

Sound Transit Art Program

Request for Proposals: Graffiti Art Program – Lead Artist

Proposal deadline: Friday, March 27, 2026



ART OPPORTUNITY: Graffiti Art Program - Lead Artist

PROJECT BUDGET: \$20,000

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, March 27, 2026



ARTWORK OPPORTUNITY

The Sound Transit Art Program (STart) invites applications from experienced graffiti writers or mural artists to lead the next phase of its graffiti art program at the Capitol Hill Station west entrance (located at Broadway and John). The selected Artist should have evidence of curatorial, artist recruitment, or project coordination experience.

This project is the continuation of a graffiti mitigation pilot program which aims to discourage vandalism and foster community connections through creative expression in Sound Transit-owned spaces. The initiative is part of a larger agency-wide effort to encourage positive behavior and foster civic pride in transit environments.

The STart Graffiti Art Program - Lead Artist will be tasked with recruiting eight (8) artists to create artwork for the west entrance of the Capitol Hill Station, and potentially additional locations, overseeing each installation by the artists. Each artist will be provided with two 6' x 4' Dibond boards to produce their artwork. The artists' works will be displayed for 3 to 4 month increments over a two-year period, beginning May 2026 through April 2028. Artwork may be rotated between sites if the program extends to other entrances and stations. The qualified Lead Artist will have extensive knowledge of the local graffiti writer community, experience with public art and community outreach, and possess good knowledge of the media and techniques used for graffiti and street art.

The overall project budget includes compensation for the participating artists, to be directly handled by the Lead Artist. Added budget will be available to accommodate space rental for artwork production if deemed necessary by the Lead Artist.

ARTWORK LOCATION

For the pilot phase of the graffiti art program that began in the fall of 2024 and its continuation, the West entry of the Capitol Hill Station was selected after consultation with Sound Transit Operations staff. The site was identified due to its high visibility to both pedestrian and car traffic, as well as ease of access. This secondary phase may include additional locations at the North entry of Capitol Hill Station, and potentially other stations. Scope and budget will adjust to accommodate any expansion of the project and ensure fair compensation for the Lead Artist.

SCOPE AND BUDGET

SStart seeks one Lead Artist to oversee the next two-year period of the graffiti art program at Capitol Hill Station.

This role will include the following tasks:

- Engage with and research the community to identify new artists.
- Select and mentor eight (8) graffiti artists (local or national) whose work will be featured through the project's duration.
- Actively manage relationships with artists throughout the life of the program. Coordinate with artists, purchase materials, and issue individual artists' compensation directly (each participating artist will receive a minimum of \$1,200 per artwork creation).
- Secure workspace when necessary for the creation of the artworks. Coordinate delivery of the Dibond boards (provided by SStart) to each artist in an appropriate timeframe for artwork production and installation.
- Provide content for interpretive signage to accompany each artwork.
- Ensure that each artwork aligns with Sound Transit's guidelines for content and reflects inclusive values.

SStart will assist with each rotation and liaise with Sound Transit Facilities and Operations staff to gain access to the site. While the Lead Artist will be welcome on-site to assist with the rotations, Sound Transit staff will be responsible for installing the artworks.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION	March 27, 2026
FINAL ARTIST SELECTION	Late April 2026
FIRST INSTALLATION	Q2 2026

TO APPLY

Please submit a completed [application](#) that includes contact information by 5 pm PST, March 27, 2026.

Applications must include:

- Up to 12 images of your past projects (minimum of 5 images). Feel free to include collaborations as long as you include a description of your contribution.
- A letter of interest detailing your creative works and projects, including a description of past work that's relevant to the project coordination and curatorial functions of the Lead Artist role.
- A resume detailing relevant past projects (optional).

SELECTION PROCESS

The final candidate will be selected based on the following criteria. Applications and images will be reviewed by a panel of internal Sound Transit staff, as well as artists and art administrators from the community.

CRITERIA

- Quality and strength of past work as demonstrated in the submitted application materials
- Ability to work independently
- Experience with outreach and liaising with artists

- Having some experience working digitally
- Deep ties to the local and/or national graffiti writer community
- Strong working knowledge of graffiti materials and techniques
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively and meet deadlines

ELIGIBILITY

This project is open to artists and artist teams with a demonstrated connection to the Puget Sound graffiti and street art community. Sound Transit staff, selection panel members, project personnel, and immediate family members of all of the above are not eligible to apply.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Lucile Chich, Project Manager: lucile.chich@soundtransit.org.