



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

DANNY LOPEZ PARK

Ready to leave your creative mark on a local park? The Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona, in partnership with the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department, is excited to invite artists to submit their qualifications for the Danny Lopez Park* Public Art Project. This is your chance to create a piece of public art that will be enjoyed by the community for years to come!

**Formerly named Christopher Columbus Park*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS 1**
- DANNY LOPEZ PARK..... 1
- TABLE OF CONTENTS 2
- GUIDELINES AT A GLANCE 3
- ARTS FOUNDATION MISSION AND VISION..... 4
- CITY OF TUCSON PUBLIC ART PROGRAM GOALS 4
- PROJECT OVERVIEW..... 5
- PUBLIC ART COMPONENT..... 6
- SCOPE OF WORK..... 7
- ARTWORK BUDGET 8
- ELIGIBILITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST..... 8
- PUBLIC INTERFACE AND EXPECTATIONS 8
- ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS..... 9
- HOW TO APPLY 11
- APPLICATION HELP 11

GUIDELINES AT A GLANCE

PROJECT NAME	Danny Lopez Park
Budget	\$43,426
Time frame	March 2025 – March 2026, <i>subject to change</i>
Funding department	City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department
City ward	Ward 3
Artwork locations	4300 N Silverbell Rd, Tucson, AZ 85745
Supplemental links	https://www.tucsonaz.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks/Danny-Lopez-Park
Public art program	Public Art Administrative Directives 7.01-4
Application link	https://artsfoundtucson.submittable.com/submit
Deadline to apply	Thursday, May 8, 2025, by 11:59pm Arizona Time

ARTS FOUNDATION MISSION AND VISION



The Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and funding agency with a mission to advance the artistic expression, civic participation, and equitable economic growth of our diverse communities. Through forward-thinking, accountable leadership, the Arts Foundation works to affect systemic change that fosters an accessible, diverse, inclusive, and equitable local arts community.

As the designated local arts agency, the Arts Foundation provides arts and cultural development across Southern Arizona for individual working artists, artist collectives, ensembles, and nonprofit organizations through grant programs, professional development opportunities and public art program management for the City of Tucson.

The work of the Arts Foundation is made possible through generous support from the City of Tucson, Pima County, Arizona Commission on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, and individual donors. Our service area includes all counties and native sovereign nations South of the Gila River, including 372 miles along the US-Mexico international border in the South and along the 590 mile stretch of the Gila River, which flows west from the New Mexico border to the Colorado River.

CITY OF TUCSON PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

GOALS



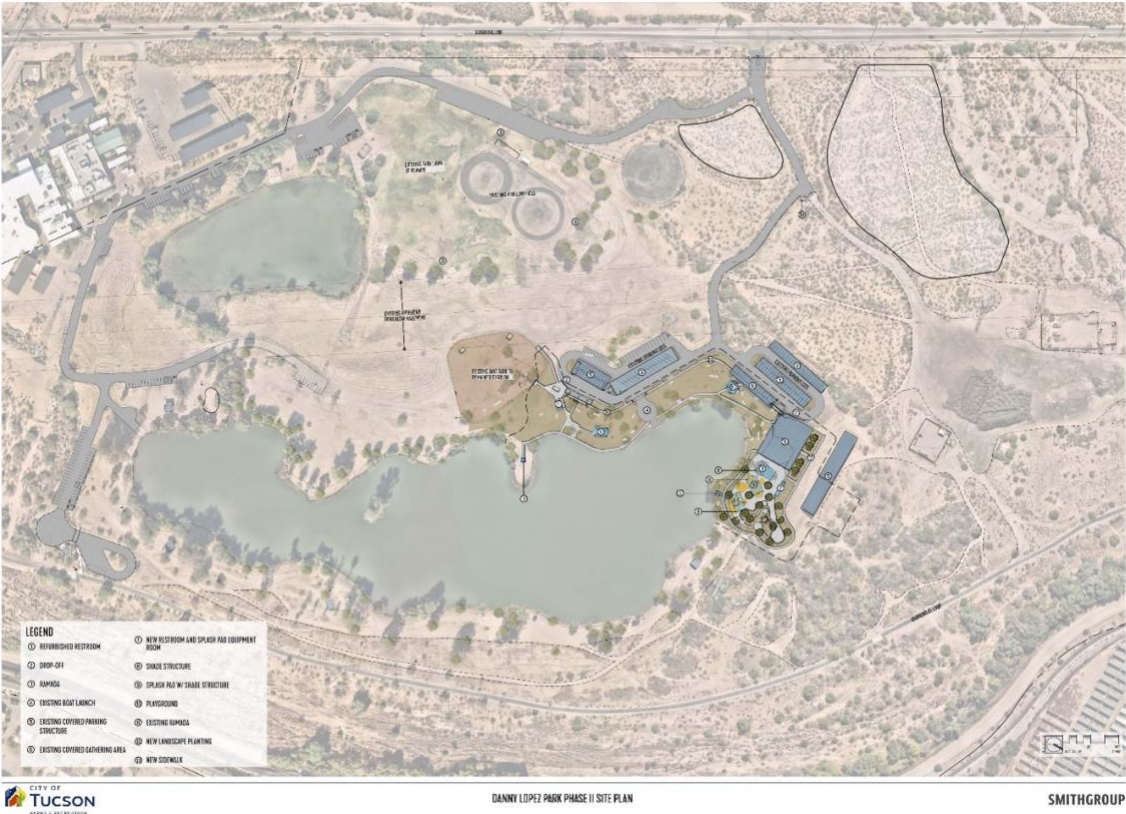
“The City of Tucson funds and supports public art in order to create a cityscape that contributes to the image and identity of the City. The City of Tucson’s Public Art Program aspires to meet the following goals: promote civic pride through the high quality of Tucson’s public art collection; celebrate Southern Arizona’s history, culture, and traditions; provide information and support for artists interested in creating public art; involve neighborhoods, users, and the general public in the public art process; and complement and support the City of Tucson’s economic development, neighborhood development, and downtown revitalization efforts,” (City of Tucson Administrative Directives, 7.01-1 The City of Tucson Public Art Program).

PROJECT OVERVIEW

This public art project is funded by Proposition 407: Parks + Connections Bond. Tucson voters approved Proposition 407 in 2018, a \$225 million bond package for capital improvements. This funding is dedicated to enhancing City park amenities—such as playgrounds, sports fields, pools, splash pads, and recreation centers—and expanding vital connections, including pedestrian and bicycle pathways to improve safety and accessibility. Projects will be completed in phases over the next decade, from 2020 to 2028.

As part of this exciting improvement project, Danny Lopez Park will receive a series of renovations in Phases 1 and 2, including renovated parking, playgrounds, ramadas, restrooms, and a new splash pad.

A key part of this project is the Percent for Art program, which dedicates a portion of the budget to public art. Public art will be essential in transforming the park into a space that encourages connection and enriches the experience for all visitors.



PUBLIC ART COMPONENT

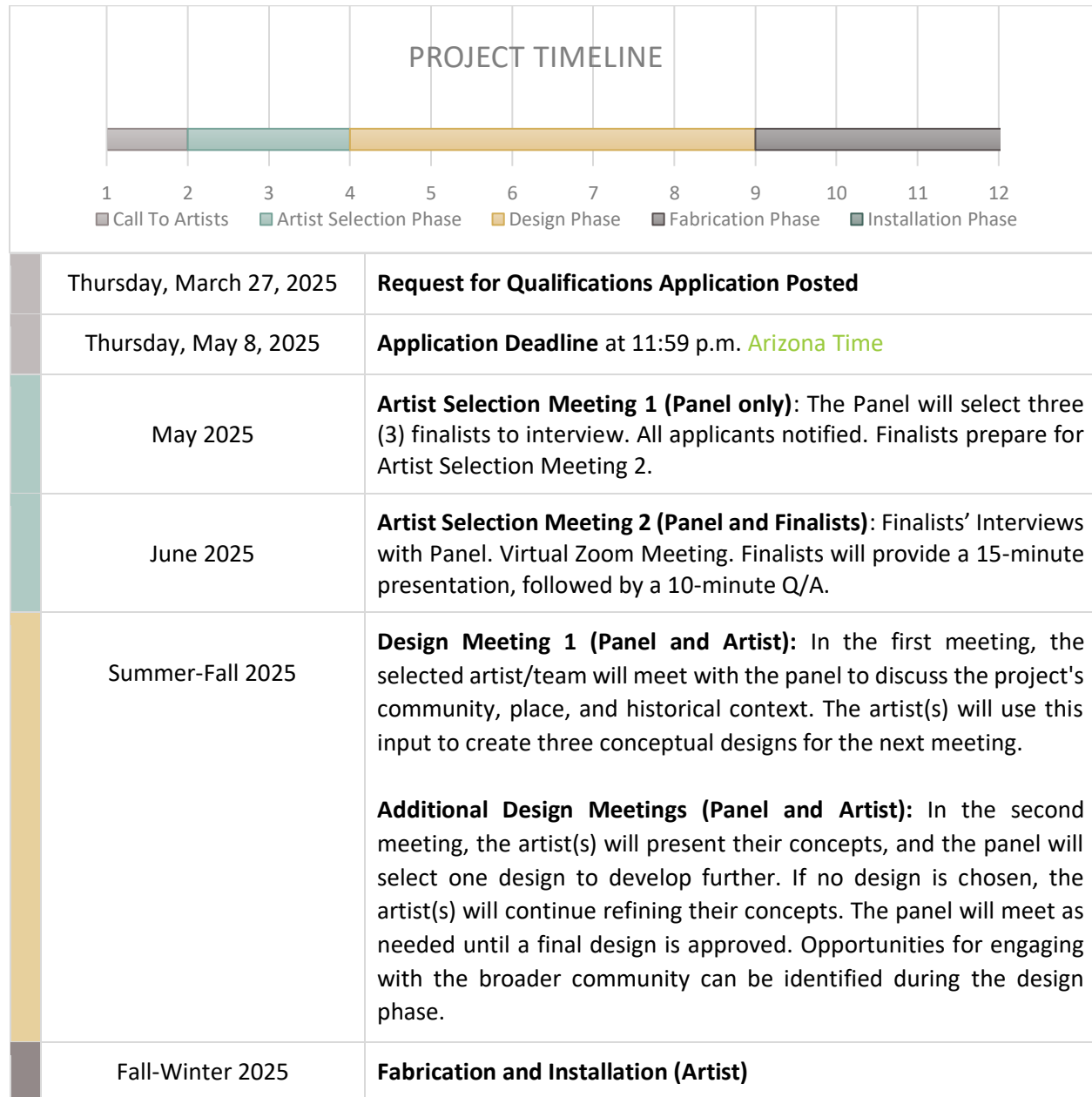
This opportunity invites artists to create permanent public art at Danny Lopez Park in collaboration with local community voices, to celebrate their stories, and shape a public artwork that embodies the culture and identity of all park users. Whether you are an emerging artist or an experienced public art creator, this is a unique chance to connect with the public, understand their perspectives, and integrate their input into your creative process.

This public art opportunity is open to all forms and mediums of permanent public art that are suitable for the Southern Arizona climate. The artwork(s) for this project may include, but are not limited to, murals, mosaics, sculptures, installation art, interactive elements, and other site-specific designs. Given the harsh desert environment, the use of sustainable materials that can withstand the climate’s extreme conditions, while ensuring long-term durability and low maintenance, will be essential to the success of the project.



SCOPE OF WORK

Public art project timelines follow the schedule of the larger improvement. *Dates subject to change.*



ARTWORK BUDGET

The all-inclusive maximum budget listed above is for all artworks and related costs. The all-inclusive budget includes, but is not limited to the artist fee(s), artwork materials, insurance, stamped engineering plans, tax requirements, research, community engagement, contract, labor, fabrication, platforms, earthwork, lighting, permits, and all related costs required for the installation of the artwork(s). ***Please note that due to recent changes in federal import/export policies, production material prices will change during the scope of this project.***

ELIGIBILITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

This public art opportunity is open to all professional artists and artist teams. Any person in a position to receive financial gain from the selection of artist(s) will be ineligible to serve on a Panel. All Panel members must declare any conflict of interest and recuse themselves if a conflict of interest arises.

Applications must be completed solely by the artist or team lead applying for the project. Applications submitted from Artists' representatives, managers, or galleries will not be accepted. The Arts Foundation will disburse funds only to this individual. The team lead will also be the point of contact for all communications. Artists applying as a member of a team are not eligible to apply as an individual.

PUBLIC INTERFACE AND EXPECTATIONS

Community feedback and participation are essential to creating artwork that benefits and represents the diverse identities in the themes and concepts of the project. The selected artist(s) will be required to attend two or more meetings with the panel.

ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS

Artists are selected through a fair and equitable selection process by a Panel comprised of project participants, stakeholders and members of the community. New Panels are formed for every public art project. Arts Foundation staff do not directly participate in the selection of artists or designs. The role of Arts Foundation staff is to facilitate the public art processes and discussions. The community panel will review and assess all artist submissions based on published criteria, and participate in two meetings to deliberate, interview, and select the recommended artist for this project. During the first meeting, the panel will determine which three artists/artist teams will be invited to interview as finalists. During the second meeting, each of the three finalists will deliver a presentation to the Panel demonstrating the scope of their work, conveying their qualifications and articulating their interest in this specific project. Each presentation will be followed by a question and answer session with the panel.

Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria will be considered during the review of applications:

1. Does the applicant show the ability to translate artistic concepts into materials suitable for public spaces, while considering public interaction, safety, maintenance, and the Sonoran Desert climate?
2. Does the applicant demonstrate the ability to collaborate with project participants to create artwork designs that reflect local cultural and historical themes relevant to the project?
3. Does the applicant demonstrate a high probability of successful completion for the scale and scope of this specific project?

Finalist Interview Questions

If you are a finalist for the project, you will be asked to present to the Panel with the following criteria and questions:

1. Format: You will provide a 15-minute presentation, followed by a 10-minute Q&A with the Panel.
2. Presentation Preparation: For your presentation, you will share examples of your work as well as your experience and methods in public art. You will also share with the Panel why you are interested in this particular project. You may use any format for your presentation.
3. Please address the following in your presentation.
 1. What excites you about this project?
 2. How do you come up with your design ideas?
 3. How do you involve the community in your public art projects?
 4. How do you stay on schedule and within budget?

*Additional questions may be asked if appropriate to a specific project.

Presentation preparation tips

- Provide a diverse range of examples of your work in your presentation. Read through the Project Overview and Exhibition Component outlined above to identify appropriate artwork mediums specific to the public art project.
- Research the area or subject of the project, potential significant history, culture, and vision of the program. Panelists appreciate candidates who have done their research and know what they are signing up for.
- Provide specific examples of community engagement tools that you have utilized during your work as an artist and/or for public art projects.
- Take time to prepare your responses and presentation. We give you the questions ahead of time so you can provide thoughtful answers.

HOW TO APPLY

Carefully review the eligibility, expectations, and scope of this opportunity prior to submitting your application.

Prepare Application

1. **Prepare your artist statement.** The statement must describe your qualifications for this position; your motivation to work with community; and your interest in this particular project theme. Your artist statement is a key part of the review process. We encourage you to be thoughtful and intentional when writing it. (300 word limit)
2. **Prepare your resume.** *Two page maximum. Acceptable file types: .doc, .docx, .pdf*
3. **Prepare six (6) samples of your artwork.** Artwork samples must represent completed work by the applicant(s). Proposals or renderings will not be accepted. *Acceptable file types: .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .doc, .docx, .pdf, .m4a, .mp3, .wav, .mp4, .mpg, .ppt, .pptx.* For each sample submitted, if applicable, please include the title, date, location, dimensions, materials used, budget, and your role in the project.

Submit Application

1. Go to *Submittable*: artsfoundtucson.submittable.com/submit
2. Select the project from the list.
3. Login or sign up for an account.
4. Complete all applicant Information.
5. Submit your artist statement.
6. Upload your resume.
7. Upload (6) artwork image samples and details.
8. Review your application and submit form.

A confirmation email will be sent to the email address you used to create your *Submittable* account.

You may be contacted regarding your application via *Submittable*, email, or by phone.

APPLICATION HELP

If you have questions about the application process or content of your application, please email us at publicart@artsfoundtucson.org or call (520) 624-0595.

If you encounter any technical issues with the online application platform, please email the *Submittable* at support@submittable.com or call (855) 467-8264.

To find out more about our public art opportunities, sign up for our monthly newsletter here <https://artsfoundtucson.org/newsletter>