



**MAKING  
ART HAPPEN  
SINCE 1975**  
Arts New Orleans



**City of New Orleans Percent for Art Program  
Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**

***Voices of the People:***

***City Council Chambers Commission***

**Artwork commission led by Arts New Orleans in partnership  
with the City of New Orleans**



**Open Call Live: June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

**Deadline: July 18<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm**

**Budget: \$100,000 (\$20,000 for each commission)**

**[Submission Link](#)**

**Contact:** paris cian, Arts New Orleans | [paris@artsneworleans.org](mailto:paris@artsneworleans.org)



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## INTRODUCTION

### About Arts New Orleans

Arts New Orleans is a private 501(c)3 nonprofit organization designated as the official community arts agency for the City of New Orleans. **Our mission** is to support public art and artists, creating work that inspires, connects, and enriches the community through creative expression. **Our vision** is to cultivate vibrant communities through the impact of arts and culture. Programs include Unframed presented by The Helis Foundation, Arts Market New Orleans, Young Artist Movement (YAM), LUNA Fête, and grantmaking, as well as commissions and community projects. Visit [artsneworleans.org](https://artsneworleans.org) for more information.

### About the Percent for Art Program

Begun in 1986, the Percent for Art Program is the City of New Orleans' public art collection. Administered by Arts New Orleans, the program is supported through city funding generated by 1.5% of eligible capital projects. The Percent for Art Program includes commissioning murals and sculptures, acquiring artwork for the city's interior collection, community outreach and education, and maintenance of the collection. There are currently more than 400 Percent for Art artworks enlivening our city's landscape. Artwork purchased through the Percent for Art Program will become part of the City of New Orleans permanent collection. The artwork will be hung in interior City-operated public spaces throughout New Orleans, such as City Hall, public libraries, fire stations, court buildings, and NORD community centers.

### Project Overview

Arts New Orleans announces the 2025 Percent for Art Program commission for New Orleans City Hall, "Voices of the People: City Council Chambers Commission." We seek five artists or artist teams—one representing each City Council district—to create work celebrating New Orleans' communities.

The commissioned artwork should reflect the unique character of New Orleans' neighborhoods and people. We are seeking artists whose work reflects both the triumphs and challenges of living in and loving New Orleans as we look towards its future.

The artwork will be installed in City Council Chambers and become part of the City's public art collection. We are seeking qualifications for visual artists to create two-dimensional artworks. We welcome collaboration among artists to represent and honor each district.



**Budget: \$20,000 per artist or artist team**

**Artists can apply at [SUBMITTABLE](#).**

**Deadline: July 18th, 2025 @ 5:00pm**

For more information, contact Public Art Project Manager paris cian at [paris@artsneworleans.org](mailto:paris@artsneworleans.org) or visit [artsneworleans.org](http://artsneworleans.org).

### Eligibility

The artist call is open to local artists interested in creating a new artwork in the City Council Chambers of City Hall.

To qualify applicants must:

- Reside in Orleans Parish. However, we understand that cost of living within Orleans Parish can be prohibitive. New Orleans metro area residents or artists with a strong connection to New Orleans may apply.
- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age
- Meet all contractual obligations and adhere to the timeline provided

*Arts New Orleans is committed to centering racial equity in the selection of artists and artworks. Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian and other artists of color are highly encouraged to apply. Our overall goal is to distribute at least 60% of Percent for Art commissions and direct purchases to artists of color to reflect the city's demographics more closely.*

### Information Sessions

#### **Q + A Session #1**

July 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 3:30pm-4:30pm (in person @ 1474 N. Broad Ave.)

#### **Q + A Session # 2**

July 10<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm-2:00pm ([Zoom Registration](#))



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## Project and Site Details



We are seeking large scale artworks to be displayed in the New Orleans City Council Chambers. To suit the scale of the space, submitted pieces should fall within a general range of around 10 feet by 10 feet. While exact dimensions are flexible, no side should be shorter than 5 feet.



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## Selection Process & Timeline

Timeline	DATES
RFQ Released	June 23rd
RFQ Q&A # 1	July 2 <sup>nd</sup> @ 3:30pm ( <i>in person @ 1474 N. Broad Ave.</i> )
RFQ Q&A # 2	July 10 <sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm ( <a href="#">via zoom</a> )
Deadline for RFQ	July 18 <sup>th</sup> 2025
RFP issued to Finalists	August 11th
Deadline for RFP	September 5 <sup>th</sup>
Artist Notification	October 17 <sup>th</sup>
Site Visit	October 2025
Commission Period	October-March 2026
Installation and Unveiling	April – June 2026

*Arts New Orleans reserves the right to change the project schedule.*

## Budget

Each of the five selected artists or artist teams will be awarded a total of **\$20,000** for the artwork(s) commission. This amount is inclusive of all costs associated with the artwork, including, but not limited to: Artist fees, materials, fabrication, shipping, transportation, and framing.

Arts New Orleans will cover project expenses related to project documentation (photo & video), artwork(s) plaque, marketing, unveiling event, and long-term maintenance.

*Please note that all information is subject to change. All expectations of project and details will be provided in the request for proposals.*



## ARTIST SELECTION & COMMISSION PROCESS

### Artist Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by Arts New Orleans and a selection committee that includes community representatives, art professionals, and city officials.

Artist will be notified by **August 11<sup>th</sup>** and invited to submit a design proposal.

Fifteen finalists will be selected and will receive a stipend to develop a proposal. The finalist must submit their proposal by September 5<sup>th</sup>.

The five awarded artists will be notified by **October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025**.

### Evaluation Criteria

Selection criteria include:

- The applicant's professional qualifications;
- Proven ability to undertake projects of a similar scope;
- Connection and relationship to district
- Artistic merit as evidenced by the submitted materials.

### Application

Artists interested in applying will be asked to complete the following application through Arts New Orleans' online Submittable system. Artists should prepare the following information and materials before submitting.

#### [APPLY HERE](#)

1. Artist/Studio Name
2. Email





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3. **Phone Number**
4. **Address** (if your address is outside Orleans Parish, please provide a short statement explaining your connection to New Orleans and why you would like to be considered for this project)
5. **Website** (if applicable)
6. **Social Media Handles** (if applicable)
7. **Personal Identification:** Which category/categories best describe your race/ethnicity? Check all that apply (Optional)
8. **Artist Bio** (Max. 125 words)
9. **Please specify your [district](#)?**
  - a. Council District A
  - b. Council District B
  - c. Council District C
  - d. Council District D
  - e. Council District E
10. **Artist/Studio Statement:** A short written response that addresses (3000-character max):
  - a. Describe your artistic practice
  - b. What motivates, interests, and excites you most about this project?
  - c. What is your connection to the district for which you are applying? And why do you want to create artwork for your district?
11. **Resume/CV:** Acceptable file types: .pdf, .doc, .docx. (up to 2 pages)

Please label your file: "**First Name\_Last Name\_Resume**" or "**Studio Name\_Resume**"
12. **Work Samples:** Submit a minimum of 5 and up to 10 photos of past completed work that you consider relevant to this project. Acceptable file types: .jpg, .png, .mov, .mp4 and must be no more than 300dpi

Please label each file: "**ArtistLastName\_WorkSampleName** or "**StudioName\_WorkSampleName**"
13. **Work Sample Description List:** For each work sample submitted, list the following (1 page max). Acceptable file types: .pdf, .doc, .docx.

*Artwork title, Artist name*





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*Location, Date of completion, Budget*

*Medium, Dimensions*

*Brief description*

Please label your file: "**ArtistLastName\_WorkSample DescriptionList**" or "**Studio  
Name\_ WorkSampleDescriptionList**"

### [APPLY HERE](#)

***Applications will only be accepted online using Arts New Orleans' online Submittable system.  
If you need assistance, please make sure to attend a help session or reach out with any  
questions ([paris@artsneworleans.org](mailto:paris@artsneworleans.org))***

### [Questions](#)

Artists interested in submitting to the RFQ are encouraged to contact Arts New Orleans with any questions about the project, its scope or requirements, or how to complete an application.

### [Contact Information](#)

paris cian, Arts New Orleans Public Art Project Manager: [paris@artsneworleans.org](mailto:paris@artsneworleans.org)