

## ART PURCHASE OPPORTUNITY: Ecology, Wellness & Connectivity

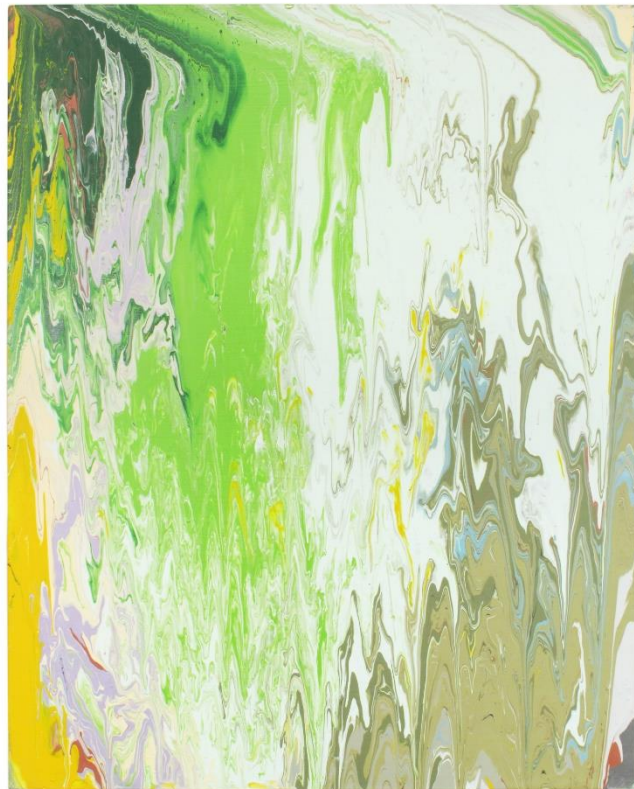
The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) invites artists from Oregon & Washington to submit portable scale two dimensional artworks for purchase to be added into the Public Art Collection. The budget for purchasing artworks comes from the City of Portland's Percent for Art Program and is approximately **\$65,000**. Be sure to tune into our info sessions – details listed below.

**Submissions due:**

**Wednesday, March 31, 5 p.m. PST**

### Background

The majority of these artworks will be displayed initially in the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability offices on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of the Vanport Building, located at Southwest Fourth Avenue & Southwest Montgomery Street in downtown Portland. The Vanport Building joins together Portland State University's (PSU) College of Education, Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and PSU's School of Public Health (SPH), Portland Community College's (PCC) Dental Programs, and the City of Portland. After initial display in the Vanport Building, all artworks purchased will become part of the Portable Works Public Art Collection, which consists of more than 1,300 artworks exhibited in a variety of publicly accessible City and County buildings. To view what is currently in the collection, please visit [our online gallery](#).



Hobbs Waters, *51018*, mixed media on canvas, 2018. Currently installed at the Multnomah County Health Headquarters in Portland, Oregon.

### Artwork We Are Looking For

The primary goal of this artwork purchase is to add to the vitality of the Public Art Collection. Purchased artwork will be displayed in publicly accessible locations such as conference rooms, hallways, elevator lobbies, and office spaces.

This opportunity prioritizes Black artists, Indigenous artists, and artists of color to acknowledge the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on BIPOC communities. RACC is dedicated to

supporting artists from historically under-represented communities, as well as expanding the range of artistic and cultural expression represented in the Public Art Collection.

Special consideration will be given to artwork that loosely relates to several key concepts that have guided the development of the Vanport Building: **Ecology, Wellness, and Connectivity**.

### About the Vanport Building

PSU, PCC, OHSU, and the City of Portland join together in one building to share resources, enhance programs, and further expand their impact in our communities. This vibrant **ecology** of collaborators work together toward climate protection, energy efficiency, green building, and sustainability. Natural light fills the building, creating comfortable environments to work and learn, whether in introspection or interaction. The building's guiding principles center health and include **wellness**, universal access, social justice, and equity. Through this dynamic partnership, the building holds collaboration and **connectivity** at its core.



Marie Watt, *Part and Whole: Ripple, Hoop, Baron Mill*, reclaimed wool blankets and thread, 2011. Currently installed at the Portland Building.

If you want to learn more about the history of the Vanport flood, explore [Vanport Mosaic](#), ["The Time Nature And Racism Teamed Up To Wipe Out A Whole Town" on NPR's Code Switch](#), and ["How Oregon's Second Largest City Vanished in a Day" in the Smithsonian Magazine](#).

### Selection Process

Note: This year the selection process is entirely **virtual**. A panel of artists, curators, community members, and City representatives will select artwork for purchase. In the first round, digital images and their descriptions are submitted and reviewed by the panel. In the second round, artists with high scores will be reviewed in further detail. Because purchased works will be selected virtually, image quality is key.

### Selection Criteria

Artists living in **Oregon and Washington** are eligible for this opportunity.

Types of artwork that qualify for this opportunity include: prints, paintings, photographs, drawings, textiles, collage, bas-relief, mosaic, glass, ceramic, and metal; works intended to be hung on a wall with a 4" depth maximum.

Size: two dimensional artwork that fit the following dimensions will be prioritized: 48"W X 60"T X 4"D or smaller (120cmW X 150cmT X 10cmD or smaller)

Framing: Please submit **unframed** artworks, unless the framing is an integral part of the submitted artwork (please state that in the "Conceptual information" field of that submitted piece). RACC reserves

the right to reframe purchased artwork if a submitted frame does not meet the collection standards. Consider the potential for your submission to be framed behind glass or acrylic.

## How to Apply

All application materials must be submitted online. To submit, applicants will need to create an account, or log into their existing account, in the [RACC Opportunity Portal](#).

Application Requirements:

- Artist Statement: In 1000 characters or less, provide a brief description of your work as an artist.
- Images: You can submit up to 6 artworks and provide up to two images per artwork. Images should be jpegs no larger than 5 megabytes each. For each artwork, provide the title, media, dimensions, year completed, and **purchase price**. Conceptual information is optional. (Note: If you are submitting a series that consists of more than six images, please include images that best represent the series and provide additional information regarding the series in the conceptual information field.)
- Optional - Resume/CV/List of accomplishments: Upload a PDF of no more than two pages describing your creative activities and professional accomplishments.

Due date: **Wednesday, March 31, 2021**

Applications must be submitted online by 5 p.m. PST

### Info Sessions for Artists

1. Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. PST on Instagram Live. Follow [@regionalarts](#) on Instagram to stay informed of this and other upcoming opportunities.
2. Tuesday, March 16 at 6 p.m. on Zoom, **RSVP [here](#)**.

## We're Here to Help!

Questions about the overall opportunity?

Contact: Morgan Ritter at 503.823.5046, [mritter@racc.org](mailto:mritter@racc.org)

Questions about the online portal and application materials?

Contact: Danielle Davis at [ddavis@racc.org](mailto:ddavis@racc.org)

- ✳ Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you don't have a computer or online access, please don't hesitate to contact RACC for assistance. Also, if you prefer these materials in another language please contact RACC project staff for translation services.

## Getting Help with your Application

- \* Attend an Info Session (optional). We strongly encourage you to attend one of two info sessions being offered, especially if you are a first-time applicant. Public Art team members will share background information of the call for artwork, what we're looking for, and how to submit an application.
- \* [Video of "application best tips" from our colleagues in Seattle](#). These "best tips" are applicable to any general public calls for art.

### Important Dates

- \* Tuesday, Feb. 23 and Tuesday, March 16 - Info Sessions
- \* March 31 - Applications Due
- \* Late April 2021 - Artists notified if artwork is selected.