



CALL TO ARTISTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

2023 Circular Concrete Stamps

Deadline: June 7, 2023, 11:59 pm

Budget: \$1,500 for 4 stamp designs

Call Summary

The City of Tacoma is seeking 3 artists to each design 4 digital artworks, which will be reproduced as large stamps to be applied to freshly poured concrete throughout the city. This project is designed to highlight the Tacoma [Safe Routes to School \(SRTS\)](#) partnership, which works to support and encourage students and families to safely walk and roll to school. This opportunity is open to visual artists living in the City of Tacoma. The final designs must be delivered as vector files. The City will pay for and manage stamp production and installation.

Eligibility

- Applicant must live in Tacoma, WA
- Applicant must be able to translate digital designs into vector files
- Applicant must be 18 years or older
- Applicant cannot be on the Tacoma Arts Commission or an employee of the City of Tacoma
- Applicant cannot have created concrete stamp designs for the City of Tacoma previously

Art Opportunity

There is no theme to this call. Artwork should be graphic in nature, and circular in shape. The final designs will be fabricated at a size of 3' across. Successful designs will spark joy, create visual interest, and be dynamic enough to capture the attention of those who walk and roll by. Artists will be selected based on past work only and should not submit design proposals in their application.

Selected artists will be asked to develop their design concept for 4 distinctive designs, submit initial design proposals for review by City staff and, if requested, provide revisions. The final artworks must be submitted as vector files. The City will be responsible for stamp production and installation.

Stamps will be installed at Safe Routes to School projects near Manitou Park, Whitman, Edison, and Birney Elementary Schools and Lincoln High School. In addition to these locations, final stamp designs may be installed in other areas of Tacoma as street improvements are completed.

Stamp Design Guidelines

- Designs must be circular in shape, designed to be fabricated at 3' across
- Designs must be submitted in vector format
- Designs must be appropriate for display in public spaces and viewing by a general audience
- Designs cannot include vulgar, profane, prejudice, offensive, or insensitive content
- Designs cannot include political or religious content; any breach of intellectual property; trademarks; images of illegal activity; advertisements; logos; signage; promotion of any business, organization, individual, or product; or involve the attachment of objects to the boxes

Selection Criteria

Artists will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Artistic quality as exemplified in past work
- Ability to think and work in a graphic style
- Ability to deliver designs in a vector format
- Artists with a connection to one or more of the school sites where stamps will be installed will be prioritized (Manitou Park, Whitman, Edison, and Birney Elementary Schools; Lincoln High School)
- Artists will be selected as a “cohort” meant to represent a diversity of styles and perspectives

Timeline (all dates subject to change)

June 7, 2023, 11:59pm	Applications Due
June 23, 2023	Notification of Artist Selection
July 17, 2023	Draft designs due
July 31, 2023	Final designs due as vector files
August – October 2023	Stamp production and installation

Submission Process

Submit the following items via Submittable (<https://tacomaarts.submittable.com/submit/262625/2023-concrete-stamps-safe-routes-to-school>)

1. Basic Information: Series of yes/no and multiple choice questions
2. Work Samples with Descriptions: Submit 5 digital images of past work with short descriptions.
3. Narrative Questions:
 - a. Why are you interested in this opportunity, and how do you think your work will translate to concrete stamps? (250 words max).
 - b. Anything else you want to tell us? If you have a connection to one or more of the school sites, please let us know (Manitou Park, Whitman, Edison, and Birney Elementary Schools; Lincoln High School) (250 words max).

Questions? Contact Rebecca Solverson, rebecca.solverson@cityoftacoma.org, (253) 591-5564



Example of circular concrete stamp, 3' across. Artwork by Chris Duenas.