



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CALL TO ARTISTS

SculpTour: Public art exhibit of original outdoor sculptures displayed **April 2025 – March 2027** in downtown Suwanee, GA

The Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) is seeking proposals from artists and/or artist teams for design, execution, and installation of original outdoor sculptures for long-term, temporary display throughout downtown Suwanee. The objective is to have a well-balanced exhibit of sculptures with various styles, types, and sizes. Specific locations will be determined based on submissions. This will be the eighth consecutive exhibit which has been enthusiastically received by residents and visitors alike.

Program goals include:

- Enhance Suwanee’s downtown with an exhibit of original and unique pieces of art.
- Stimulate interest in Suwanee’s public art initiative and add cultural value to the area.
- Provide a platform for artists to showcase their pieces, frequently resulting in commissions or private sales.
- Serve as an economic development tool by attracting visitors, residents, businesses, and events to the area.

The 2025-27 program goal is to welcome at least 20 new pieces for the exhibit (previous SculpTours ranged from 14-17 new pieces). In addition to the existing active downtown area, the City recently opened a new 25-acre park that connects to the original city center. Selected pieces will be displayed in and around the downtown area at the discretion of the Public Arts Commission.

Since its inception in 2011, over 100 pieces have been part of SculpTour.

Visit [Suwanee SculpTour | Suwanee, GA](#) for information on previous exhibits.



| RFP DETAILS AT A GLANCE | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| DEADLINE TO SUBMIT RFP | December 9, 2024 |
| SELECTION NOTIFICATION | January 31, 2025 |
| INSTALLATION/DURATION | Late March/early April, 2025 through March 2027 |
| STIPEND | \$2000, dispensed as \$1200 upon delivery and \$800 upon deinstallation (2027) |
| HOST CITY | City of Suwanee, Georgia (30 mi. northeast of Atlanta) |

Suwanee Community

As a community of over 23,000 residents, the City of Suwanee, considered to be a leader in the public art realm, is recognized as one of the premier small municipalities in metro Atlanta, Georgia, and the nation. An award-winning community in a variety of areas, Suwanee has been recognized three times by *Money* magazine as one of America's best places to live, and by both *Fortune* (2024) and *Family Circle* magazines as one of the nation's best towns for families. The City is committed to continually enhancing our citizens' quality of life and our community's long-term economic vitality.

Public Art Initiative

Believing that public art plays a significant role in helping to create a well-rounded, vibrant community, Suwanee created the Public Arts Commission (PAC) in 2008. The PAC was charged with enhancing the quality of life in Suwanee through public art. A hallmark of the City's public arts initiative is the 1% for Art focus. All new development, including City construction projects, are challenged to contribute 1% of costs to the public arts program, whether that be in a cash donation, commissioning a piece of art for the new property, or purchasing an existing piece that may be on loan within the City. **Developers frequently turn to SculpTour exhibits to look for pieces or artists; to date, developers have purchased or commissioned nearly 20 pieces from SculpTour artists. An additional 16 sculptures have been either purchased/commissioned by the City, or purchased and donated to the City, directly from SculpTour artists.**

Public Art Master Plan

The City completed a Public Art Master Plan in 2015 in order to set a vision and develop a ten-year strategy that would help take public art in Suwanee to the next level. The vision outlines three directions; Art + City Image (strengthen the visual structure of the city), Art + Play (interactive art), and Art + Temporary (short term projects).

To view the Public Art Master Plan in its entirety, please visit [Suwanee Public Art Master Plan](#)

What artists are saying...



Suwanee's SculpTour program has helped to put my work in rotation, creating visibility and has propelled several of my own sales and commissions. It has become a cornerstone of my business plan. The city staff has been remarkably easy to work with. Their public works department assists with install and deinstallation every step of the way."

- Gregory Johnson,
5-time participant in SculpTour

His n Hers (2017-19 SculpTour) now part of Suwanee's permanent collection. - >



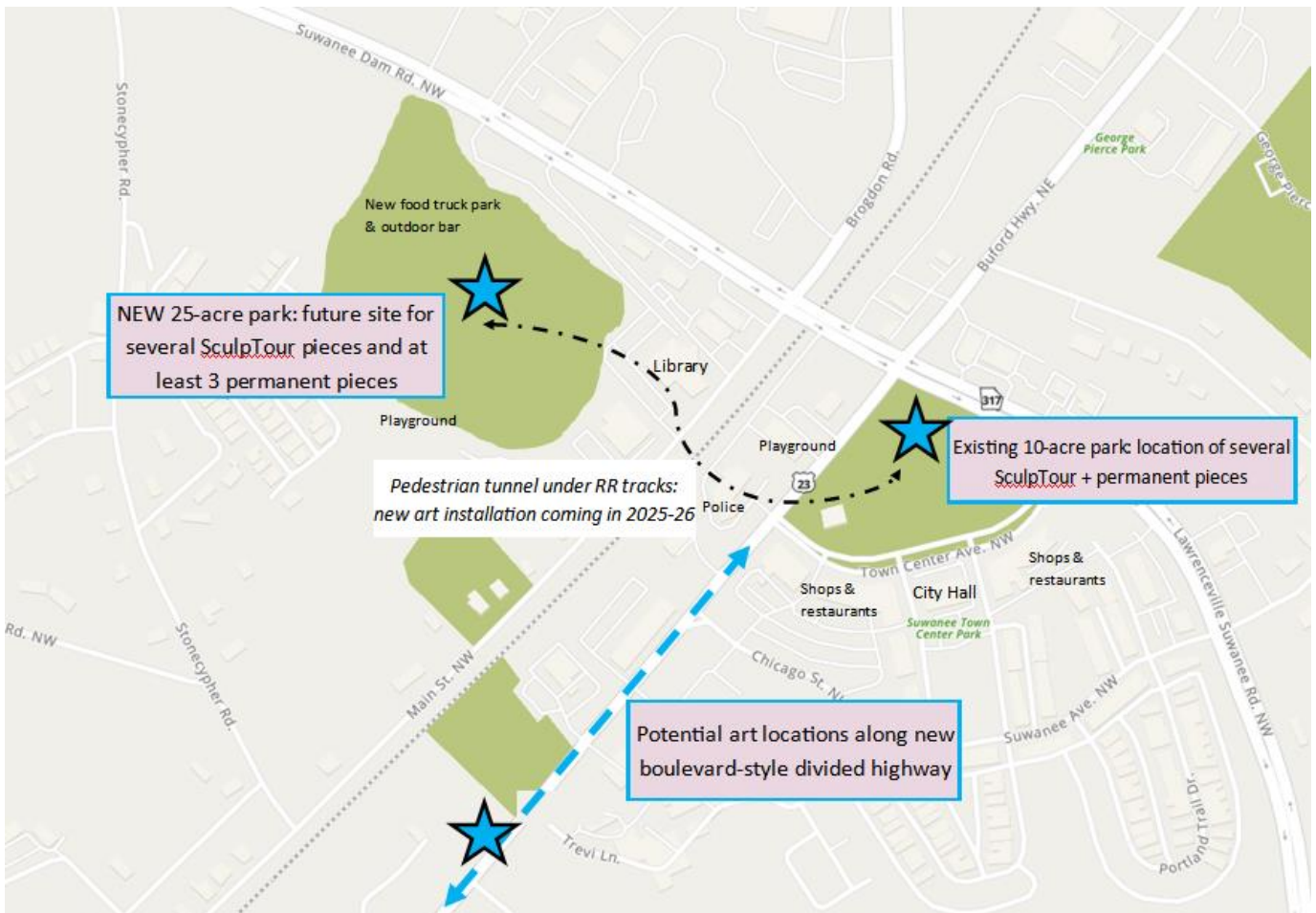
Visibility and Promotion

The SculpTour program has had a robust presence through the City’s website, various printed materials, a self-guided walkable tour, social media, interactive passport, and more. Additionally, the 2025-27 exhibit will be presented by Explore Gwinnett, the county’s destination marketing organization. Explore Gwinnett enhances the visibility of the SculpTour program through its website, special initiatives such as Artober, and has often featured SculpTour pieces in printed or electronic materials.



Potential Sites for Installation of Pieces

The 2025-27 exhibit will install pieces in and around Town Center Park, along Buford Highway, and in the new Town Center on Main & DeLay Nature Park – all walkable from the downtown area.



Suwanee’s temporary SculpTour exhibit joins nearly 50 permanent pieces located within the City limits. These pieces are a mix of commissioned works (many by former SculpTour participants), purchased SculpTour pieces, and private developer installations. To see a detailed map with photos, visit [Locations of Suwanee Public Art](#).

Suwanee SculpTour Submission Instructions and Details

I. ELIGIBILITY

The SculpTour program is open to artists (or teams of related disciplines) who submit an application on time, can meet the various program requirements, and are selected to participate. Prior experience in public art is encouraged, however, not required.

II. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

- The number of pieces chosen will be approximately 20 depending on available funding and location availability.
- Pieces will vary in size and will be located as appropriate. Potential sites are suited for medium-scale as well as large-scale sculptures (minimum height of about 36 inches).
- While there is no limit on the market value of sculptures that may be submitted, it is likely that only sculptures valued under \$25,000 will be eligible for the PAC's purchase of the potential "People's Choice" contest (described in this RFP).
- All sculptures will be insured for liability and physical damage through the City of Suwanee.
- Artists may submit up to three pieces for consideration. There is no fee to the artist for submitting artwork.
- All entries must be original works of the submitting artist or team of artists; however, pieces do not need to have been created specifically for this exhibit.
- All sculptures are required to be made of durable material appropriate for outdoor display and at times, adverse weather conditions (high winds, low temperatures, high temperatures, snow storms, high traffic areas). Pieces should be constructed with audience safety in mind, understanding that they will be displayed in a public setting.
- Most of the sculptures will be displayed on either steel pedestals (base tops are 3'x3', and 4'x4') or concrete pads (varied sizes) designed to fit the location and/or artwork.
- All sculptures must be able to be structurally secured to either a steel pedestal or concrete pad with anchor bolts or similar devices provided by the artist.
- Artists are responsible for shipping and delivering the artwork to and from the installation site.
- Artists will be responsible for the timely installation and removal of their sculpture. Suwanee's public works department will assist artists with installation and removal.
- Accepted entries will receive an agreement outlining further information including details regarding delivery and installation/placement of the artwork.

III. TIMELINE/SCHEDULE: SUBJECT TO CHANGE

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Nov. 1, 2024 | RFP opens |
| Dec. 9, 2024 | RFP submission deadline |
| Jan. 31, 2025 | Artist/artwork selection complete; notification via e-mail |
| Mar. 31-Apr. 4, 2025 | Artwork to be installed (Additional dates may be available) |
| Apr. 2025 – March 2027 | Public art exhibition and on-line voting open |
| Late March/early April 2027 | Artwork to be removed |

Submission Instructions and Details (cont'd)

IV. ARTIST FEE/STIPEND/AWARDS

Artists chosen to participate in the SculpTour exhibit will receive a stipend of \$2000 per sculpture, of which \$1200 will be paid upon delivery and installation of the sculpture.

The remaining \$800 will be paid to artists for sculptures that are not ultimately purchased through the program and are properly removed at the end of the specified display period. Additionally, artists chosen to participate may be eligible to win cash awards at the end of the exhibit period, if funding allows.

The artwork remains the property of the artist throughout the exhibit and reverts to the artist's possession at the conclusion of the approximately two-year exhibit. In essence, the artwork is "rented/loaned" to the exhibit. **All sculptures will be insured for liability and physical damage through the City of Suwanee.** The Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) may elect to purchase artwork and has the right of first refusal after the exhibit period has ended. Artists submitting proposals agree that the City of Suwanee and/or the PAC may reproduce images of the artwork for non-commercial, educational, and promotional purposes, with credit given, when possible, to the artist when artwork is highlighted.

V. ARTWORK SALE OPPORTUNITY

The Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) and City of Suwanee will promote the sale of sculptures to the public – either for personal/commercial use or as a purchase resulting in a permanent donation to the City and/or the PAC. Artists may broker a sale of their work during the exhibition period; however, the work should remain on site for the duration of the exhibition. SculpTour will receive a 15 percent commission of the purchase price on sold sculptures and 10 percent on other commissioned works resulting from participation in the exhibit.

Should someone wish to purchase and donate a piece to the PAC or should the PAC purchase the piece, the SculpTour program would forego the 15 percent commission, however, the sales price would be discounted by the amount equal to 15 percent. The artist will also forego the second stipend payment of \$800 in this scenario.

The PAC may organize an on-line voting procedure wherein visitors of the exhibit can vote for their favorite sculpture – designating "People's Choice" award- winner. Provided funding is in place and the piece has proven to be sustainable, the PAC will consider purchase of that piece of public art for its permanent collection. The chosen sculpture will then be displayed in one of Suwanee's numerous public spaces or parks.

To date, over 30 pieces have been purchased and/or commissioned through our SculpTour exhibit. Approximately half of these have been purchased by the City or by a private citizen and donated back to the City, and the other pieces were selected by developers and permanently relocated onto their property within Suwanee for the enjoyment of the public.



*Portal Majestic by
Nathan Pierce
(2022-24 SculpTour)*

Submission Instructions and Details (cont'd)

VI. SELECTION PROCESS

The selection committee is comprised of the Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) and possibly other community members/artists. The committee will make exhibit recommendations to the Suwanee City Council.

Submissions will be evaluated on the following:

- Originality/creativity
- Quality of materials and execution
- Appropriateness (fit, theme, etc.) to the City of Suwanee, and general community appeal
- Durability of the artwork: preference may be given to pieces requiring less maintenance and better sustainability
- Installation requirements
- Sale price/valuation of artwork
- Other evaluation criteria not outlined above may be considered as necessary

VII. APPLICATION PRESENTATION AND CONTENT

E-mailed applications in a .pdf format are preferred. Please be sure to resize each page to 8.5 x 11" so that we may print if needed. Each page of submitted materials should clearly indicate your name and artwork title.

Artists may submit up to three pieces for consideration. For each submission, complete the following. Present your materials in the following order:

1. Application Form (see attached form on page 8). Application must be completed in full and include detailed specs/dimensions and installation requirements.
2. Color photo/drawing/image of proposed work (maximum 2 pages).
3. Project/sculpture title and narrative description (maximum 2 pages; maximum of 750 words). Include origin of idea, theme, design/creative rationale, etc. ***Also, please share with us what you love about your piece!***
4. Installation requirements: Describe how the art will be attached to the base/pedestal (provided by Suwanee). Detailed dimensions for the piece are required. Estimate the size of base if possible (maximum 2 pages).
5. Artist's bio (maximum 1 page).

Artists will not be compensated for RFP submissions regardless of medium presented. Unless otherwise requested, all applications become the property of the Suwanee Public Arts Commission. Artists will receive e-mail confirmations upon receipt of RFP(s).

VIII. APPLICATION DEADLINE AND DELIVERY

Submissions must be received by 4:00 p.m., ET, Monday, December 9, 2024. Electronic .pdf submissions are preferred! Each page size should be 8.5 x 11".

E-mail .pdf submissions to: ktowne@suwanee.com

-or-

By mail to: City of Suwanee/attn. Kimberly Towne
330 Town Center Avenue
Suwanee, GA 30024

Final Notes

The Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) reserves the right to accept or reject any and all submittals, waive technicalities and informalities, change scope of work, and amend said Request for Proposals as desired by the PAC. The PAC reserves the right to negotiate with artists and to select the artists who best meet the PAC's needs. The dates outlined within this document may be subject to change.

For more information on the Suwanee public arts program, please contact:

Kimberly Towne, Special Projects Manager (SculpTour)

678/546-2122, ktowne@suwanee.com



To view all RFQ/RFP opportunities with the City of Suwanee, please visit

<https://www.suwanee.com/business/requests-for-proposals>

We encourage you to also visit [Suwanee SculpTour](#) for information on previous exhibits.

THANK YOU! We look forward to reviewing your proposal!



What artists are saying...

“Working with the City of Suwanee for the past several years has been a great experience as an artist. The community has embraced public art beyond my expectations. It has been a pleasure to work with the staff and everyone involved in this successful exhibition.”

- Phil Proctor, Georgia

His work has been featured in numerous SculpTours. The City has also commissioned pieces for permanent display.

<- Iron Canopy (2013 SculpTour) now part of Suwanee's permanent collection.

**Request for Proposal (RFP)/Call for Artists APPLICATION
Suwanee SculpTour 2025-27 installation**

| | | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------------|--------------|--|
| Artist Name | | | | |
| Mailing Address | | | State | |
| City | | | ZIP | |
| E-mail *print clearly. Differentiate between "1" and "L" for example, or zero and "o" | | | | |
| Phone | | | | Can this number receive text messages? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Alternate Phone | | | | Can this number receive text messages? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Website or social media (if applicable) | | | | |
| Sculpture Title | | | | |
| Material/Medium | | | | |
| Approximate Dimensions: | Height | Width | Depth | Weight |
| | | | | |
| Insurance Valuation | \$ | Sales Price | \$ | |
| Have you been selected for a previous Suwanee SculpTour? | | | | |



ALONG WITH THIS COMPLETED FORM, INCLUDE

- All materials listed on Page 6 (color photos/drawing; description; installation requirements & base dimensions; artist bio, etc.)
- Each page of the presentation (all submitted materials) should clearly indicate your name and project title.

You may submit up to three pieces and each piece must have a complete packet, including its own application form.

Submissions must be received by 4:00 p.m., ET, Monday, December 9, 2024. Electronic submissions preferred!

E-mail .pdf submissions to: ktowne@suwanee.com -or-
By mail, send a complete packet to: City of Suwanee/attn. Kimberly Towne
330 Town Center Avenue, Suwanee, GA 30024