

Nashville Youth Campus for Empowerment (NYCE)
Nashville, Tennessee
Call for Community Panelist Guidelines

Metro Arts is seeking engaged community members to participate in the artist selection panel for an upcoming public art project. Selected panelists will evaluate and score artist applications and interviews during three required rounds. The scoring process is facilitated by Metro Arts staff and monitored by the Metro Purchasing Agent. The artist selection panel includes a member of the Arts Commission or Public Art Committee (panel chair, non-voting) and Metro site sponsor(s) (voting). This is a paid opportunity for community members to be a part of Metro's public art process.

PUBLIC ART PROJECT

The artists under consideration have applied to Call to Artists for a public art project at the Nashville Youth Campus for Empowerment. If approved by the Arts Commission, the artist awarded the commission will design, fabricate, and install a permanent wall sculpture for the lobby of the campus' main building. The artist budget is \$400,000.

CAMPUS PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Nashville Youth Campus for Empowerment (NYCE) is poised to make a transformative impact when it opens its doors in early 2027. Spanning 14 acres, this campus is designed to uplift the residents of Nashville-Davidson County who are seeking support through essential public services for children and adolescents, foster care, child safety, and the family and juvenile court systems. NYCE will replace the existing Nashville Juvenile Court located on Woodland Street. The new campus will be conveniently located just 2.5 miles north at 1354 Brick Church Pike, near I-24 and Trinity Lane. More than just a juvenile court, NYCE is a beacon of hope, featuring a thoughtfully designed environment that focuses on empowering youth and families. Additionally, the campus will collaborate with local non-profits to provide trauma-informed services and restorative practices, fostering engagement and support for both youth and their families. This initiative is the vision of Juvenile Court Judge, Sheila Calloway, a dedicated community leader who has passionately advocated for this project for years.

PANELIST PARTICIPATION/COMMITMENT

The selection panelists will be required to engage in three distinct rounds during the overall selection process for the artist or artist team. Please note that this is a closed procurement process. In order to prevent outside interference with the process and maintain an environment of objectivity, panelists may not discuss the process with those outside of the

panel. Panelists will be required to sign a panelist agreement and complete a conflict of interest form.

Complete focus will be necessary throughout each day of participation. **Personal devices (except for cellphones) and any outside work will not be permitted during in-person participation.**

TIMELINE

- Round 1 – Online scoring (Two weeks to complete at your pace) July-August 2025*
- Round 2 – In-person scoring (One full 8-hour day between the hours of 8am-4pm) August 2025.*
- Round 3 – In-person scoring and selection of final artist (one 8-hour day between 8am-4pm) September-October 2025.*

*Specific dates, time and location are to be determined. Lunch will be provided for in-person scoring rounds. We will attempt to accommodate individual dietary requests.

STIPEND

A total stipend of **\$840.00** will be awarded to each community panelist after the completion of all three rounds of scoring. Panelists will be required to register with Metro Finance.

PANELIST ELIGIBILITY/REQUIREMENTS

- At least 18 years of age.
- Resident of Nashville-Davidson County.
- Available and committed to the entire panel selection process.
- Complete the questions outlined below.
- Register with Metro Finance.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Employees of the Metro Nashville Arts Commission are ineligible to apply to be a community panelist. Their family and household members are also ineligible to apply.
- Members of the Metro Nashville Arts Commission and the Public Art Committee are ineligible to apply to be a community panelist. Their family and household members are also ineligible to apply.
- Employees of the Metro Nashville Government and Metro Nashville Public Schools are ineligible to apply to be a community panelist.

- Artists applying for a Metro Nashville Arts Commission public art commission or project or under contract with Metro Nashville Arts Commission are ineligible to apply to be community panelist.
- An artist is precluded from having his/her work considered for a public art commission or project **once selected for or while serving** on a selection panel.
- Family or household members of an artist applying for this public art project are ineligible to apply to be a community panelist.
- Those who have a business relationship with an artist applying for this public art project are ineligible to apply to be a community panelist. Business relationships include but are not limited to gallery owners, brokers, artist representatives, agents, fabricators, suppliers, and employers.

QUESTIONS

Please respond to the following questions in the [Submittable](#) form when prompted. (*This document is not a fillable PDF and all submissions must go through the [Submittable link](#).*) There are no right or wrong answers, but please answer to the best of your ability.

Q1. Biography: In 100-250 words, describe your personal and/or professional experiences that will contribute to this selection process (not necessarily related to arts). Please include examples of how you collaborate with others.

Q2. What is your specific and/or general experience with art, and how has it impacted you in your life?

Q3. Are you knowledgeable about any of the following: child welfare, foster care, parental custody and adolescent justice services? If so, please check all that apply.

Q4. The NYCE campus will be a facility that will serve individuals and families who may have experienced trauma leading to involvement in areas such as child welfare, foster care, parental custody and adolescent justice services. How has your background and experience prepared you to contribute to the artist selection panel?

Q5. Do you possess any additional skills that are related to, but not limited to, project management, engineering, architecture, design, justice services, or child development, mental health? If so, please provide specific information.

Q6. Why are you interested in serving on the public art community selection panel?

* We greatly appreciate your feedback. Please note that the information provided will remain confidential and will only be accessed by a designated internal team for review purposes. It will not be shared, distributed, or used for any other purposes without your consent.

PANELIST SELECTION

Each panelist application will be reviewed by an internal staff team. Applicants will be selected based on the answers given in the questionnaire. Items of interest, but not limited to, are past experiences, skill sets, connection to the related themes of the NYCE project, and panel composition need. If you're not selected this time, we encourage you to apply for future opportunities that arise.

PANEL COMPOSITION

The selection panel for this project will have between five and eleven members including at least one visual artist, and may also include a design professional, a project architect/landscape architect, community representatives, and one member representing the site sponsor.

The chairperson of the selection panel will be the Public Art Committee chair or designee, serving as an ex-officio, non-voting panel member. The Metro Purchasing Agent will assign a Contract Specialist to the project who will serve as a non-voting advisory member of the selection panel and is charged with the responsibility of monitoring the Procurement process.

ABOUT METRO NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS AND CULTURE

Metro Nashville Arts Commission or "Metro Arts" is the office of Arts & Culture for the city of Nashville and Davidson County. **We believe that arts drive a more vibrant and equitable community.** We strive to ensure that all Nashvillians have access to a creative life through community investments, artist and organizational training, public art, and direct programs that involve residents in all forms of arts and culture.

CULTURAL EQUITY COMMITMENT

Metro Arts' Cultural Equity Commitment embodies the values, beliefs, policies and practices that ensure that all people can fulfill their rights of cultural expression and belonging, participation, learning, and livelihood within the arts ecosystem.

This includes specific commitment to people who have been historically underrepresented in mainstream arts funding, discourse, leadership and resource allocation; including, but

not limited to, people of color, people of all ages, differently abled people, LGBTQ people, women, and the socio-economically disadvantaged. Our full commitment to equity is available [here](#) and deeply influences all aspects of our work.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Full submission instructions are available at [Submittable](#). **Please read through carefully before submitting.** Incomplete submissions will not be reviewed. No submissions will be accepted beyond the specified deadline. Individuals may submit only one entry.

Technical questions about the online submission process (Submittable account set-up, etc.) should be directed to <https://www.submittable.com/help/submitter/>

RESOURCES FOR QUESTIONS

Direct all non-technical questions related to the call for community panelist to atilio.murga@nashville.gov with “NYCE Lobby Public Art Selection Panel” in the subject line or call (615) 862-6733.

DEADLINE

All Submissions must be submitted via [Submittable](#) and are due **Monday, July 7, 2025, by 11:59 p.m. (CST).** To apply, please click the following [link](#).