



**PRESS RELEASE**

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[www.sacmetroarts.org](http://www.sacmetroarts.org)

**AIRPORT PUBLIC ART PROGRAM OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES TO  
LOCAL ARTISTS**

Sacramento, CA—Following the approval of an 8-million dollar budget for the new “Airport Art Program” by the County Board of Supervisors last month, the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission (SMAC) announces an “open call for artists” for the largest public art project in the history of the County.

The funding for this historic project comes from a law which allows a percentage of construction dollars for County facilities to be set aside for art. The Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Program (APP) will administer the public art project.

Sacramento artists and artist teams are invited to submit qualifications for potential inclusion in a pre-qualified artist database for upcoming public art opportunities at the Sacramento International Airport. The Airport Art Program will provide opportunities for artists to create permanently installed artwork at various sites throughout the Airport over the next five to seven years.

“Special attention will be placed on local artists for this project,” says APP program administrator Shelly Willis, “There are nationally recognized artists in the Sacramento community as well as many visionary Sacramento artists that fly beneath the radar of national attention. While artists from around the country will contribute artwork, Sacramento artists will have a strong presence in the airport’s expansion, giving them the exposure they deserve.”

The selection process will include panels comprised of volunteers of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, arts professionals, artists, Airport and County representatives, and community members.

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Media appropriate to the Airport Art Program includes sculpture, ceramic, mosaics, art glass, multi-media, artist-designed lighting elements, or any other durable materials suitable for long-term exposure in an airport environment.

Artists included in the database will be considered for various art sites and may be selected to participate in a design competition for those sites based on the scale, style and media of their past work and its relationship to the site for which artwork is to be commissioned.

SMAC is a joint City County agency. The Airport falls under the jurisdiction of the County.

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application materials must be received at the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission Offices by 5:00 p.m. on Monday August 4, 2008. Send application packets to:

Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission

2030 Del Paso Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95815-2030

Attn: Airport Art Program Pre-Qualified Artist Data Base

For more information or an application for the SMAC Airport Art Program, please log onto [www.sacmetroarts.org](http://www.sacmetroarts.org).

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### **SMAC AIRPORT ART PROGRAM**

#### **FACT SHEET**

#### **Project Background**

On March 25, 2008, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, in compliance with the City's Public Art Ordinance, approved an allocation of \$5 million for the acquisition of permanent artwork for the planned Terminal B Modernization Program at the Sacramento International Airport. Designed by Corgan Associates, the architectural design includes a three-level landside terminal with sections of curved roof that reach out from a central core. The glass-clad walls allow light to filter throughout the building while exterior sunscreens provide shading from the summer sun. An automated "people mover" tram will run from the landside building to airside passenger concourse building. The design of the airside terminal echoes the curved roof and tilted glass walls of the landside building.

#### **Art Selection Process**

##### Phase I

To facilitate early involvement of artists in the Airport design process, an artist selection panel comprised of volunteers representing the County, SMAC, Art in Public Places Committee, and arts professionals, selected three artists in April to design artworks for Phase I of the Airport

expansion project. Their recommendations were reviewed and approved by the Art in Public Places Committee and Arts Commission in April, 2008.

The selected artists Christian Moeller, Donald Lipski, and Lawrence Argent will create designs this summer to be reviewed and approved by the APP Committee, SMAC, and County Board of Supervisors in fall, 2008.

## **Phase II**

As many as 12 panels will be convened in late 2008 and into 2009 to select artists for Phase II of the Airport project. Opportunities for artwork will vary from monumental to intimately scaled, and from whimsical pieces to those that are more serious and contemplative. The commissioned artwork may address the architectural scale of the building or may be experienced on a more intimate and personal level.

Potential sites for artwork include the central hall of the landside building, including the ticket counter lobby and the circulation area, the passenger concourse and gate rooms, domestic and international baggage claim areas, transfer station connections, and the Airport entryway. Other sites and art opportunities may be identified as the program evolves. All artists selected for the art program will be encouraged to create unique, innovative artwork that reflects Sacramento's stature as the State Capital and as a thriving center for government activity, cultural tourism and trade. All artwork commissioned for the Airport must respond creatively to the site, architecture, and function of the Airport facilities.

## **Art Budgets**

It is anticipated that individual public art project budgets will range from \$50,000 to one million dollars.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

Professional artists or artist teams residing in the United States with experience in the design, fabrication, and installation of public artwork are eligible to apply to the pre-qualified artist pool. Artist's from Amador, Butte, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties are encouraged to apply.

## **Artist Selection Criteria**

Artists will be selected for inclusion in the pre-qualified artist database based on the following criteria:

- Innovation, creativity and quality of craftsmanship in previous projects.
- Ability to and interest in creating artwork that is unique to the Airport Art Program and which is of a museum-quality aesthetic standard.
- Appropriateness of artwork media and scale relative to the Airport Art Program.
- Demonstrated proficiency and technical knowledge of the materials and techniques in the artist's chosen medium.
- Experience and success in creating public artwork in collaboration or cooperation with architectural design teams and under the auspices of a public agency.