.
- » CPIO posted the opportunity on Twitter and NextDoor.
- » Flyers/posters were made available at the University Hills Branch Library.

AIPP staff held the following information meeting to assist emerging and experienced artists to develop their applications and submit to the call using www.PublicArtist.org.

- » September 16, 2015, 7:00-8:00 pm at the University Hills Branch Library.

The Selection Panel met with Project Advisors on December 7, 2015 to review the 11 applications received. They selected three finalists: Rodolfo Magnus and Lisa Woods; Colin McIntyre; and Tristan Pieper. On December 14, 2015, the Selection Panel met with Project Advisors to interview the three finalists. They voted 2-1 to recommend Colin McIntyre and voted 2-1 to recommend the artist team of Rodolfo Magnus and Lisa Woods as the alternate.

Official Vote:

	Artist	Alternate
Jimmy Luu	Magnus/Woods	Pieper
Laura Schwartz	McIntyre	Magnus/Woods
Norma Yancey	McIntyre	Magnus/Woods

Selection Panel Comments:

Colin McIntyre

"Colin's work is solid and beautiful."

"It would be interesting to look at how the neighborhood has changed and how that could be expressed in the deformations of the work that Colin is currently doing."

Rodolfo Magnus and Lisa Woods

"Their work shows strength in collaboration and interest in community involvement."

"I appreciate the concept of storytelling that is common in their work."

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Prospectus)

On August 3, 2015 the AIPP Panel unanimously approved the Prospectus for the University Hills Branch Library Art in Public Places Project (4-0-0). Panel Members Walker and McCray were absent. Arts Commission Liaison position vacant.

AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION (Prospectus)

On August 17, 2015 the Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the AIPP Panel's recommended Prospectus and potential Selection Panel members for the University Hills Branch Library Art in Public Places Project (8-0-0). Commissioner Mok absent.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Artist Selection)

On January 4, 2016 the AIPP Panel unanimously approved the Selection Process Recommendation for the University Hills Branch Library Art in Public Places Project (7-0-0).

AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION (Artist Selection)

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Design Approval)

AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION (Design Approval)
