



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PHIL PINDZOLA BIENNIAL SCULPTURE EXHIBITION IN JOHNSON CITY, TN

The Johnson City Public Art Committee is seeking pieces of leasable outdoor sculpture to be installed for two years (June 2025 – May 2027 cycle) in Founders Park and several other sites in Johnson City.

ELIGIBILITY: The exhibition is open to all professional artists, preferably professional sculptors, who are at least 18 years of age and reside in the United States. City of Johnson City employees and members of the Johnson City Public Art Committee are not eligible to apply.

COMPENSATION: Upon the successful installation of the selected sculpture the artist will receive a \$3000.00 stipend for the 24-month lease of the piece. Hotel accommodations for a total of one night will be provided to accepted artists for installation. Each artist will also receive exposure on the Johnson City Public Art website, including a virtual map of all public art installations, and other related media. Please note that if an installation consists of multiple free-standing elements, these will be considered a single piece for the purposes of compensation.

DEADLINE: December 6, 2024 by 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)

QUESTIONS: Cheyenne Kumbhare ckumbhare@johnsoncitytn.org 423-975-2706

ABOUT JOHNSON CITY

Johnson City, Tennessee is situated in the heart of the Mountain South and Blue Ridge foothills. Abounding in natural beauty and opportunities for recreation and adventure, the city has become a regionally and nationally prominent destination for outdoor enthusiasts. In recent years, Johnson City has also begun to show off its considerable cultural assets, which range widely across the visual and performing arts. The city's public art program has played a critical role in this development. For the last decade, the Johnson City Public Art Committee has been enhancing the distinctiveness and livability of the community through arts installations and annual events freely accessible to all.

At a population of 73,000 and counting, Johnson City is primed for tremendous opportunity as it cultivates its reputation as a regional leader in sustainable growth. Preserving our cultural and historical roots, evaluating present opportunities, and investing in a diverse future are at the forefront of this vibrant city.

Johnson City's historic downtown district is an energetic hub of day-round activity and a major draw for locals and visitors alike. Downtown is home to an array of local restaurants, breweries, retailers, parks, public art, community events, and 360° mountain views. In the downtown area, the community values of honesty, authenticity, and meaningful connections are activated to welcome current, new, and potential residents and visitors.

PHIL PINDZOLA BIENNIAL SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

Exhibition dates: June 2025 - May 2027

This sculpture exhibition, primarily located in Founders Park, is part of a larger **greenway vision for the city**. The greenway includes areas of pollinator plants and sites for public art, in addition to functional items such as benches, planters, educational kiosks, an outdoor events facility used by various vendors like the local farmers market, and bike racks. The greenway plan is visualized as both symbolic and practical: feeding culture and commerce between the community and university, as well as physically nurturing the environment by providing a habitat that is beneficial to all.

- The virtual interactive map of public art in Johnson City and site photos are available at <https://jcpublicart.com/public-art-map/>.
- Examples of previous sculpture rounds may be seen at <https://jcpublicart.com/gallery/>.

JUROR AND GUEST CURATOR

The juror and guest curator for this year's exhibition will be Allison Baker. Allison Baker is an Associate Professor of Fine Art- Sculpture in the Herron School of Art at Indiana University Indianapolis. Allison is a first-generation college student that earned her MFA at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Her forthcoming body of work and monumental public sculptures memorialize the complexities of late-stage capitalism, illuminating the aspirations and struggles of the American working class and working poor. Allison seeks to build monuments that challenge dominant narratives, humanize the ripple effects of poverty, and create work that the American working class and working poor can see as a reflection of their own experiences in gallery and museum spaces where their existence is

seldom represented holistically.

SCULPTURE

The committee is seeking **original artworks** that may be functional or nonfunctional, temporary or permanent, in any media suitable for outdoor public space. All sculpture must meet the following basic requirements:

1. The work must be structurally sound so as to stand alone or to be secured to a concrete pad. The project must be of a scale large enough to be clearly visible.
2. The work must be capable of withstanding adverse weather conditions, including hot summers, cold winters, rain, wind, and snow. Founders Park may occasionally flood; sculptures should be able to withstand brief and occasional periods of water around the base.
3. The work must be suitable for pedestrian interaction with a low exposure to injury. The public must be protected from possible injury from materials.
4. The work must be original and preferably (but not necessarily) be relatable to features of Johnson City and the greenway vision plan.
5. Works that include color, kinetic elements, interactive components, and/or interact with the wind to create sounds/musical tones are also welcome.
6. The work must be available for a period of two years, from installation in late May 2025 to removal in early May 2027.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Artists may submit up to **five** pieces for consideration. These must all be available for display during the May 2025 - May 2027 time period.

Artists must submit a digital packet at <http://jcpublicart.com/call/>:

- **Cover Letter/Letter of Intent**
 - Letter of intent, not to exceed one page for each sculpture, that includes a description of the sculpture(s) submitted
 - You may include photos of the sculpture(s) in your letter or simply refer to the sculpture(s) by the title (you will be asked to upload sculpture images with their corresponding titles separately).
- **Current CV or Resume**
- **Brief Artist's Statement** (150 words max)
- **Image Detail Sheet**
 - Include a thumbnail image of each piece submitted.
 - Label each image with: Entry #, title, medium, date completed, dimensions, weight, and price.

- **Artwork Images**
 - Include 2 images for each piece submitted.
 - Please name each image file using the following format: LASTNAME.#.title.jpg (or png).
 - For each sculpture entry, use a new number - i.e. #1A, #1B for two views of first entry, etc.

- **Three Professional References**

ARTIST AGREEMENT OVERVIEW

Installation

Installation must take place between May 15 and 30, 2025. Selected Artists are responsible for the transportation of their work to and from the site and are encouraged to be on site to oversee installation. Installation costs regarding site preparation will not be the responsibility of the Artist. In addition, the City will provide adequate staff and any heavy equipment required (i.e. crane or forklift) to assist the Artist with installation.

Insurance Requirements

Because the City of Johnson City is self-insured, each Artist shall be solely responsible for providing all risk property insurance coverage for the sculpture while on loan and during transportation to and removal from the exhibit site. **The Artist shall provide the City of Johnson City with a \$1 million liability insurance policy with the City of Johnson City named as the Additional Insured for the duration of the exhibit prior to installation of the sculpture.**

Purchases

Negotiation and sale of the sculpture is the responsibility of the Artist, however, the Public Art Committee of Johnson City will make every good effort to promote the artists' work to potential buyers. The Artist shall pay the Johnson City Parks & Recreation Foundation a fee of twenty percent (20%) of any sale while on exhibit or within six (6) months thereafter. At the conclusion of the exhibition, the Public Art Committee may recommend that one or more works be purchased by the City for inclusion in Johnson City's permanent collection.

Other

- Artists chosen shall enter into a contract with the City and in that will agree to temporarily loan sculpture to the City and in return the City agrees to temporarily display Artist's sculpture.
- Artist has full legal title and copyrights to the sculpture while on temporary loan to the City.
- Artist shall be responsible for maintaining sculpture. City shall be responsible for maintaining the exhibition site.

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

- **Deadline for submissions:** December 6, 2024 by 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)
- **Notification to selected artists:** January 31, 2025
- **Installation of sculptures:** May 15-30, 2025
- **Founders Park sculpture tour with curator:** Date to be determined