

Call to Artists: Traffic Signal Box Project

City of Missoula Public Art Committee Missoula, Montana

Submission Deadline
Friday, June 2nd, 2023 (5:00 pm)



Past Time
Rebecca Weed
September 2010
Broadway & Pattee
Acrylic



Huckleberry Haven
Hannah Schultz
Fall 2018
Higgins & Pine
Paint



Now That's A Cowboy
Lillian Nelson
August 2015
Reserve & England
Acrylic

THE PROJECT

The City of Missoula Public Art Committee invites artists **residing in Missoula County** to apply for a public art project to create art on traffic signal boxes (TSB) located throughout Missoula. The goal of the project is to use local traffic signal boxes as “canvases,” greatly enhancing Missoula’s visual surroundings.

Dimensions of the TSB are **generally 56” H x 44” W x 26” D**. **Art should cover all exposed sides and top of the box. In addition, artists are required to paint the concrete bases in a solid color or colors complimentary to the design.** Bases measure approximately **24” H x 44” W x 26” D**. Designs should take into consideration that TSB will be visible for short glimpses by passing vehicles and some will have more pedestrian traffic than others.

LOCATIONS

In conjunction with the City of Missoula Public Works Department, the State of Montana Department of Transportation, the Missoula Redevelopment Agency, Missoula Business Improvement District, Missoula Neighborhood Councils and private donors, area signal boxes will be selected for artwork in this multi-year project. The Missoula Public Art Committee has selected TSBs located throughout Missoula; each is in a location that provides a safe environment for artists to work and maximum visibility for pedestrians and drivers.

2023 TSB locations include:

1. **Broadway & Van Buren**
2. **Hwy 10 West – Reserve St. Entrance Northbound**
3. **Hwy 10 West – Reserve St. Entrance Southbound**

ARTIST’S AWARD

The total budget for each TSB shall be \$1,500 and includes all materials and artist’s labor. TSBs will be prepared for artist’s application of design. Artists painting the TSBs will use a four-step process: applying primer, painting the design, applying a protective isolation coat, and applying the final protective varnish or clear coat. Applying vinyl will be a two-step process: application of vinyl, application of clear coat protector. Artists will also be required to paint and seal the TSB concrete bases.



Swinging on the Tree of Life
Melissa Madsen
September 2010
Miller Creek & Hwy. 93
Paint



Flicker Falls
Karl Stein
August 2014
Arthur & Beckwith
Paint



The Little Green Rabbit
Laura Blaker
Fall 2012
Brooks & Mount
Paint

MATERIALS

Artists must select one of the following methods to complete the TSB.

A. Painted TSBs: The Missoula Public Art Committee has specified the following acrylic-based products for use:

1. **PRIMER: BULLS EYE 1-2-3 (Zinsser)**
Available at paint & hardware stores in Missoula.
2. **PAINT: GOLDEN ARTIST COLORS, LLC** (<https://www.goldenpaints.com/>)
Golden Artist Colors, LLC has technical tips on their websites related to painting murals. For example, some colors have a longer lifespan than others (some reds & yellows fade rapidly – discuss specific color with company). Products can be ordered through the University of Montana Bookstore, is available locally at Michael's, and through other vendors.
 - **GOLDEN ARTIST COLORS**
(https://www.goldenpaints.com/technicalinfo/technicalinfo_murals)
3. **ISOLATION COAT (layer between paint & protective clear coat)**
 - **GOLDEN ARTIST COLORS: Isolation Coat**
(<https://www.goldenpaints.com/products/varnish-top-coat/protective-coatings>)
4. **PROTECTIVE VARNISH / CLEAR COAT**
 - **GOLDEN ARTIST COLORS: MSA Varnish**
(<https://www.goldenpaints.com/products/varnish-top-coat/protective-coatings>)

B. VINYL TSBs: Artists producing “digitally enhanced works” may choose a printed vinyl “wrap.” **Artists must use a “high performance” vinyl. Please note, vinyl applications must be applied professionally. Further, printed vinyl must also have a clear coat applied for added protection. Vinyl “wraps” are available from sign companies throughout Missoula.**

CONCRETE BASES: The Missoula Public Art Committee has specified the following products for painting and sealing the concrete bases of each TSB.

1. **NEW LOOK SMART COLOR** for concrete. Available in various colors.
2. **DIAMOND CLEAR CURE & SEAL** (concrete sealant – comparable to varnish).

Concrete products available at Macon Supply (local) or any concrete supply company.

APPLICATION PROCESS & DESIGN CRITERIA

- Artwork **MUST BE ORIGINAL** and **MAY NOT** be work that has been sold or reproduced in any way.
- Artists **MUST** reside in Missoula County.
- Use the template provided to propose a design concept. **NOTE:** changes to design proportions may be required to accommodate site requirements.
- Design **MUST** include all visible **SIDES of the TSB and TOP of the TSB.**
- Designs **MUST NOT** contain any representations of traffic lights, signs or signals.
- If the design is to include text, it **MUST** be included in the design. TSBs **MAY NOT** be used for advertisement or to promote a business, product or viewpoint.
- Designs **MAY NOT** include any breach of intellectual property, trademarks, brands, images of illegal activity or involve the attachment of any object(s) to the box.
- Because this program aims to deter graffiti vandalism, designs should not mimic or take the style of graffiti.
- The finished artwork will be in the public domain and therefore may be subject to vandalism. Accordingly, artists should be thoughtful about having large open areas in the design -- for example, large areas of a single color might give a vandal the perfect spot to deface the work.



A Quilted Heritage
Missoula Electric
Quilters
Memorial Weekend
2011
South / Johnson
Vinyl



Bright Morning
Stoney Sasser
Memorial Weekend
2010
Reserve & 3rd
Acrylic



Bike-A-Delic
Rachel Neal
August 2015
Arthur & 5th
Vinyl

GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS

The Traffic Signal Box Art Project is designed to enhance the Missoula community by adding works of art to streetscape on surfaces that are often targeted by graffiti vandals. Artwork on TSBs functions as a form of communication to a moving audience with the goal of creating an inclusive and interesting environment. Successful proposals will foster community pride and convey the sense of community. When designing the artwork, consider the relationship of the imagery to the traffic signal box and its users (pedestrians, commuters, and neighborhood citizens).

Artists should understand that the finished work will be on functioning equipment that will need repair or replacing at some point in time. As such, the City of Missoula cannot guarantee how long each TSB will be in use. Material longevity estimates are approximately seven years (vinyl) and up to 25 years (paint), assuming no unexpected damage occurs such as a car accident.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Each artwork to be selected will be a public art commission. As such, the Missoula Public Art Committee expects that it be of the highest quality in both concept and execution, while recognizing public safety and durability.

Missoula's Public Art Committee, made up of artists, arts professionals, and community representatives, will review applications for completeness. In addition, the Selection Committee may also include representatives from the City of Missoula Public Works Department, the Montana Department of Transportation, the Missoula Redevelopment Agency, the Missoula Business Improvement District, the Missoula Downtown Association, the City of Missoula Police Department, Neighborhood Council representatives, private donors, and the Missoula community. **Applications will be evaluated on the basis of aesthetic, artistic and technical merit. Past performance will also comprise a portion of the criteria used in the selection process.** The Selection Committee will review all materials received by the specified deadline for content, completeness, qualifications, experience, and references. Any changes to the project scope will be noted at the Public Art website (Current Art Calls):

<http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/899/Public-Art-Calls> or <http://www.publicartmissoula.org/>

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

The project is open to artists residing in Missoula County: All eligible applicants regardless of race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, national origin, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. If you are unsure about eligibility, contact the City of Missoula before applying.

In an effort to compile a diverse collection of artwork and artists, individuals will be awarded no more than two (2) commissions in a thirty-six (36) month period.

If awarded a TSB commission, artists are encouraged to carry a comprehensive general liability insurance policy.



Homelands
 Monica Giles-Brings
 Yellow
 August 2020
 Broadway & Madison
 Vinyl



*Our Community
 Missoula*
 Josh Quick
 Memorial Weekend
 2010
 Higgins & 5th
 Vinyl



Where the Sun Rises
 Lillian Nelson
 Higgins & Broadway
 Fall 2018
 Paint

PROJECT TIMELINE

Friday, June 2, 2023

Submission deadline

Complete submissions to include 3-dimensional model are to be received by the Selection Committee **no later than 5:00 p.m. ALL MODELS MUST BE DELIVERED TO City of Missoula, MAYORS OFFICE, 435 Ryman, Missoula, Montana.**

June 13-15, 2023

Works judged by selection committee

Friday June 16, 2023

Finalists announced

The Selection Committee will schedule interviews with finalists through conference calls or personal interviews.

June 27-29, 2023

Finalists interviewed

Friday, June 30, 2023

Commissions awarded

The Selection Committee will determine the final locations for selected works. A standard public art contract agreement will be executed thereafter between the artist and the City of Missoula.

August 25- August 31, 2023

Weather permitting, the TSB shall be completed on the following schedule or timeframe:

TSB's Primed / TSB's Painted, Stabilized or Vinyl Installed / Bases Stained

Thursday, Aug. 31, 2023

TSB's evaluated for completion. FINISHED WORK MUST ACCURATELY REFLECT THE DESIGN SUBMITTED AND DEPICTED ON THE MODEL.

Friday, September 1, 2023

TSB dedication – First Friday!
 (location to be determined)

Artists MUST complete the TSB Project during the designated timeframe. There are no exceptions.

2023 TSB Project Schedule
Submittal Deadline: Friday, June 2, 2023

*The City of Missoula Public Art Committee reserves the right to **change** the project timeline.*



My Colorful Chaotic Choir
Kim Foiles
August 2016
Brooks & Paxson
Acrylic



Wild Blooms
Debbie Bell
August 2014
Reserve & Union
Pacific
Vinyl



Fancy Elk
Amber Bushnell
Memorial Weekend
2011
39th / Reserve
Vinyl

APPLICATION INFORMATION

To be considered, artists must submit application information and deliver a model as described below.

A. Electronically submit application information at:

CityofMissoulaPublicArtCommittee.Submittable.com/submit

1. **Proposal Description / Project Description** explaining concept and design and how artist proposes to approach this project (one page maximum).
2. **Application** including:
 - a. **Examples of artwork image** identification
 - b. **Contact information** for two references with artist's name at the top who can speak to your art experience.
 - c. **Budget**
3. **Five (5) images illustrating examples of your best works.** It is suggested that these pieces have relevance to public or private commissions. **DO NOT provide website addresses or links directing the Selection Committee to examples of your work. It is the responsibility of each Artist to select the five (5) works which best illustrate their capabilities.**
4. **Current resume** detailing your experience as an artist and any past public art projects. NOTE: Additional support materials may be submitted that relate to the artist's past public art experience.

B. Models:

1. **Deliver or mail models to:** Kathi Olson, Chair, Missoula Public Art Committee, C/O Mayor's Office, 435 Ryman, Missoula, MT 59802. **NOTE: All the models must be delivered to City of Missoula, Mayor's Office.**
2. Artists must make a 3-D scale model using the template provided as a guide for size and proportion. **Please note: A scale model (a minimum height of 12") accurately depicting the finished artwork IS REQUIRED for all submittals.**
3. Artists may submit up to 3 (three) design proposals. A statement and scale model for each design must be submitted.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications (via Submittable.com) and 3-D models (delivered to City of Missoula, Mayor's Office) must be received no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, June 2, 2023. Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered.

INFORMATION / QUESTIONS.0

-All information, including application materials, is available at:

<http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/899/Public-Art-Calls> or <http://www.publicartmissoula.org/>

Questions related to this proposal may be directed to:

Kathi Olson, Chair, MPAC
Email: kameomt@gmail.com
T: (406) 544-7359
Subject: TSB Project

Nathan Poukish, MPAC Coordinator
Email: nathan@ArtsMissoula.org
T: (406) 541-0860
Subject: TSB Project



Bronc Rider's Dance
William Burwick
August 2009
Brooks/South/Russell
Vinyl



A Perspective on Trees
Kip Herring
September 2010
Stephens & Mount
Acrylic



*Long May the
Wilderness Be Wild*
Kip Sikora
Memorial Weekend
2011
39th / Dore
Vinyl

RESERVATION RIGHTS

The Missoula Public Art Committee is designated to review, advocate and develop public art projects in the City of Missoula. Since 1985, it has strived to develop a formal structure in which to create, develop and maintain public art as well as further public accessibility to the arts.

The public art project is open to all eligible applicants regardless of race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, national origin, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. If you are unsure about eligibility, contact the City of Missoula before applying.

The City of Missoula Public Art Committee reserves the right at any time to supplement, amend or otherwise modify this solicitation and to request additional or supplemental information or proposals from any or all participating artists. In addition, the City reserves the right to accept or reject, at any time prior to the commissioning of a work, any or all proposals or any part thereof submitted in connection with this solicitation; to waive any defect or technicality; and to advertise for new proposals where the acceptance, rejection waiver, or advertisement would be in the best interests of the City. The City also reserves the right to negotiate unacceptable provisions incorporated within an otherwise acceptable proposal. A proposal which is incomplete, unclear, conditional or which contains irregularities of any kind, may be rejected without evaluation.

Failure to comply with proposal requirements described in the prospectus will constitute an invalid application.

DESIGN TEMPLATE

City of Missoula Public Art Committee

Traffic Signal Box Project

This is a diagram of a typical utility box showing four sides and the top. **USE THIS TEMPLATE AS A GUIDE** to create your scale model in your chosen material (ie. paper, cardboard, foam core, etc.). **Your 3-Dimension model MUST measure a MINIMUM of 12” in height. Replicate your design in all artistic aspects (ie. hue, intensity, etc.) and installation method (paint or vinyl) to accurately represent the finished artwork. Clearly mark your name, contact information and title of work on the inside or bottom of the model. Note: Actual utility boxes vary in size and shape. Please be prepared to adjust your artwork to fit the box you are assigned. Thank you for your flexibility.**

