

**SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION
ART IN PUBLIC PLACES EXHIBITION PROGRAM**

GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

BACKGROUND AND PROGRAM MISSION: SMAC began producing and presenting art exhibitions and temporary public artworks in alternative spaces in the Sacramento area in 1996. The program provides venues and support for regional artists, emerging and mid-career artists, emerging public artists, youth, students and artists with special needs to exhibit their work in public spaces.

The SMAC exhibition and temporary public art program provides the public with opportunities to experience and learn about visual arts through exhibitions that are varied, accessible, challenging, and educational. The program is dedicated to producing, presenting and promoting emerging contemporary visual art practices while providing exhibitions that both reflect and engage the diverse audiences of the Sacramento region and promote cross-cultural understanding and new perspectives and insights by visual artists and curators.

SMAC routinely collaborates with local community groups and guest curators such as the Crocker Art Museum, the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center, the Kuumba Art Collective, California Art Education Association, California Rice Commission, American River College and the Sacramento Fine Arts Center. These collaborations resulted in educational exhibitions that brought a wide range of subjects, art forms, and ideas to the public including green design, information about migratory birds, a view of the artists who teach in Sacramento schools, and the history of former Sacramento Mayor Robert Matsui's political career. Additionally, SMAC has a history of recognizing important regional artists including: Diana Richy-Ward, Ray Gonzalez, Andrew Patterson-Tutschka and Hearne Pardee.

Presently SMAC is producing exhibitions in the Sacramento City Hall's Robert T. Matsui gallery, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and the Board of Supervisors' Chambers. Exhibitions and temporary public art programs are developed by invitation, artist application, or guest curator application.

The exhibition policies and procedures reflect the requirements of SMAC and sponsoring or partnering organizations.

The Art in Public Places exhibition program was established to provide:

- exhibition opportunities to emerging and mid-career artists;
- art and cultural experiences in locations throughout Sacramento that are in public and central to everyday life;
- exhibitions that support a variety of themes, aesthetic and cultural approaches that demonstrate the cultural and aesthetic diversity of the Sacramento region
- curatorial opportunities to emerging and mid-career curators

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EXHIBITION LOCATIONS

**Robert T. Matsui Gallery
(Sacramento City Hall)**

915 I Street, 95814
(Located in the H Street lobby)
SMAC organizes and presents 2 Exhibitions per year

SMUD Lobby

6301 S Street, Sacramento 95817
(Located in the lobby)
SMAC organizes and presents 6-8 Exhibitions per year
SMAC provides the public opportunities to meet the exhibiting artists at opening receptions, free of charge

Board of Supervisors' Chambers

700 H Street, Sacramento 95814
SMAC organizes and presents 2 Exhibitions per year

Temporary Public Art Program

SMAC organizes temporary public art programs

EXHIBITION APPROVAL PROCESS: Art in Public Places Program staff reviews exhibition proposals year-round, obtains the client organization's feedback, selects artworks and exhibitions for all venues, and establishes annual exhibition schedules. Exhibitions are then approved by the appropriate sponsoring or client organizations. Upon approval by client or sponsoring organizations, the Art in Public Places (APP) Committee reviews and approves exhibition and temporary public art programs and schedules.

The APP Committee establishes and approves exhibition policy and procedures.

Exhibitions are installed and de-installed by SMAC staff. Additionally, SMAC provides publicity, exhibition invitations, mailings, and in some cases opening an reception and artist talks. Artworks are insured while on exhibition at all venues. There is no commission taken from artworks sold.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION: SMAC staff and the APP Committee consider the following criteria when reviewing artwork in the context of an annual schedule of exhibitions at each of the venues:

1. Demonstrated artistic proficiency

- Is there competent use of the chosen medium?
- Is there an acceptable level of technical expertise demonstrated?
- Does the artwork demonstrate artistic vision?
- How effectively is this vision communicated to the viewer?
- At what level of experience is the artist or curator in their career?

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2. Appropriateness of content

- Is the content of the artwork appropriate for a public setting?

3. Appropriateness of scale and medium

- Is the artwork size/scale suitable for the specific gallery space?
- Are the artwork medium/materials suitable for the specific gallery?
- Are there any public safety issues?
- Can the chosen artworks be secured properly at the site to ensure their safety and protection, and minimize insurance considerations?

Preference is given to artists, collaborative teams, arts organizations, and curators residing in the 11 contiguous counties of the Sacramento region.

Exhibition programs may not be used for the purposes of advertisement, marketing, political action, or presentation of content not appropriate for a family audience.

OUTREACH: SMAC and participating venues will make every effort to publicize the exhibition program by:

- Listing exhibition program guidelines and application on the following websites:
 - www.sacmetroarts.org
 - SMAC Facebook page
 - www.sacramento365.com
- Sending a request for proposals to individual artists and arts groups annually
- Advertising the program at appropriate community events

Specific outreach will be targeted to multicultural communities, libraries, community centers and organizations.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT: SMAC is committed to inclusivity and accessibility. SMAC respects and seeks to achieve diversity in its leadership, partnerships and programs. SMAC is committed to cultural equity. Its goals will be achieved when:

- All individuals and organizations that make up our region have fair access to the information, financial resources and opportunities vital to full cultural expression;
- The opportunity to be represented in the development of arts policy and the distribution of arts resources;
- When all the cultures are expressed in thriving, visible arts organizations of all sizes; and lastly,
- When new institutions flourish whose programming reflects the experiences of historically underserved communities.