

EL MONTE STATION

Call to Artists: Four Artist Opportunities

Overview

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) invites artists to apply for public art commissions at El Monte Station, the largest transit center west of Chicago and the terminus for the Metro Silver Line.

El Monte Station

The two-level El Monte Station opened in 2012, and is located at the corner of Santa Anita Avenue and Ramona Boulevard in the City of El Monte, 12 miles east of downtown Los Angeles. The station provides transit service on numerous lines for Metro, Foothill Transit, LAX FlyAway airport shuttle and Greyhound and serves over 18,000 customers a day. A bus rapid transit service, the Silver Line, is the only transit service that connects to all Metro Rail lines.



Rendering of El Monte Station

The station also houses offices, retail outlets, Greyhound customer service, a sheriff's office and a soon to be completed Bike Hub. An iconic modern-day clock tower sculpture, entitled "Time Piece," by artist Donald Lipski, welcomes transit riders at the station's entry plaza.

Art Opportunities

Artwork opportunities have been identified for the concourse level walls at each of the station's four transit bays. Each bay is separate, but identical, and each includes an identical series of art panel locations (Image 1). A different artist will be selected to create artwork for each of the individual bays, for a total of four artist commissions.

Artists will be asked to create a distinct, unified work that relates conceptually and thematically across the set of panels within the bay for which they are selected. Their artwork will then be translated onto powder-coated aluminum panels using an ink sublimation process.

Transit riders will be able to view the artwork panels at each bay from multiple viewpoints including from below and above (Image 2).

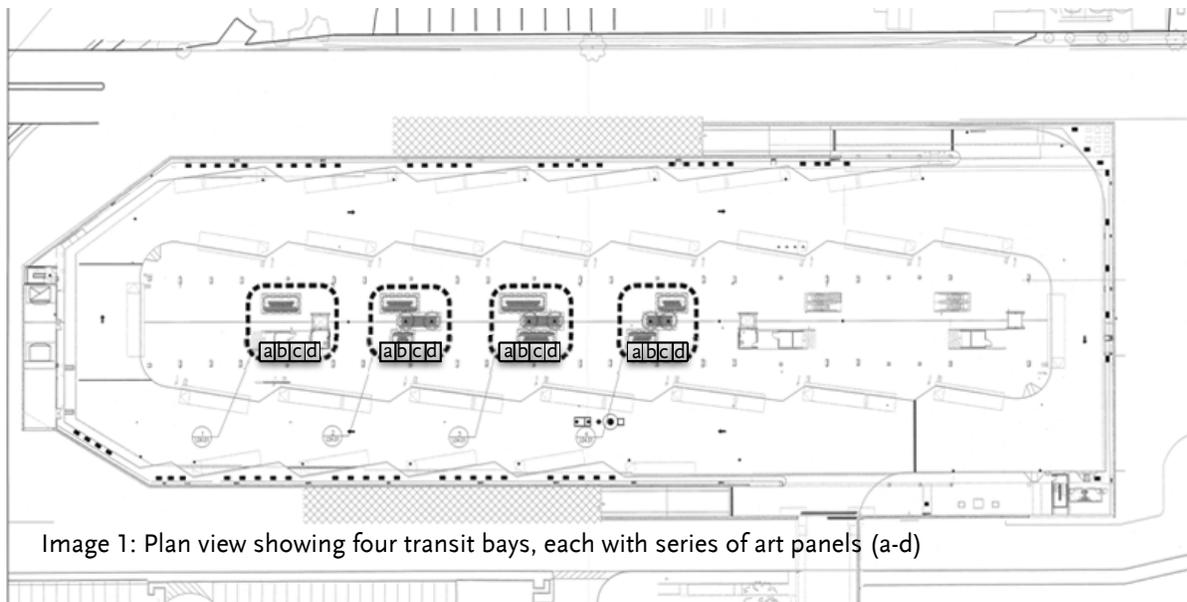


Image 1: Plan view showing four transit bays, each with series of art panels (a-d)



Image 2: View of artwork location at transit bay concourse wall. Each panel measures approximately 8' x 8'. (There are four identical bays with four identically sized panels)

Eligibility

These opportunities are open to artists who live and work in the United States (legal residence required). Prior experience in public art is not required, making this an ideal opportunity for both emerging and established artists with an interest in creating artwork for the transit environment.

Artists currently under contract for Metro stations or who have completed a permanent Metro Art commission within the past 3 years are ineligible. Submittal by artist teams is not encouraged. Employees, contractors and members of transit authorities constructing rail and bus lines for Metro are ineligible.

Artist Contracts and Responsibilities

One artist will be selected and recommended for each of the four transit bays. Each of the four artists will receive a \$10,000 contract to:

- 1) Create original artwork for a set of four panels.
- 2) Provide artwork to Metro in a predetermined digital format to be reproduced onto lightweight aluminum panels. (Prior experience with this fabrication material is not a requirement for the selected artists).
- 3) Coordinate closely with Metro Art staff to ensure proper digital file format and artwork translation.
- 4) Review proofs, samples, and making adjustments as needed.
- 5) Communicate promptly with Metro Art staff throughout all phases of the project through final fabrication, installation and acceptance to assure artistic integrity.

Metro Responsibilities

Metro will contract with an aluminum fabrication company with proven experience to produce specialized, high quality products to have the artwork produced in a controlled shop environment and delivered to the station site. Metro will contract with a general contractor to install the aluminum artwork panels at the station and oversee implementation. All costs for fabrication, delivery and installation will be the responsibility of Metro.

Selection Process

Artist selection will be via a two-stage process:

Stage I

A selection panel consisting of artists and arts professionals, including community representatives will be convened to select a short list of artists to develop schematic artwork proposals based on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit as evidenced by submitted digital images
- Qualifications as evidenced by resume and professional recognition (awards, honors, exhibition record, etc.)

Stage II

Metro will provide each short-listed artist with a list of design criteria and other information pertinent to developing a schematic artwork proposal for the site. Each of the short-listed artists will be paid \$2,000 to develop and present their proposal to the panel. This proposal fee is intended to cover all costs associated with the proposal development and presentation including all necessary travel and lodging. The 4 artists with the highest ranked proposals will be recommended for a commission.

The panel will rank each artist and provide recommendations to Metro based on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit of the proposal
- Appropriateness of the proposal to the site

Estimated Schedule

Schedule dates below are tentative except for deadline of submittal materials.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| May 6, 2013 | 5:00 pm deadline for <u>receipt</u> of submittal materials |
| May 2013 | Stage I selection panel meetings |
| June 2013 | Stage II artist presentations to selection panel |
| July 2013 | Executed contract with artists |
| August 2013 | Final artwork design provided to Metro |

Submittals

Please note this is a request for qualifications only. Do not send proposals. Incomplete submittals will not be reviewed. Include your name on each page of each item submitted. Metro reserves the right to request supporting documentation of any submittal materials for verification purposes.

Submittals must include the following:

- **Statement of Interest** (10 hard copies)
One page maximum, typed cover letter addressing your interest in the project and relevant past experience.
- **Current Resume** (10 hard copies)
- **Images** (12 digital files)
Digital files in JPEG format, 5MB or smaller. Images will be viewed via a data projector. Each file name should include the artist's name and the numeric order in which you wish the images to be viewed. (For example: JaneJones_01) Do not send more than 12 images. Only 12 images will be reviewed.
- **Annotated Image List** (10 hard copies)
A typed page listing each digital image in sequence. Indicate thumbnail image, file name, title of the work, medium, dimensions, date and location. For previous public art projects please list the project location, commissioning body, budget, date of completion, subcontractors and/or fabricators and project manager (with telephone number).
- **References** (10 hard copies)
Email, phone and mail contact information for three references qualified to testify to your artistic capabilities and accomplishments.
- **Optional: Self-addressed stamped envelope** (1)
Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish to have the digital image component of your submittal returned. Image files will not be returned if a self-addressed stamped envelope is not provided. Envelopes without sufficient postage will not be returned.

Deadline

Submittals are due by **5:00 PM on May 6, 2013**. This is not a postmark date, it is a deadline for receipt of hard copy submittals. Late submittals will not be accepted. Electronic submittals will not be accepted.

Mail or hand-deliver submittals to:

METRO
Creative Services
Mail Stop 99-19-4
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012- 2952
ATTN: El Monte Station – Call to Artists

Notes

Metro is not responsible for the loss or damage of any submitted materials. All information contained herein does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract and these provisions are subject to change. We reserve the right to award all, some, or no public art commissions.

Metro is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, ancestry, national origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability.

Funding for this project has been provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, Pub- L. 111-5. Selected artists will be required to conform to the ARRA grant requirements. Details can be found on the Metro Art Opportunities webpage at <http://www.metro.net/about/art/>. Because of its federal funding source, Metro cannot restrict eligibility to only state or local artists.

To request a hard copy or ask a question about this Call to Artists, email artistopportunities@metro.net. Questions of general interest will be responded to in a periodically updated Frequently Asked Questions file available on the Metro Art Opportunities webpage. Questions must be submitted at least ten days prior to the submission deadline.

For more information about Metro Art visit metro.net/art.

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