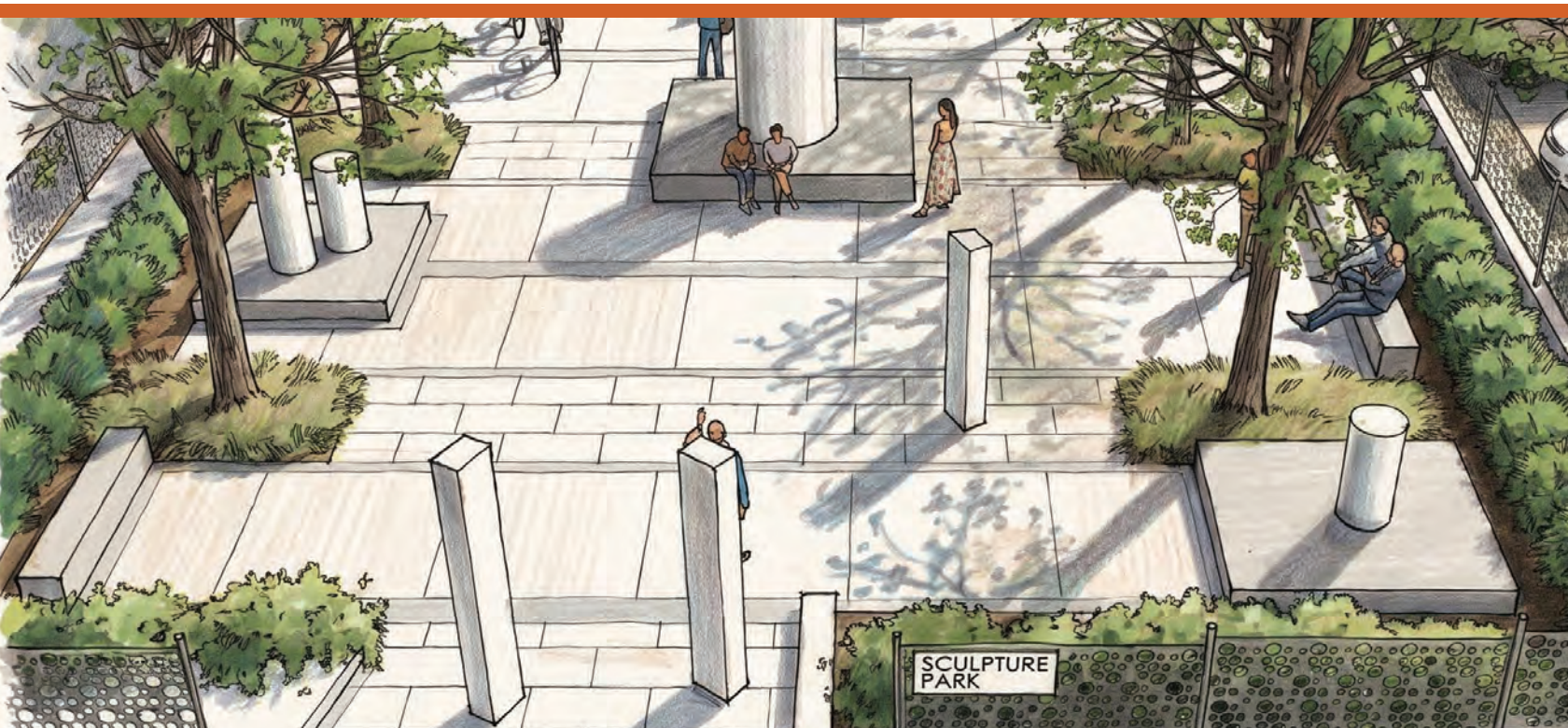
DOWNTOWN HATTIESBURG SCULPTURE PARK

HAPA HATTIESBURG ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC ART
A PROGRAM OF VISITHATTIESBURG

CALL FOR ARTISTS



PROJECT DETAILS

Hattiesburg Alliance for Public Art (HAPA) is pleased to announce a nationwide Call for Artists to design, fabricate, and install an original large-scale sculpture for Montague Art Park, a new permanent sculpture park in Downtown Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Montague Sculpture Park will feature eight permanent large-scale sculptures, complete with dedicated sculpture pads and lighting. HAPA will curate the permanent collection through a series of calls for artists and direct commissions over the next year. Additional artist opportunities will be announced as the collection develops.

This Call for Artists is for a sculpture exploring industry and its connection to Hattiesburg. Founded as a railroad and timber town, Hattiesburg is now also a regional medical hub and is home to two universities.

This call is open to professional artists and artist teams with demonstrated public art experience.

Specifications

Artists are invited to develop an original sculpture exploring industry and its role in the growth and development of Hattiesburg.

Artists are encouraged to interpret the theme creatively, considering the people, ingenuity, labor, enterprise, and industries that have helped shape Hattiesburg. Designs may be literal or abstract and should offer an original artistic interpretation of the theme.

The selected sculpture will be permanently installed on an approximately 8-foot x 9-foot prepared sculpture pad within Montague Sculpture Park. The sculpture may not exceed 15 feet in height and must be appropriately scaled for the designated pad.

The artwork should demonstrate a high level of artistic quality and originality, be visually engaging from multiple viewpoints, and be appropriate for permanent outdoor installation in South Mississippi's climate. The work should require reasonable long-term maintenance and meet applicable structural and public safety requirements.

Materials and colors are not restricted; however, all proposed materials, coatings and finishes must be durable, weather-resistant and appropriate for permanent outdoor public art. HAPA welcomes both natural material finishes and the thoughtful use of color as part of the artist's original concept.

Final dimensions, weight, anchoring and structural requirements will be reviewed and approved by HAPA in coordination with the selected artist prior to fabrication.

HAPA will provide the prepared sculpture pad. The selected artist will be responsible for coordinating and completing installation of the artwork, including all necessary anchoring, equipment and labor.

Eligibility and Stipend

This nationwide opportunity is open to professional artists and artist teams age 18 or older with demonstrated public art experience. Applicants must demonstrate the artistic, technical, and professional ability to successfully design, fabricate, and install a permanent outdoor sculpture of this scale and complexity. Artist teams should identify one primary point of contact. There is no application fee.

Artists are asked to provide a total budget for the project with their submission, not to exceed $40,000. The total project amount should include all costs associated with the project, including artist fees, design, materials, fabrication, engineering if required, equipment, insurance, travel and accommodations, transportation and delivery to Hattiesburg, and complete installation of the sculpture.

The selected artist will receive 40% of the project budget upon execution of the artist agreement, 40% upon approval of the final design and confirmation that fabrication is underway, and the remaining 20% following delivery, complete installation, final inspection, and acceptance of the artwork by HAPA.

The selected artist is responsible for safely transporting and protecting the artwork through delivery and installation. Any damage occurring prior to final acceptance by HAPA must be repaired or otherwise satisfactorily resolved before final payment is issued. Applicable insurance and other contractual requirements will be outlined in the artist agreement.

All submitted concepts, designs, renderings and written materials must be the original work of the applying artist or artist team. AI-generated designs, images, concepts, or written content will not be accepted. Submission of AI-generated materials may result in disqualification.

Selection Process

Proposals will be reviewed by the HAPA Selection Committee. Criteria used to select the artist and design will include artistic merit and originality, demonstrated public art experience and technical ability, interpretation of the theme, suitability for the site, durability of materials, feasibility of fabrication and installation, overall budget, and the artist's ability to successfully complete the project within the established timeline.

HAPA reserves the right to request additional information or reasonable modifications to a selected concept prior to final approval. HAPA also reserves the right to reject any or all submissions or to make no award through this Call for Artists.

The selected artist will be required to enter into an artist agreement with HAPA before work begins.

Deadline to Apply

All applications must be electronically submitted by 6:00 p.m. CST on Friday, November 20, 2026. No late or incomplete applications will be considered..

Application Requirements

Artists should submit the following materials:
• Digital rendering or detailed sketch of the proposed sculpture
• A short bio or resume including artist qualifications, public art experience and contact information
• A short narrative describing the concept and its connection to the project theme
• Images of up to five previous professional public art work samples or a link to a published portfolio of work
• Proposed materials, colors and finishes
• Approximate dimensions
• Anticipated maintenance requirements
• Anticipated anchoring and installation requirements
• Total budget for the project
• Proposed timeline for fabrication and installation

Site information and images will be provided as part of the application materials.
Applications must be submitted electronically using **this form.**

Project Timeline

Proposal deadline: Friday, November 20, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. CST
Artist selection and notification: Monday, November 30, 2026
Fabrication period: December 1, 2026 to February 1, 2027
Installation window: February 1 - February 28, 2027

Additional Information

Applications cannot be submitted via email. The Google Form linked above must be used. For questions or to request additional information, email Kristen Brock at kbrock@visithburg.org.

Upon final acceptance and payment, the completed sculpture will become the property of Hattiesburg Alliance for Public Art. The artist will receive appropriate attribution in connection with the artwork. Additional terms regarding ownership, artist attribution, reproduction, maintenance, and other responsibilities will be addressed in the artist agreement.

For more information about HAPA, visit hburgart.com.

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