

ALAMEDA COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

ALAMEDA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public Art Projects

Castro Valley, Dublin & San Lorenzo

Informational Presentation by
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November 2025





The **Alameda County Arts Commission** is a division of the County of Alameda. The Arts Commission supports all art forms and creative expression such as music, drama, dance, theater, visual, traditional, new media, etc. The activities of the Arts Commission are based on the belief that arts, culture and creativity are essential to our successful and thriving community.

PROGRAM AREAS



ADVOCACY



CREATE



ARTSFUND



PUBLIC ART

arts.acgov.org

About the Alameda County Arts Commission

Alameda County Arts Commission

- Established in 1965 by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors
- Members of the Arts Commission are appointed by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and includes 15 community members and 7 members who represent County agencies and other leading arts organizations

Alameda County Public Art Program

- Established in 1994 by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors
- Managed by the Office of the Alameda County Arts Commission
- Artworks placed in County buildings and outdoor spaces throughout the unincorporated areas of Alameda County

Public Art Projects with the Alameda County Fire Dept

The Alameda County Arts Commission manages the County's Public Art Program which presents artworks in County buildings and in outdoor spaces throughout the unincorporated areas of Alameda County. The goal of the Public Art Program is to provide positive art experiences for the community.

On November 26, 2024, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and ACFD Board of Directors approved the partnership between the Alameda County Arts Commission and the Alameda County Fire Department to work on public art projects for the first phase of construction projects funded by Measure X, the Alameda County Fire Department Fire Safety Bond. The Board's authorization included the plan for the future artwork to be in the form of two-dimensional exterior decorative architectural elements integrated into each building site.

Phase 1 Measure X Projects include replacement stations:

- Fire Station 7 in Castro Valley (Palomares Hills)
- Fire Station 25 in Castro Valley (San Miguel Ave)
- Fire Station 22 in San Lorenzo

Additionally, the New Fire Training Center in Dublin is a current project, but is not funded by Measure X.

Public Art Goals

- All of the activities of the Arts Commission are based on the belief that arts, culture and creativity are essential to our successful and thriving community.
- The goal of the ACFD public art projects is to generate positive, uplifting art experiences for the community and to honor the work of the Alameda County Fire Department.
- We envision future artworks will be unique to each community and may have varied concepts. It is not a goal of this overall project for the artwork to represent a detailed history of ACFD or to be a commemoration or memorial.

Public Art Opportunities

The artwork locations will be in highly visible locations and vary by project.

All projects will utilize the same material for the final installation which is panelized porcelain enamel on steel, a highly durable material commonly used for permanent outdoor installations.

For each project, a professional artist will be commissioned to create new 2-dimensional artworks. Artists working in a variety of 2-dimensional materials will be considered. High-quality scans or photos of the original artworks will be taken and then the imagery will be used in the fabrication process.

The builders of the three Fire Stations will be responsible for the fabrication, installation, transportation, and other related construction costs for the decorative architectural elements.

Because the decorative architectural elements are part of the building construction and are part of the responsibilities of the builder, Measure X funds will be used for this aspect of the projects. Public art administration costs and payments to artists will not be funded by Measure X.

Public Art Funding

Fire Stations

- Public Art Administration and Payments to Artists –
Not Funded by Measure X
- Decorative Architectural Elements: Porcelain Enamel on Steel and Related Construction Expenses –
Funded by Measure X

Fire Training Center

- Public Art Administration and Payments to Artists –
Not Funded by Measure X
- Decorative Architectural Elements: Porcelain Enamel on Steel and Related Construction Expenses –
Not Funded by Measure X

Artist Selection Process & Related Activities

Each project has a unique Artist Selection Committee comprised of community members and ACFD representatives.

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| March | Public Art Project announced to the community and online community survey promoted.
Community members invited to submit an interest form to serve on Artist Selection Committee. Presentations to Palomares Hills HOA, Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council, Dublin Heritage & Cultural Arts Commission, Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council, Unincorporated Services Committee |
| April-May | Meetings of the Artist Selection Committees and Selection of Semifinalists
64 artists in Project Pool. For each project, the Committees selected 6 semifinalists and 2 alternates. |
| June 16 | Technical Orientation Meeting with Semifinalists
Artists provided with project details, design guidelines, Selection Committee comments, and community information and resources. |

Artist Selection Process & Related Activities (con't)

June 24	Community Roundtable at Castro Valley Library Over 50 community members attended. Survey responses and notes from meetings supplied to semifinalists.
June-July	Artist Site Visits to Stations and Training Center, Meet with ACFD Members
August	Confirmation of Semifinalists. Three alternates became semifinalists for two projects.
August 25	Artwork Proposals Received
Sept-Oct	Artwork Proposals Available for Public Comment Presentations and/or updates provided to Palomares Hills HOA, Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council, Dublin Heritage & Cultural Arts Commission, Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council, Unincorporated Services Committee.

Artist Selection Process & Related Activities (con't)

Sept-Oct

Artwork Proposals Available for Public Comment

Sept 6-30: Online at the Alameda County Arts Commission's website

Sept 6-7: Castro Valley Fall Festival

Sept 9-30: San Lorenzo Library, Castro Valley Library and Dublin Library

Sept 13: Splatter Event in Dublin

Sept 18: San Lorenzo Village Homes Senior Coffee Time

Oct 15-16: Fire Station 7 Groundbreaking Event

September

Presentations Provided to ACFD Members

Arts Commission Staff visits to Stations 7, 22, 25 and Training Center

Number of written comments received –

Fire Station 7 – Castro Valley, Palomares Hills: 101

Fire Station 25 – Castro Valley, San Miguel Ave: 139

Fire Station 22 – San Lorenzo: 91

Fire Training Center – Dublin: 58

Artist Selection Process & Related Activities (con't)

October

Artist Selection Committees Reconvene

Committees hear presentations from the artists, interview the artists, and consider the community feedback.

Recommend one artist for each project.

Artist Selection Committees

Fire Station 7, Castro Valley, Palomares Hills

- Paige Bowie, Alameda County Fire Department, Division Chief, Special Operations
- Jessica Barrett, Community Representative
- Matt Clowry, Community Representative
- Christine DeLuca-Williams, Community Representative
- Cheryl Hurd, Alameda County Fire Department, Public Affairs Manager
- Patrick Kennedy, Alameda County Fire Department, Captain Station 25
- Terrie Light, Community Representative

Fire Station 25, Castro Valley, San Miguel Ave

- Mark Bennett, Alameda County Fire Department, Engineer, Station 25 (October mtg)
- Ken Carbone, Community Representative
- Cheryl Hurd, Alameda County Fire Department, Public Affairs Manager
- Patrick Kennedy, Alameda County Fire Department, Captain Station 25
- Zarmeena Khan, Alameda County Fire Department, Public Education Assistant
- Marilyn Lawrence, Community Representative (April and May mtgs)
- Virginia Layton, Community Representative
- Heather Marques, Alameda County Fire Department, Division Chief, Emergency Medical Services (April mtg)
- Rebecca Mendoza, Community Representative (April and May mtgs)
- Linda Willis, Community Representative (October mtg)

Artist Selection Committees

Fire Station 22, San Lorenzo

- Lori Collett, Community Representative
- D'Marcus Cooper, Alameda County Fire Department, Engineer, Station 22
- Mimi Dean, Community Representative
- Christine Dowell, Community Representative
- Zarmeena Khan, Alameda County Fire Department, Public Education Assistant
- Susan Olsen, Community Representative
- Cory Rutherglen, Alameda County Fire Department, Division Chief, Wildland
- Randy Waage, Community Representative
- Randall West, Alameda County Fire Department, Division Chief, Community Engagement (April and May mtgs)

Fire Training Center, Dublin

- Kathy Blackburn, Community Representative
- Jennifer Brown, Community Representative
- Daniel Colley, Community Representative
- Scott Fitzgerald, Alameda County Fire Department, Captain, Training
- Lynn Kozma, Alameda County Fire Department, Procurements Specialist II
- Jeff Luepke, Alameda County Fire Department, Division Chief, Training

Artist Selection Committees

The following individuals participated in all or some of the meetings as non-voting advisory participants:

- Lynn Kozma, Alameda County Fire Department, Procurements Specialist II
- Eric Moore, Alameda County Fire Department, Deputy Chief, Communications and Support Services
- Melissa Hernandez, Representing Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert
- Silin Huang, Representing Alameda County Supervisor Lena Tam
- Cathy O'Dea, Alameda County Arts Commissioner
- Ashley Strasburg, Representing Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley

Recommended Artists

The Artist Selection Committees recommend the following artists receive public art contracts:

- Fire Station 7 in Castro Valley, Palomares Hills: Artist David Burke (Location: Oakland, CA)
- Fire Station 25 in Castro Valley, San Miguel Avenue: Artist Josh Powell (Location: Palo Alto, CA)
- Fire Station 22 in San Lorenzo: Artist David Burke (Location: Oakland, CA)
- Fire Training Center in Dublin: Artist Lisa Levine (Location: Alameda, CA)

The amount of each artist's contract will be up to \$38,500 as per the Public Art Plan approved by the appointed members of the Alameda County Arts Commission and in the agreement with the ACFD. This amount includes the artist's fee for the final completed artwork and a contingency.

Overview of Next Steps

Artist & Artwork Proposal Approval: The recommendation of the selected artists, their artwork proposals, and contract amounts must be approved by the Alameda County Public Art Advisory Committee and the appointed members of the Alameda County Arts Commission.

Contract Approval: Once these approvals are complete, the contracts will be presented to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the Board of Directors of the Alameda County Fire Department for approval in January or February 2026.

Contract Management & Design Development:

- The office of the Alameda County Arts Commission will manage the contracts with the selected artists following the County's standard procedure for artist contracts.
- The artists' contracts will include a design development period with reviews and design approvals by the Alameda County Public Art Advisory Committee and the appointed members of the Alameda County Arts Commission.
- The proposals are still considered sketches of the artists' concepts. Once the artists are under contract, they will make revisions to their designs and will then create the original artwork.
- Updates about the revisions and final artwork designs will be given to community groups as needed.

Fire Station 7 – Castro Valley, Palomares Hills

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist David Burke



Fire Station 7 - Artwork Sites

- Site A approximately: 10' H x 13' W. Site B approximately: 10' H x 16' W.
- Panels are positioned in-plane (flush) with the wall surface.

Fire Station 7 – Castro Valley, Palomares Hills

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist David Burke



This artwork celebrates the natural beauty of Palomares Hills and the vital role firefighters play in protecting it. The left image depicts an evening sky, with a firefighter facing the valley under a streetlamp whose beams represent vigilance. A goat beside the firefighter symbolizes resilience, leadership, and connection to the land. Goats also contribute to fire protection by clearing vegetation. The right image transitions to daytime, featuring a red-tailed hawk soaring above a brightly colored valley. Its keen eyesight and awareness symbolizes broad perspective of guardianship over the community. Flowers from neighborhood gardens symbolize the Palomares community and the large red doors open to reveal the landscape, symbolizing the bond between Station 7 and the community it serves.

Original Artwork Will Be: Hand-painted

Final Fabrication Materials: Porcelain enamel on steel panels with high-quality printing

Artwork copyright David Burke

Fire Station 25 – Castro Valley, San Miguel Ave

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist Josh Powell



Fire Station 25 - Artwork Sites

- Art site is on each side of the low art wall/station identification sign. Each side has a unique image.
- Art area size approximately: 3'-4" H x 20' W. Panels are positioned in-plane (flush) with the wall surface.

Fire Station 25 – Castro Valley, San Miguel Ave

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist Josh Powell



Fire Station 25 - Artwork Sites

- Art site is on each side of the low art wall/station identification sign. Each side has a unique image.
- Art area size approximately: 3'-4" H x 20' W. Panels are positioned in-plane (flush) with the wall surface.

Fire Station 25 – Castro Valley, San Miguel Ave

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist Josh Powell



This artwork celebrates the ideas of community and service. One side will feature images of community including children, iconic local imagery, vintage signage, Lake Chabot, and historical maps evoking curiosity and nostalgia. The other side will feature images of firefighters working in different environments, a current district map, and Castro Valley's original fire station.

Original Artwork Will Be: Hand-painted

Final Fabrication Materials: Porcelain enamel on steel panels with high-quality printing

Artwork copyright Josh Powell

Fire Station 22 – San Lorenzo

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist David Burke



Fire Station 22 - Artwork Sites

- Site A is on each side of the low art wall/station identification sign. Site A approximately: 3'-4" H x 14' W.
- Site B approximately: 11' H x 8' W
- Panels are positioned in-plane (flush) with the wall surfaces.

Fire Station 22 – San Lorenzo

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist David Burke

This artwork honors the work of the fire service. The artwork for the low art wall represents preparedness and tradition and is grounded in the landscape with views to San Lorenzo, the creek and the hills. The antique fire truck in the background connects past and present, honoring the legacy of firefighting. The vertical artwork is inspired by community and imagination and shows the connection between firefighters and the community. A sycamore leaf is included in the foreground making the connection to San Lorenzo.

Original Artwork Will Be: Hand-painted

Final Fabrication Materials: Porcelain enamel on steel panels with high-quality printing



Fire Training Center

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist Lisa Levine



Fire Training Center - Artwork Site

Five free standing Art Elements. Approx. 9' H x 3.5' W including frame and art panel.

Art panel max. dimensions: 101" x 36". Each element may be a different size. Dimensions shown are the maximum size.

Arranged on a 27' x 5' concrete pad.

Fire Training Center

Recommended Artwork Proposal by Artist Lisa Levine



Proposed site placement plan.

Original Artwork Will Be: Digital composition with layered photography
Final Fabrication Materials: Porcelain enamel on steel panels with high-quality printing

This artwork is a tribute to the courage and commitment of firefighters. This artwork layers imagery of firefighters and equipment with subtle references to the Dublin landscape, grounding the work in its local context. From a distance, bold colors and striking forms create an exciting, comprehensive impression for those driving by. Up close viewers will discover the tapestry of intricate textures, symbols, and details that speak to the depth of the vocation for firefighting and how it intertwines with community life. The artwork honors readiness and bravery while reflecting the values of resilience, teamwork, and dedication to others.

