Art Commission Application Form

You must submit the following along with this form as a single PDF.

- Individual or organizational statement (250 word max)
- Letter of intent that includes history of project and its impact on the community (500 word max)
- Visual materials (See Art Commission Guidelines for requirement)
- Budget describing cost of materials, artist fees, maintenance, installation, etc.
- Two letters of support from project partners or neighborhood organizations
- One letter of support from the Department of Public Works or Department of Mobility & Infrastructure

Notes:

- You may be required to hold a Development Activities Meeting with the applicable Registered Community Organization prior to Hearing. For more information, visit pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/rco.
- After receiving Art Commission approval, any necessary permits, certificates of occupancy, legal agreements, or other city approvals are still required. These must be applied for separately at the appropriate City departments and are the responsibility of the applicant.
- Application format is a digital copy of full application form, required documents, and the presentation to be projected at the Hearing as one single PDF. Send all documents to pacd@pittsburghpa.gov.

Project Information

Type of Project: ☑ Conceptual Review
☐ Conceptual/Final Review
☐ Final Review
☐ Courtesy Review

Has this project been come before Art Commission before?
☐ No ☑ Yes, when: ______________

Duration of project: From 06/01/2021 to 06/01/2022

Permanent? ☐ No ☑ Yes
Project Location

Address: Between Shelburne Lane and Parkview Blvd.

Cross Streets or other relevant information: Between Shelburne Lane and Parkview Blvd.

Neighborhood: Squirrel Hill South neighborhood of the City of Pittsburgh

Applicant Information

Name: Tim Kaulen

Mailing Address: 3407 Bethoven Street

City: Pittsburgh 
State: PA 
Zip: 15219

Phone: 412-916-7051 
Email: tim.kaulen@iawpgh.org

Relationship or Role in Project: Lead Artist

Co-Applicant (optional)

Name: 

Mailing Address: 

City: 
State: 
Zip: 

Phone: 
Email: 

Relationship or Role in Project: 

Presenter at Hearing if different than applicant: 

Dear Arts Commission,

It is with great enthusiasm that I am submitting for conceptual review, the following concepts and future designs for artwork to be integrated into the new Frick Park Extension at Summerset.

As a Pittsburgh resident I’ve enjoyed the numerous benefits of our local parks and their amenities over the years; from hiking and exploring, to attending events and festivals, our City parks are favorite destinations for myself and my family. As a working artist I am thrilled that Urban Redevelopment Authority of a Pittsburgh is embarking on commissioning new public artworks. This is truly a catalyzing moment for the arts, our city, and more importantly, a thoughtful investment that will create positive returns for everyone.

Creating public art has been part of my professional arts practice for almost three decades so you can imagine my delight in anticipating the development of new work. The opportunity to produce original, site-specific sculpture for the Urban Redevelopment Authority, and the City of Pittsburgh’s art collection is an exciting prospect for myself and my team, and we are grateful for the chance to present our qualifications to the panel for consideration.

As the lead artist of my team, my work, expertise, artistic experience, leadership, and commitment to community and collaboration make me an ideal candidate for this project. I will use my experience and commitment to collaborative arts practices to guide my team who are made up of: professional working artists and craftspeople, a certified structural engineer, Industrial Arts Workshop board and staff members, nonprofit partners, business owners, and of course community members. I welcome the opportunity to work alongside the URA team and their supporters and members of the Summerset Community to make this project a success for everyone.

Tim Kaulen – Lead Artist

MR Structures - Mike Romesburg – Structural Engineer

Industrial Arts Workshop – Community and Youth Engagement, Sculpture Production Facility

Tim Kaulen, IAW: Extension at Summerset July 6, 2021
This opportunity to create thoughtful, relevant, and engaging sculpture for the Frick Park Extension at Summerset while contributing to the larger collection of public art in Pittsburgh reflects important collaborative intersections that have been informing my work for over 25 years.

Through these collaborative intersections, multidisciplinary teams inspire, create, support, and sustain my work, resulting in robust public art that resonates with the public. I appreciate the legacy of Pittsburgh artists and the many paths they’ve blazed for people like myself and members of my artist team. To now have a chance to add to their story; to create a new chapter, is an exciting prospect.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my excitement regarding this excellent project, my commitment to the arts and our community, and for the chance to create an original, new sculpture that will unite nature, art, and community.

Sincerely,
Tim Kaulen
Project Intention, Expertise + Partners

For the A Frick Park Extension at Summerset, we will produce a series of free-standing sculptures that will ‘live’ in neighboring community park at Summerset. The work will create opportunities for active engagement with the object-based work while connecting to the natural surroundings and amenities of the park.

The expertise of our core team includes Mike Romesburg owner of MR Structures, Industrial Arts Workshop staff members and our student welders from the IAW program, and URA staff and professionals.

Our process for creating any new work is transparent and inclusive: from community members, to stakeholders, to youth, we provide everyone who wishes to be involved with multiple points of engagement beginning with the design process and concept building, all the way to the final stages of project completion and celebration. We know that having this critical layer of engagement throughout the entire process of the project reflects and authentically addresses the values of the Summerset Community by connecting the natural amenities of place and its users.

MR Structures is an expert and efficient structural engineering firm that specializes in structural systems design and construction administration. They work with cast-in-place concrete, precast/prestressed concrete, structural steel, composite steel, masonry, solid sawn wood, engineered wood products, and light gauge steel. Mike Romesburg, owner of MR Structures will lead the engineering and installation process and will ensure that the free-standing sculptural structure is safe and to all building and engineering code.
The Industrial Arts Workshop (IAW) was formed in 2000 by a group of artists dedicated to the creation and exhibition of sculpture and metal work. At the heart of the IAW is a commitment to serve the creative needs of people through outreach and collaboration. IAW’s mission is “to inspire artistic literacy in the city of Pittsburgh and beyond by offering enrichment opportunities that advance the understanding and process of sculpture making artists and their work.” The Mobile Sculpture Workshop (MSW), a program of the IAW, enjoyed its inaugural season in 2014, preserving and enhancing the mission of the IAW while engaging area youth in a unique programming opportunity. The MSW program engages High School student to participate in industrial arts, welding, and public art creation. Participants must apply, are vetted, and if selected, offered a place in the summer-long program for one-on-one training to learn basic techniques in welding and metal fabrication, and are paid a modest stipend.

TIM KAULEN, LEAD ARTIST

My work has been an important part of Pittsburgh’s artistic, cultural, educational, and community landscapes for over twenty-five years. In 2019 I created the nonprofit Industrial Arts Workshop to ‘house’ its keystone program, Mobile Sculpture Workshop (MSW) – a project I developed in 2014 – thus giving it a permanent home and sustainable support and resources. MSW is designed to teach urban youth teamwork, collaboration, metal fabrication, welding, and artmaking around publicly commissioned work. It reflects my commitment to connecting with communities, providing creative opportunities to young people, and working collaboratively with peers to create new public work in a shared experience.

I have been recognized with a variety of grants and awards for my work over the years including Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Pittsburgh Artist of the Year, Pittsburgh 250 Community Connections Award, The Carol Brown Award / Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, and a Creative Heights Award. Some of my notable public work and public commissions include works in Pittsburgh: The Workers, South Side Riverfront Park; The Carrie Deer, Rivers of Steel National Heritage, and also some publicly commissioned work in Philadelphia, Slippery Rock University, Edinboro University, Weirton West Virginia, and Tennessee. I have exhibited large-scale public work and gallery pieces at: Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island City; Burning Man, Black Rock City NV; Vox-Populi, Philadelphia PA; Myers School of Art, University of Akron, OH; Three Rivers Arts Festival, Pittsburgh Children’s Museum Pittsburgh, Center for the Arts, SPACE Gallery all in Pittsburgh PA.
My work ranges from large mixed media installations constructed on-site in industrial settings to formal sculpture commissions in more conventional public and private settings. Using a combination of recycled resources and objects, my work connects materials within a carefully selected environment and re-configures them in a new and balanced manner creating an interactive platform for public discourse and response. Synthesizing these experiences to create sculpture has been an ongoing method for much of my career and has provided me with the opportunity to reflect on important historical ideas in a succinct, deliberative and challenging way, which resonates in my work.

I continue to be inspired by the unique elements that make up and support the character of a region, particularly those in Southwestern Pennsylvania and the surrounding regions where my interest in the urban and natural landscapes has been nurtured for over twenty-five years. I’ve developed a strong appreciation for Pittsburgh’s regional industrial heritage where it has had a presence in much of my work and the juxtaposition of my built work sited within the natural world. As Southwestern Pennsylvania continues to develop and strengthen its cultural identity, my work continues to advance and reflect broader ideas, goals and destinations around our relationship with the built and natural worlds.

I look forward to sharing this project with you. Thank you!
Producer Contact
Company Name: Industrial Arts Workshop
Phone: 412-916-7051
Address: 3407 Bethoven Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Email: tim.kaulen@iawpgh.org
Website: http://www.iawpgh.org/
Authorized Official: Tim Kaulen

Project Title: Frick Park Extension at Summerset
An interpretive and legacy artwork for the Frick Park Extension at Summerset development, a dynamic and meaningful artwork that is specific to the park and its neighboring community, and also inclusive to all visitors to the area.

Sculpture Production and Summary

Timeline

Phase 1 - Design, Concept, and Community Engagement:
  • Consensus and Design discussions - URA and Summerset stakeholders
  • Approval of final design to initiate phase two: fabrication

Phase 2 - Implementation and Fabrication:
  • Structural Engineering
  • Construction of sculpture bases, aligning with URA park construction schedule.
  • IAW Hazelwood Sculpture Studio – collaborative construction.
  • Sculpture Fabrication Completion
  • Structural Engineering

Phase 3 - Delivery and Installation:
  • Transportation
  • Placement
Sculpture Production and Workshop Event Criteria

- The design and concept phase of the project will be made available to key URA and Summerset stakeholders, through two facilitated discussions.
- The goal is to provide the URA and Summerset stakeholders a public artwork that: acknowledges and celebrates Summerset’s Park as a shared community destination, creates an accessible and inviting sculpture to the everyday participant of the Summerset community, and engages visitors to and provides context to the city and its natural amenities.
- A secondary goal is to provide area youth with the opportunity to participate in the design and fabrication of the sculpture.
- The fabrication process will be made available to current IAW artists and former students.
- IAW will be responsible for all materials, student participation, supplies, and workshop facilitation through design and fabrication phases.
- Host will provide means and resources for site preparation, installation, and ongoing maintenance (IAW will be available for consultation, or for contracted installation services).

Sculpture Production Budget $15,000. (not including installation)
**The Industrial Arts Workshop is:** IAW’s mission is to advance, inspire, and educate people through the creation of art. This is accomplished by promoting artistic literacy through the creation of original works of sculpture, inspiring and supporting sculpture artists and their work, and creating accessible education programs, projects, and community outreach.

**Organizational Description**

The Industrial Arts Workshop, originally formed in 2000 as the Industrial Arts Collective; a group of artists dedicated to the creation and exhibition of sculpture and metal work, has since become a fixture in the Pittsburgh area in terms of public art and community collaboration. At the heart of the IAW is a commitment to serve the creative needs of our neighbors through outreach and collaboration. It is the mission of the IAW “to inspire artistic literacy in the city of Pittsburgh and beyond by offering enrichment opportunities that advance the understanding and process of sculpture making artists and their work.” The Mobile Sculpture Workshop, a program of the IAW, enjoyed its inaugural season in 2014, preserving and enhancing the mission of the IAW while engaging area youth in a unique programming opportunity. This commitment to the community has been supported by many local companies and partners, including the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Corp, a longtime supporter of the IAW.

**Program Description**

Since 2014, each session of the largely volunteer-driven Mobile Sculpture Workshop has engaged student participants interested in industrial arts, welding, and public art creation. Local youth members are offered a one-on-one training opportunity to learn basic techniques in welding and metal fabrication. Pittsburgh-area high school youth in grades 9-12 are vetted and recommended by area sponsors who include teachers, local schools’ administration, community groups, and the like, based on their individual interests and needs. Students are also paid a modest stipend as collaborators for their participation in the project. MSW not only provides training and support to students, but also synergistically provides the community with object-based art that is relevant to the community’s voice.

MSW students are provided with the opportunity to experience and participate in the creation of public art: From concept derived from the public input and perception, to design - including participation in charrette discussions and model replication, to selection, and ultimately the execution of public art. Local youth participate in discussions about the project, and are provided the opportunity to engage in the concept and design phase of the project. Students have an opportunity to demonstrate their art and craft, as the Mobile Sculpture Workshop travels to various community festivals and events throughout the summer months.

The workshops are managed as an engaging spectacle while maintaining a safe and appropriate environment for participants, audience members, and onlookers. The workshops include pre-arranged mentors/students for each session (two, four-hour sessions per day, two artist mentors and two students per session). The key to the success of MSW has been the provision of excellent hands-on learning opportunities, services, and demonstrations to a base for which there already exists a demand. Through strategic partnerships with neighborhood-based organizations, the IAW seeks to address existing programming gaps in the community, providing unique programs and learning opportunities. Through these partnerships, The MSW has become a community resource and hub for young people and adults alike.
Frick Park Extension at Summerset;
Art Commission Presentation
July 2021

An interpretive and legacy artwork in celebration of a shared community destination...

dynamic and meaningful to the neighborhood, while accessible and engaging to all those who visit.
IAW’s mission is to advance, inspire, and educate people through the creation of art. This is accomplished by promoting artistic literacy through the creation of original works of sculpture, inspiring and supporting sculpture artists and their work, and creating accessible education programs, projects, and community outreach.

Team

Tim Kaulen –
Lead Artist

MR Structures –
Mike Romesburg
Structural Engineer

Industrial Arts Workshop –
Community and Youth Engagement Sculpture Production Facility
Process & Production

Phase 1 - Design, Concept, and Community Engagement:
- Consensus and design discussions – URA, Summerset stakeholders, Art Commission

Phase 2 - Implementation and Fabrication:
- Structural Engineering
- Construction of sculpture bases/foundation aligning with URA park construction schedule
- IAW Hazelwood Sculpture Studio – collaborative construction.
- Sculpture Fabrication Completion

Phase 3 - Delivery and Installation:
- Transportation
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OBJECTIVE

Drawing inspiration from Western Pennsylvania wildlife and wildflowers, the object is to reflect natural shapes to create new symbolic gestures as sculptural solutions for the Frick Park Extension. The combination of recycled materials and whimsical figures will provide reference points and language for viewers to identify, imagine, and interpret the artwork as it relates to the natural surroundings.

A series of three sculptures will be structurally welded and installed using industry standards, using the natural as well as the planned amenities of the park.
FOUNDATION:
Sculpture as shown to demonstrate:
structural welding, total weight of 1500 lbs max,
11' height.
Concrete base being at or below grade,
engineered to support sculpture,
formed and poured during park construction,
using industry standard hardware,
estimated one cubic yard of concrete
per sculpture.

PLACEMENT:
Suggested placement to illustrate:
integration of natural forms
(flora, fauna, wildlife) into park setting,
provides contemplative moments for
park visitors.