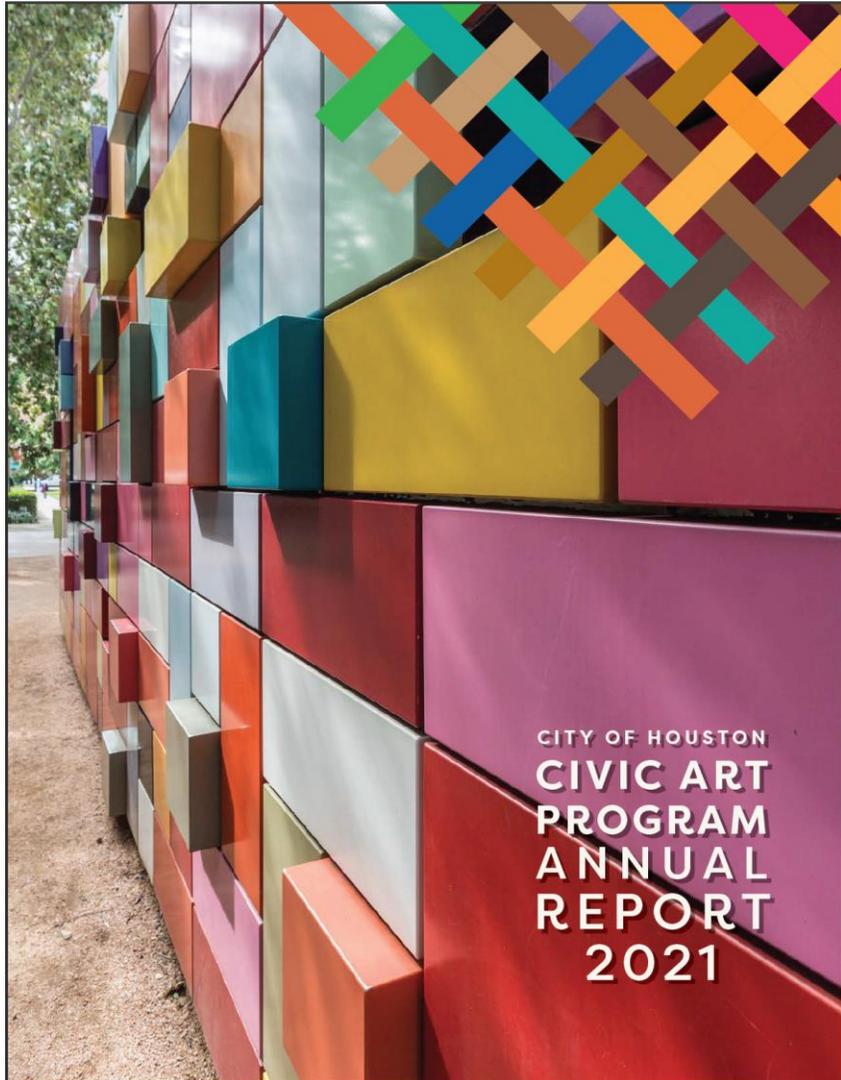


City of Houston

# Civic Art Program

**ACTIVITY REPORT | FISCAL YEAR 2021**

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## Civic Art Program

- Overview

## Civic Art Projects

- New Commissions
- Conservation + Collection Management
- Temporary Artworks

## Equity Review

- Collection by Council Districts
- Artist Survey
- Changes in Practice



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The City of Houston Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs (MOCA) develops policies and initiatives that foster an environment in which art and culture flourish for the sharing and benefit of all residents and visitors.

houstonmoca  
Houston, Texas



Liked by lanolalady and 34 others

houstonmoca It's exciting to see our great state shining through the artwork headed to Houston Airports! Check out "COTTONWOOD" – from Texas artist E. Dan Klepper.

houstonmoca  
Houston, Texas



0:03

BORN AND RAISED IN TEXAS, I AM A ROUGHNECK AT HEART, FINDING SOLACE AND INSPIRATION IN A RUGGED LANDSCAPE AND OUTDOOR ADVENTURES, CHARACTERISTICS THAT LED ME TO A LIFE IN THE BIG BEND. BUT I AM A TECHNOPHILE AS WELL, UTILIZING ANALOGUE AND DIGITAL MEANS TO CREATE MY WORK.

- E. DAN KLEPPER, ARTIST (MARATHON, TX)

FOLLOW: @EDANKLEPPER

WWW.HOUSTONTX.GOV/CULTURALAFFAIRS @HOUSTONMOCA



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“Sculpture has served for centuries  
as a way of humanizing  
urban spaces.”

LUIS JIMENEZ



# CIVIC ART PROGRAM

## Summary

### COLLECTION OVERVIEW:

- Includes 678 unique artworks
- Represents 387 individual artists
- Artworks created: 1866 - 2020

The City of Houston's Civic Art Program, managed by the Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs, as part of the City's capital asset investment program, produces and conserves permanent visual artworks for placement in public and civic spaces city-wide.

The City's Civic Art Ordinance appropriates 1.75 percent of design and construction costs on qualifying City Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects. The CIP is an annually updated five-year plan addressing the infrastructure needs of the City of Houston. Civic Art Projects are generated through the CIP by nearly every City department, typically as part of the construction of new facilities and major expansion. The Civic Art appropriation is an amount equal to 1.75 percent of the amount appropriated by City Council for an eligible project and only applies to capital projects where funds are appropriated by City Council.

Civic Art Projects include paintings, murals, prints, drawings, photographs, videos, films, decorations, stained glass, statues, sculptures, monuments, fountains, arches or other structures of permanent character located on City property. Civic Art funds may also be used to conserve or repair existing artworks in the City of Houston's Civic Art Collection, but funds cannot be used for routine cleaning and maintenance.

# ACTIVITY REPORT

Fiscal Year 2021

- Initiated **19** new projects, continued work on **22** ongoing projects from previous fiscal years = total of **36** active projects
- As of the end of FY21, **15** active projects were finished to completion and **21** are ongoing
- **6** ongoing projects for new artwork commissions (**5** initiated in FY20), **35** conservation projects across the City's Collection, as well as Collection Management services on **3** projects

PROJECT TYPE	STATUS	FY20	FY21
New Artwork Commissions / Acquisitions	Completed	0	2
	In-Progress	1	7
	Initiated	5	3
<b>Active Projects</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>
Conservation	Completed	23	10
	In-Progress	3	10
	Initiated	9	12
<b>Active Projects</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>
Collection Management	Completed	0	3
	In-Progress	1	5
	Initiated	2	4
<b>Active Projects</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>
Donations		0	0
<b>TOTAL PROJECTS ACTIVE IN FY21</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>36</b>

DEPARTMENT	FY20	FY21
GG	3	3
HAS	20	23
HFD	1	0
HHD	3	1
HPARD	2	1
HPD	5	3
HPL	5	2
PWE	4	2
SWMD	0	0
HHD / HPL / HPARD	1	2
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE PROJECTS</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>37</b>



# Funds In Service

DEPARTMENT	END OF FY20 BALANCE	NEW FUNDS	ACTIVITIES	YEAR END BALANCE	% PUT IN SERVICE
GEN GOV. (GG)	\$54,633.00	-	-\$38,604.18	\$16,028.82	71%
HOUSTON AIRPORTS (HAS)	\$2,181,351.00	\$3,072,372.00	-\$1,199,267.04	\$4,054,455.96	23%
HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD)	\$717,508.00	-	-	\$717,508.00	0%
HOUSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT (HHD)	\$165,266.00	\$534,008.00	-	\$699,274.00	0%
HOUSTON PARKS & REC. DEPT (HPARD)	\$302,122.00	\$49,704.00	-\$210,000.00	\$141,826.00	70%
HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD)	\$171,895.00	\$156,990.00	-	\$328,885.00	0%
HOUSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY (HPL)	\$332,173.00	\$68,539.00	-\$33,705.00	\$367,007.00	8%
HOUSTON PUBLIC WORKS (PWE)	\$48,405.00	-	-	\$48,405.00	0%
WATER & SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND	\$666,905.00	-	-\$100,000.00	\$666,905.00	15%
SOLID WASTE (SWMD)	-	\$173,398.00	-	\$173,398.00	0%
OTHER	\$440,853.00	\$154,613.00	-\$1,188.32	\$594,277.68	0%



# New Acquisition Projects

LOA #	LOA Date	INITIATED	PROJECT TYPE	DEPARTMENT	DISTRICT	PROJECT NAME	STATUS	AUTHORIZED FUNDS
LOA 12	5/10/16	FY16	New Artwork / Commissions	HPD	K	Southwest Police Station	Completed	\$289,000.00
LOA 002	9/5/19	FY20	New Artwork / Commissions	HPL	C	Barbara Jordan Commemoration Monument	Ongoing	\$282,500.00
LOA 003	11/21/19	FY20	New Artwork / Commissions	HPL/HHS/HPARD	F	Alief Community Center - Selection Process	Completed	\$270,000.00
LOA 007	12/17/19	FY20	New Artwork / Commissions	HHD	D	Sunnyside Multi-Service Center - Selection Process	Ongoing	\$158,800.00
LOA No. 20	4/20/20	FY20	New Artwork / Commissions	HAS	B + I	New Art Aquisitions (Commissions)	Ongoing	\$2,000,000.00
LOA No. 21R	5/18/20	FY20	New Artwork / Commissions	HAS	B + I	New Art Aquisitions - Portable Works	Ongoing	\$1,000,000.00
LOA 008	7/22/20	FY21	New Artwork / Commissions	HPL/HHD/HPARD	F	Alief Neighborhood Center - Design/Fabrication	Initiated / Ongoing	\$630,000.00
LOA 010	1/4/21	FY21	New Artwork / Commissions	PWE	C	Municipal Workers Memorial	Initiated / Ongoing	\$100,000.00
LOA 012	3/8/21	FY21	New Artwork / Commissions	HPL	C	Barbara Bush Literary Plaza	Initiated/ Ongoing	\$33,705.38

# Conservation Projects

LOA #	LOA Date	INITIATED	PROJECT TYPE	DEPARTMENT	DISTRICT	PROJECT NAME	STATUS	AUTHORIZED FUNDS
LOA 001	9/5/19	FY20	Conservation	GSD	C	"Urban Overgroth, Spring"	Completed	\$13,399.00
LOA No. 14	11/25/19	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B	"Edge of Sky"	Ongoing	\$76,532.50
LOA 006	12/17/19	FY20	Conservation	HPD	C	"Houston Police Officer's Memorial "	Ongoing	\$3,370.00
LOA 005	2/6/20	FY20	Conservation	PWE	I	"The Houston Oracle in Two Parts"	Completed	\$12,060.00
LOA NO. 15	3/17/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B	"Moonwalker (Cow)"	Completed	\$24,162.50
LOA No. 17	3/18/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B	"Light Spikes"	Ongoing	\$393,218.82
LOA No. 19	3/19/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B + I	"Sky Wall" and "Travel Light"	Completed	\$19,829.75
LOA No. 11R	3/20/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	I	"Black and White Longhorn"	Completed	\$7,602.75
LOA No. 23	8/21/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Take-Off" Lighting	Initiated / Completed	\$11,998.75
LOA 009	10/5/20	FY21	Conservation	HPD	C	"Houston Police Officer's Memorial" (Granite)	Initiated/ Completed	\$19,175.00
LOA No. 24	10/9/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Vector HH"	Initiated / Completed	\$10,468.00
LOA No. 25	10/20/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Illuminated Icon"	Initiated / Completed	\$2,486.25
LOA No. 26	12/18/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	"Radiant Fountains"	Initiated / Ongoing	\$1,130,086.29
LOA No. 27	12/18/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	TEOS Engineering, Storage	Initiated / Ongoing	\$27,097.75
LOA No. 29	3/25/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Travessia" Lighting	Initiated / Completed	\$12,543.75
LOA No. 31	4/20/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	"West of the Pecos" Lighting	Initiated / Ongoing	\$10,316.25
LOA No. 17R	4/28/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	Baker "Light Spikes" Conservation	Initiated / Ongoing	\$433,698.92
LOA 013	5/10/21	FY21	Conservation	HPARD	C	"Fonde Totems"	Initiated / Ongoing	\$5,827.50
LOA No. 32	6/21/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	"Beadwork" by Hirschfield	Initiated / Ongoing	\$55,035.25
LOA No. 33	6/22/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	"SkyWall" and "Travel Lights" Conservation	Initiated / Ongoing	\$57,410.25



# Collection Management Projects

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LOA #	LOA Date	INITIATED	PROJECT TYPE	DEPARTMENT	DISTRICT	PROJECT NAME	STATUS (End of FY)	AUTHORIZED FUNDS
LOA No. 9	11/25/19	FY20	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Collection Exhibition + Display	Completed	\$58,400.00
LOA 004	1/15/20	FY20	Collection Management	GG	Various	Civic Art Collection Management	Ongoing	\$19,140.00
LOA No. 18	3/18/20	FY20	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Framing 3 Artworks	Completed	\$13,966.25
LOA No. 22	5/5/20	FY20	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Collection Management + Other Services	Ongoing	\$28,380.00
LOA No. 28	1/7/21	FY21	Collection Management	HAS	I	New Plaques for 50 objects @ HOU	Initiated / Completed	\$9,558.75
LOA No. 30	4/20/21	FY21	Collection Management	HAS	B	Mickey Leland plaques	Initiated / Ongoing	\$9,839.15
LOA 011	5/10/21	FY21	Collection Management	GSD	Various	Collection Management - Additional	Initiated / Ongoing	\$39,792.50
LOA No. 34	6/23/21	FY21	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Exhibition & Display (2)	Initiated / Ongoing	\$77,000.00

# Permits for Temporary Art

In FY21 10 permits for temporary artworks were issued for limited-term placement on City property in 6 Council Districts (A, B, C, D, G, H); 4 of the permits were issued and/or renewed for *Insta11ations* – a special initiative of the MOCA executed in collaboration with local nonprofit Art League Houston. The temporary art initiative was launched to support the creative and professional development of 11 local artists and artists' teams. This public art initiative installed 1 site-specific work of public art in each Council District in Houston, 4 of which are on HPARD-managed property.



Project: *Geo'd*  
Artist: Marsha Dorsey-Outlaw  
Permitting Department: HPARD  
District: K  
Location: Townwood Community Center  
Current Status: Installed (until December 2021)  
Description: *Geo'd*, is a collaborative, large-scale mosaic installation signifying cultural vitality and addressing matters of propagation, renewal, and obsolescence.



Project: *Oakbrook Gateway*  
Artist: Sherry Owens and Art Shirer  
Permitting Department: HPARD  
District: A  
Location: Oakbrook Greenspace  
Current Status: Installed (until December 2021)  
Description: *Oakbrook Gateway* features a pair of vertical sculptures made of welded steel. The forms, abstractly depicting trees, are located opposite of each other on the walkway leading from the White Oak Bayou Greenway Trail.



Project: *Rethinking Your Neighborhood: A Collaborative Experience*  
Artist: Violette Bule  
Permitting Department: HPARD  
District: H  
Location: Irvington Park  
Current Status: Installed (until December 2021)  
Description: *Rethinking Your Neighborhood: A Collaborative Experience* is an invitation for visitors to engage in a collective experience of constructing a shared vision for their community. The interactive public art installation begins with the collection of information through interviews and surveys and continues with playful interactions involving the grid and sculptures and conversations around shared understanding and creative proposals. The vision of the project is to catalyze unified advocacy among community leaders and elected officials.

Second Annual

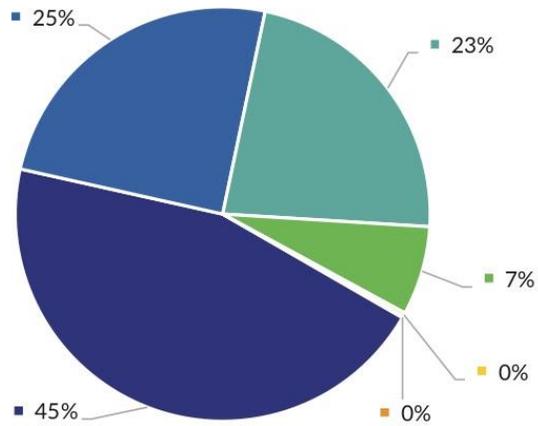
# Equity Review

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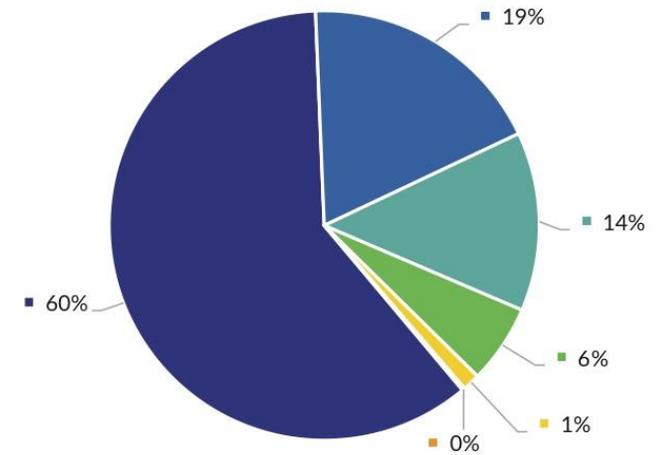
# DEMOGRAPHICS

## National / Local Comparison

City of Houston Population



United States Population



- Hispanic or Latino
- White / European
- Black or African American
- Asia
- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

- White / European
- Hispanic or Latino
- Black or African American alone
- Asian alone
- American Indian and Alaska Native alone
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

# POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

## National / Local Comparison

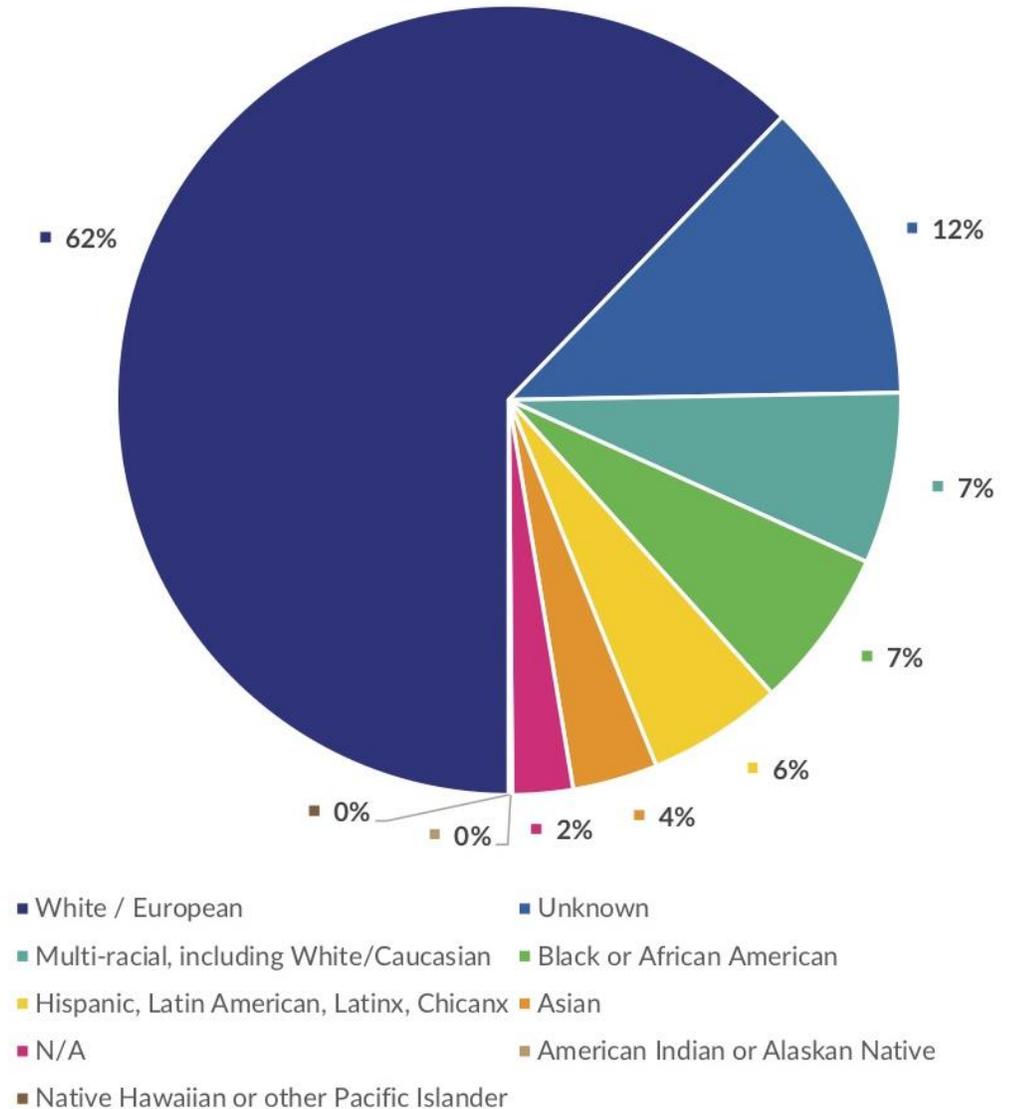
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY*</b>	<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>HOUSTON</b>
Black or African American alone	13.4%	22.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	1.3%	0.3%
Asian alone	5.9%	6.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.2%	0.1%
Hispanic or Latino	18.5%	44.8%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	60.1%	24.6%

# Artists Represented

by Race / Ethnicity

## TAKEAWAYS:

1. The majority of the City's collection represents White/European artists and grossly underrepresented Hispanic/Latino/Latin-American populations
2. The City's Civic Art Collection includes 0 works from American Indian, Alaskan Natives, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders



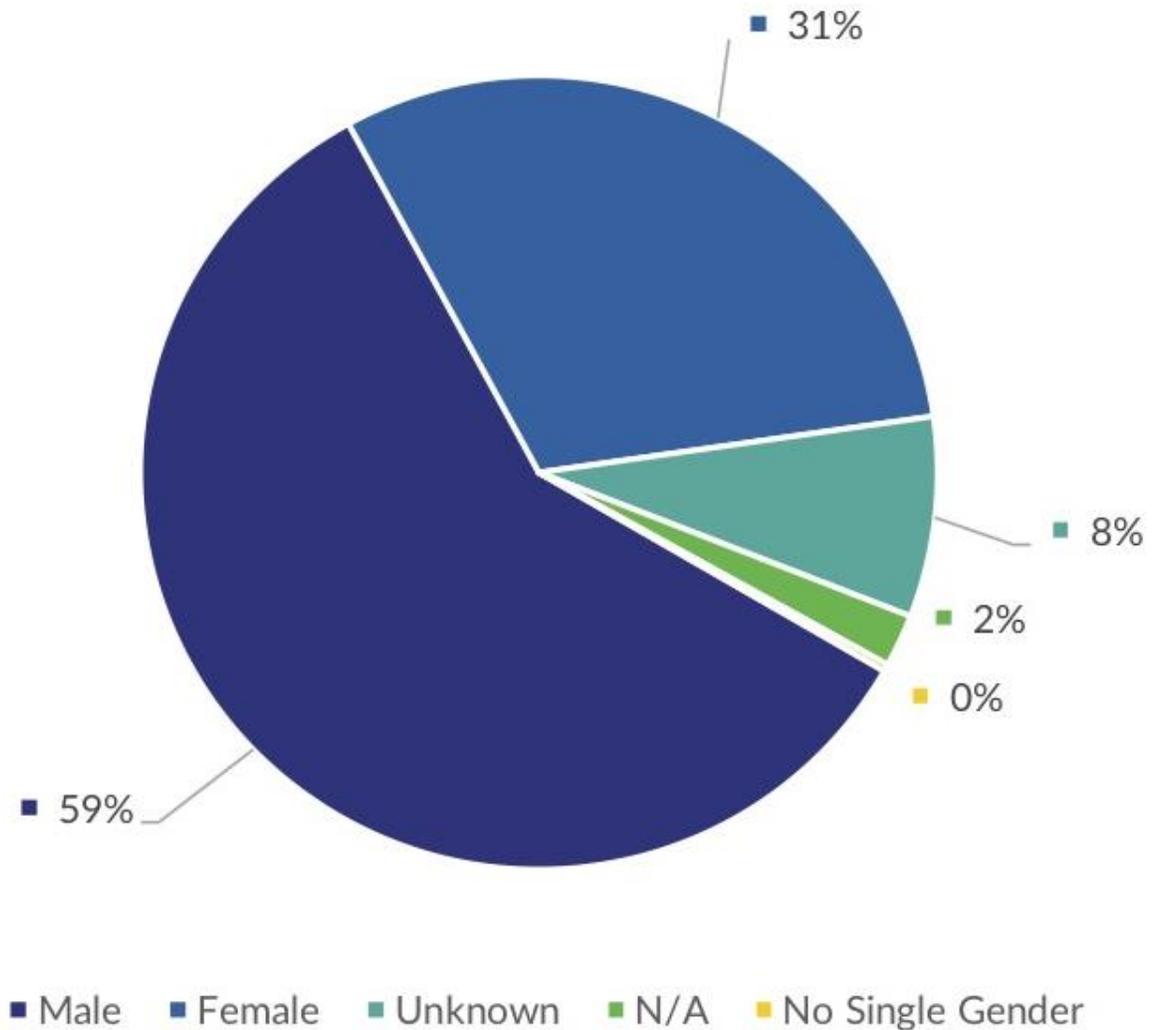
\*Percentage reflects representation out of 678 artworks.

# Artists Represented

by Gender

## TAKEAWAYS:

1. Most of the City's collection represents males (59%) with females at 31%, and artists' unknown genders at 8%.
2. We did not find any explicitly non-gender conforming artists in our research



\*Percentage reflects representation out of 678 artworks.

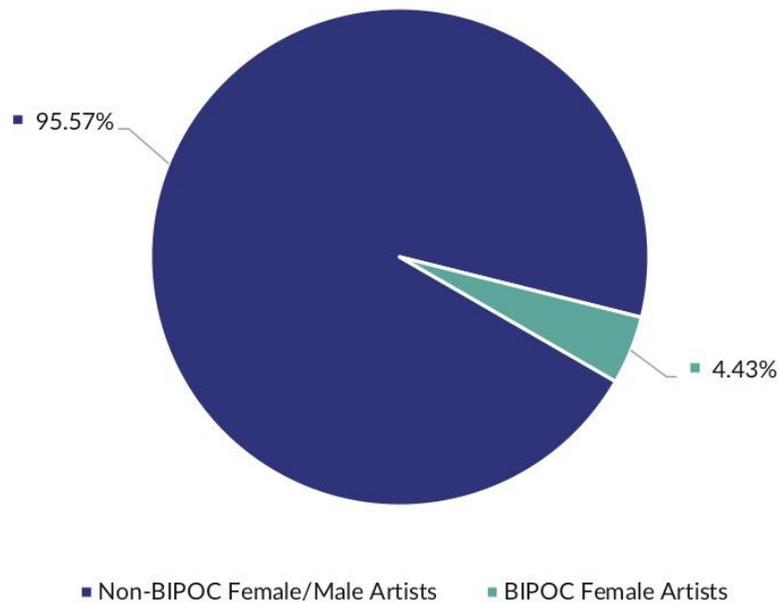
# Artists Represented

## BIPOC, Females

### TAKEAWAYS:

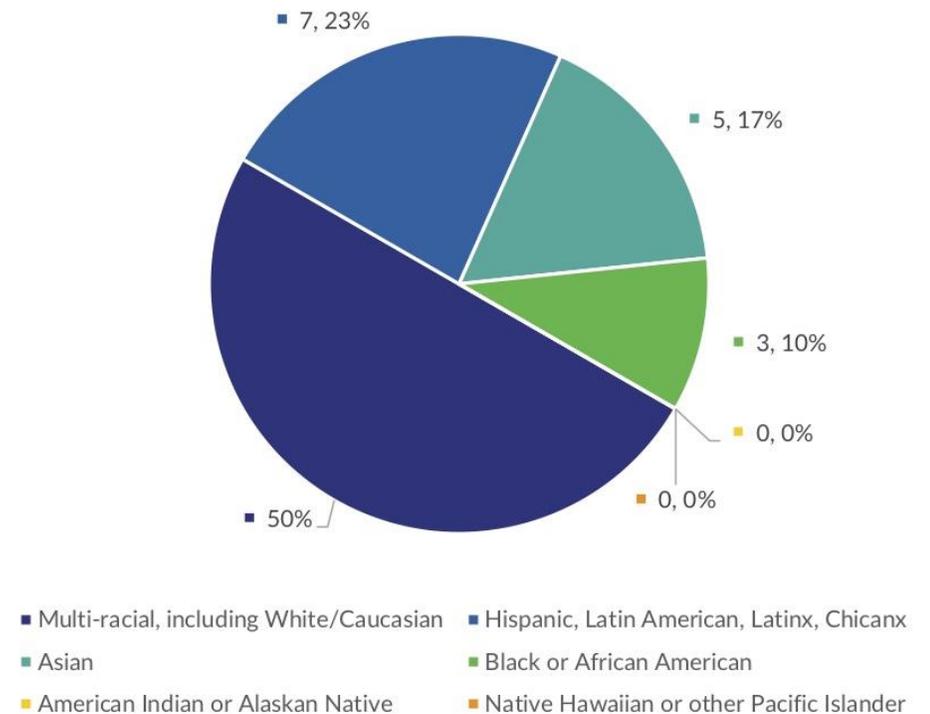
1. Out of 678 objects in the city collection, only 17 reflect the work of BIPOC women, which is a total of 4.43% of the collection
2. Of the works by BIPOC female artists in the Collection, 7 are Hispanic/Latino, 5 are from Asian artists, 3 are from Black or African American Artists, and 0 are from American Indian, Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander groups

#### BIPOC Female Artists Collection-Wide



\* Percentage reflects representation out of 678 artworks.

#### BIPOC Female Artists Ethnicities Collection-Wide



# Artists Represented

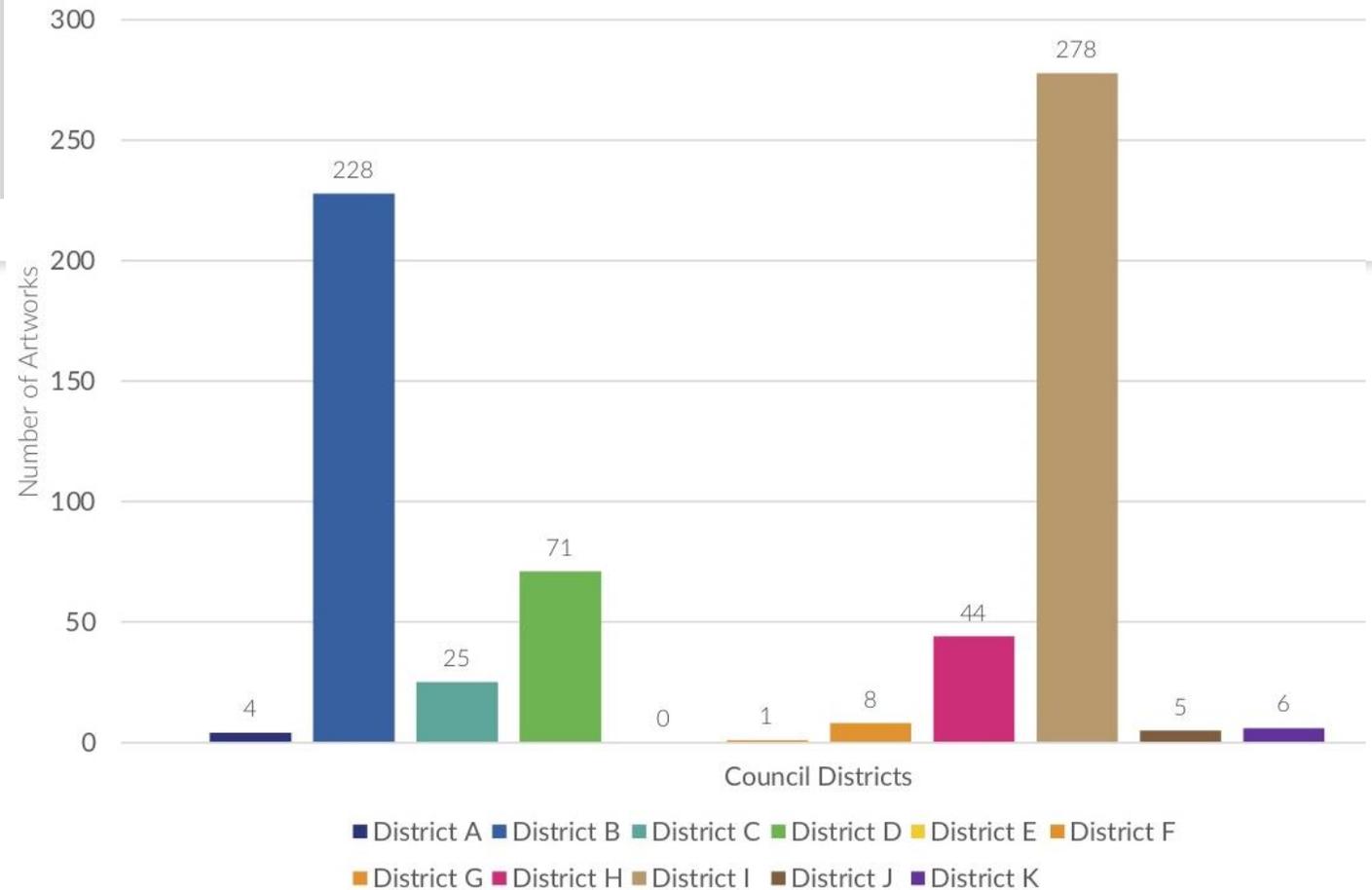
by Race / Ethnicity  
per Council District

## TAKEAWAYS:

1. The overwhelming majority of the City's collection is hosted in Districts B and I, with 228 and 278 artworks respectively
2. District E hosts 0 artworks from the Civic Art Collection, while District F hosts only 1

## RECOMMENDATION:

- Sponsorship of temporary installations in districts is a key avenue for introducing new artwork to neighborhoods

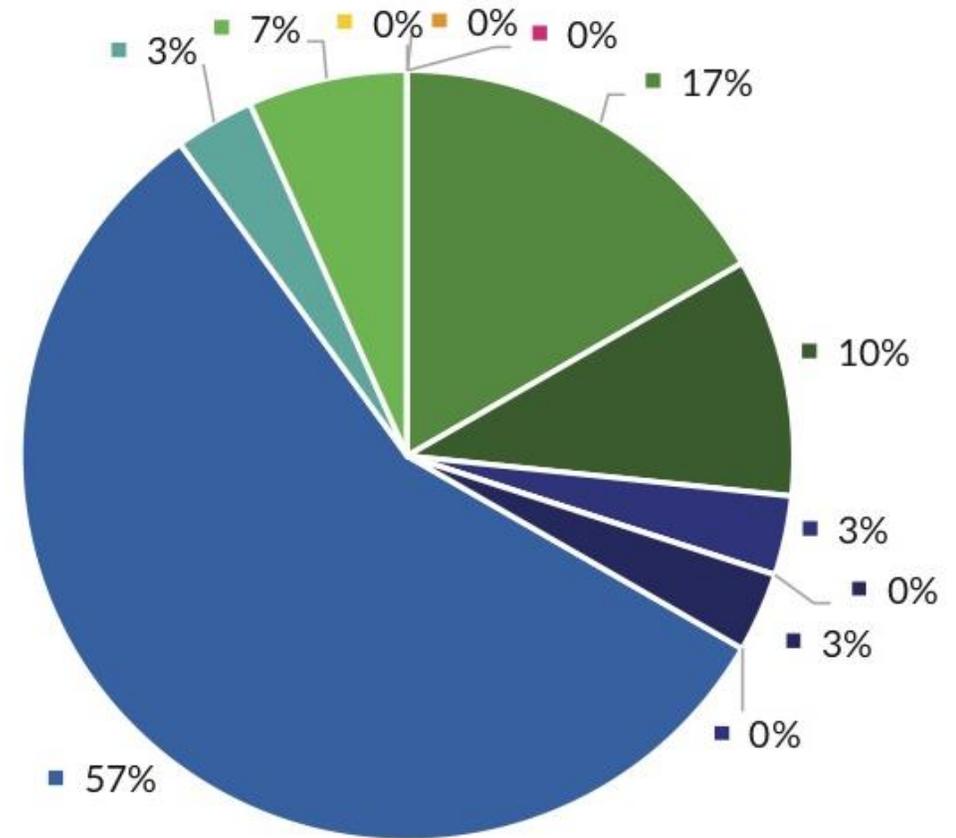


# Artists Represented

BIPOC, Female artists  
per Council District

## TAKEAWAYS:

1. More than half of all artworks created by BIPOC female artists within the Civic Art Collection reside in District B
2. There are five districts which host 0 works from BIPOC female artists across Houston: Districts A, E, F, G, K



- District A
- District B
- District C
- District D
- District E
- District F
- District G
- District H
- District I
- District J
- District K
- Unassigned

\*Percentage reflects representation out of 678 artworks.

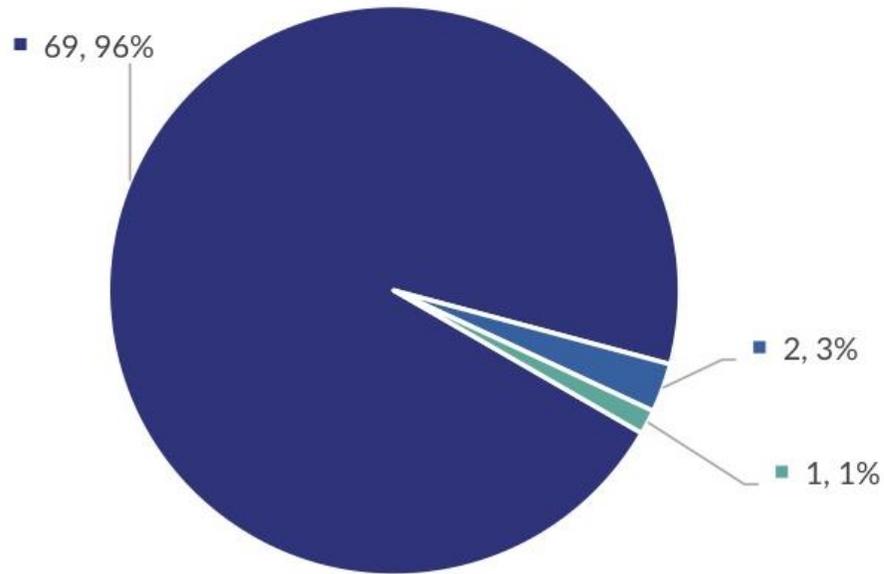
# Artists Survey

## Racial/Ethnic Representation

### TAKEAWAYS:

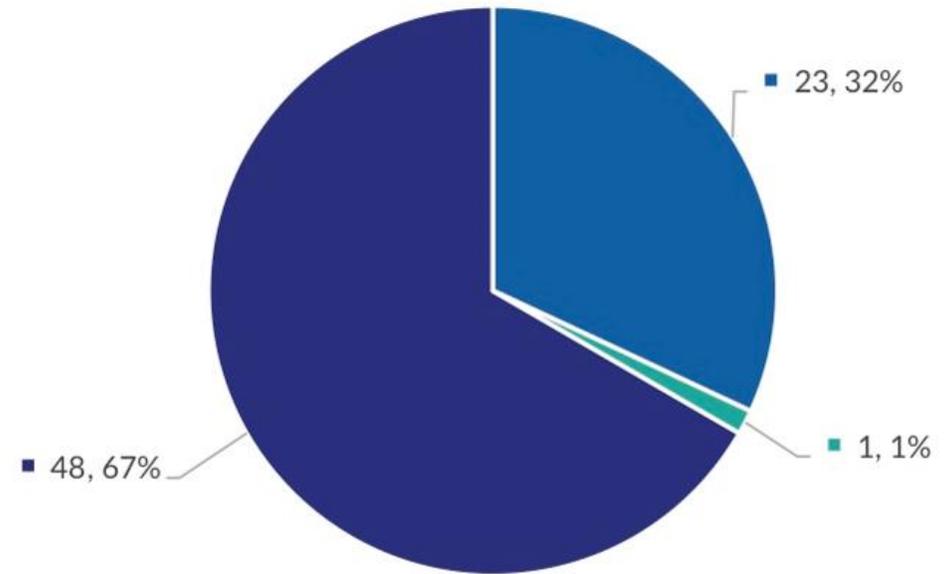
1. Direct comparison to U.S. Census is no longer possible due to different demographic categories but revised categories captured additional findings and more nuanced data for survey respondents
2. For example, the 2020 data indicated that, of the 72 survey respondents, 95.83% were White (alone), whereas 2021 findings of the same respondents reveal that 31.95% of identified as White (alone) and 66.67% identified as Multi-racial

### Artist Ethnicities (Anecdotal)



■ White ■ Other ■ Unknown

### Artist Ethnicities (Self-Identified)



■ Multi-racial, including White/Caucasian ■ White ■ Prefer not to answer

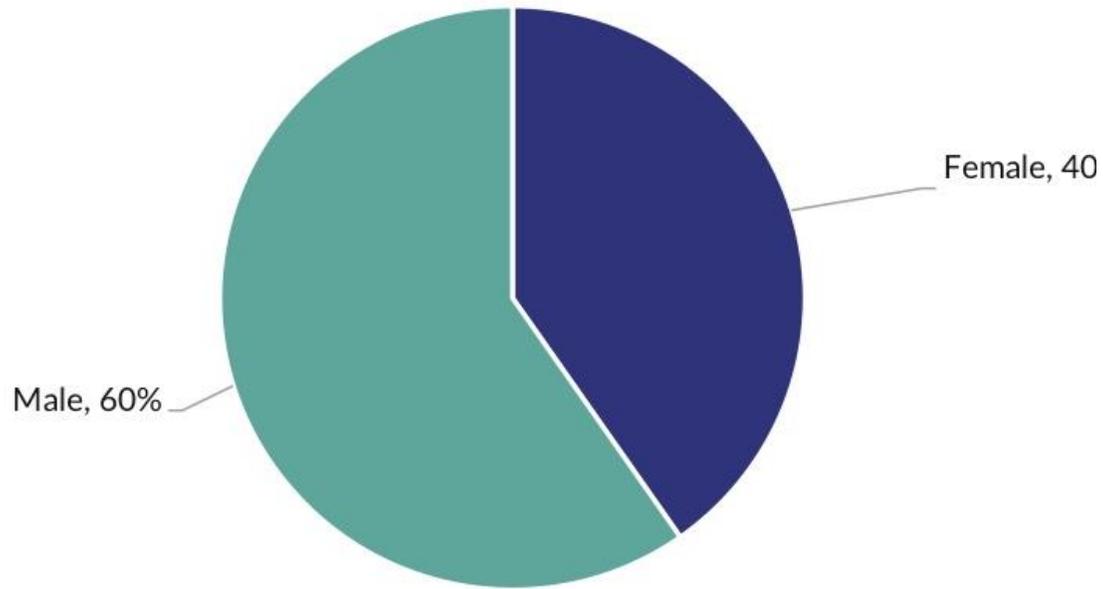
# Artists Survey

## Gender Representation

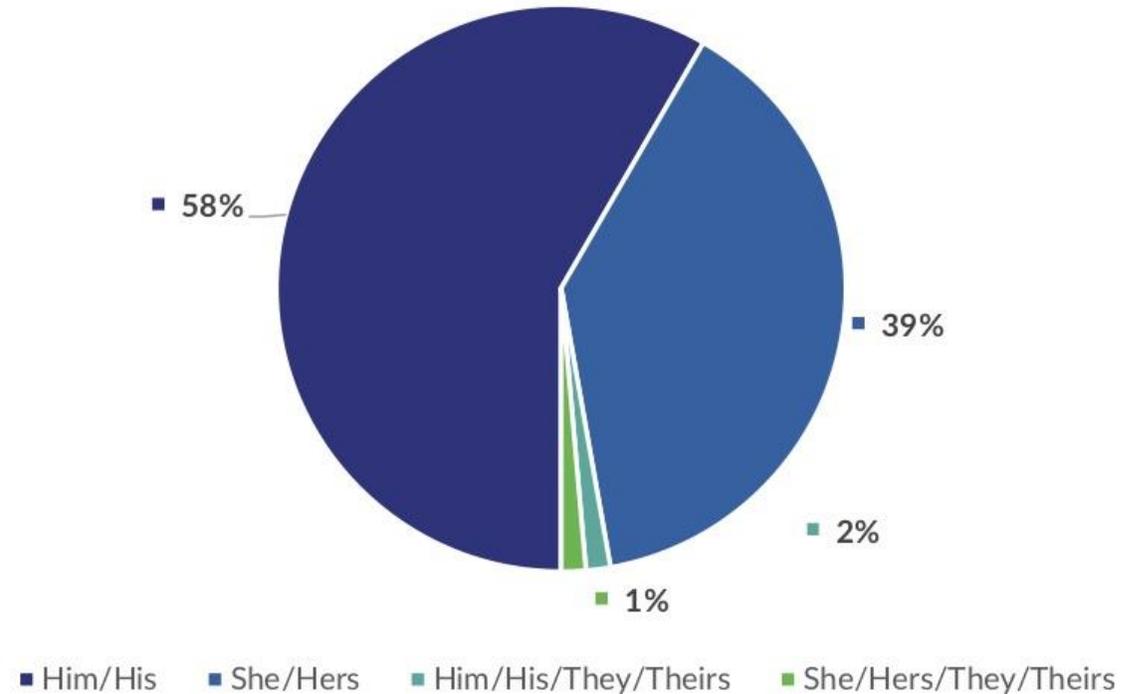
### TAKEAWAYS:

1. The survey's utilization of more updated and specific race/ethnicity and gender categories produced more precise information about contributing artists
2. The survey supplemented binary and outdated male and female-only categories with answer options for respondents who do not identify with one single gender

### Artist Genders (Anecdotal)



### Artist Genders (Self-Identified)



# CHANGES IN PRACTICE

## Immediate and Long-Term Commitments

### IMMEDIATE

- Track applicant demographics via voluntary questions on applications
- Update our panelist selection process
- Update our panelist orientation process and the information shared
- Expanded communication/promotion for artist opportunities
- Review and revise eligibility
- Reassess the size of awards/budgets
- Accommodate more ephemeral mediums
- Increase public input in informing project goals  
+ community needs/desires

### LONG -TERM

- Engage HAA's Civic Art Committee to replicate aspects of the grants program transformation within its Civic Art division
- Develop pathways for underrepresented artists to gain access to Civic Art opportunities
- Diversifying selection processes for acquisitions
- Add demographic data statistics to the Annual Civic Art Report to Mayor and Council and report status annually
- Create an inclusive environment to increase engagement
- Public meetings and extensive online tools offered In more than one language

# ACTION IN PRACTICE

## First Action – Track Applicant Demographics

### **ACTION**

- For our most recent artist opportunities HAA added voluntary response demographic questions to application and project closeout documents

### **RESULT**

- A report was developed which tracked outreach and promotional efforts around current artist opportunities
- Allows us to know who we are/not engaging and which communities we are/not addressing
- Informs the potential for our panelist selection process to result in the acquisition of artworks from diverse backgrounds early in the selection process
- Provides more nuanced demographic data for managing the Civic Art Collection

# ACTION IN PRACTICE

## Second Action – Careful Panelist Selection + Process

### ACTION

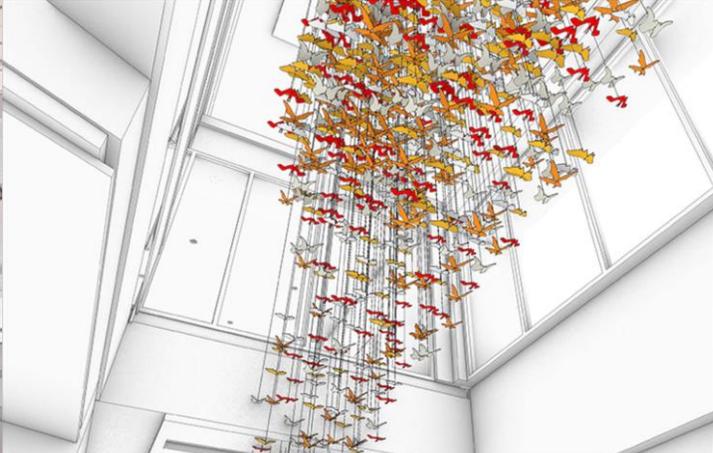
- Update/adjust our panelist selection process:
  - Uplifting community representation and relevance
  - Engage panelists who, in their own work, demonstrate equity as a priority value
  - Demonstrate core COH values as outlined in the City's Arts and Cultural Plan (2016): Equity, transparency, and accessibility through panelist orientations
  - including community representatives on every selection panel in consultation with Council Members

### RESULT

- Defer department input until after input from arts experts/professionals is gathered; weight concepts and community representation instead of investment/maintenance
- Informs the potential for our panelist selection process to result in the acquisition of artworks from diverse backgrounds
- Ensures community needs, desires, and character are considered in the selection of concepts to recommend for commission

# ACTION IN PRACTICE

Results of Program Adjustments – Alief Neighborhood Center



# CHANGES IN PRACTICE

## Immediate and Long-Term Commitments

### IMMEDIATE

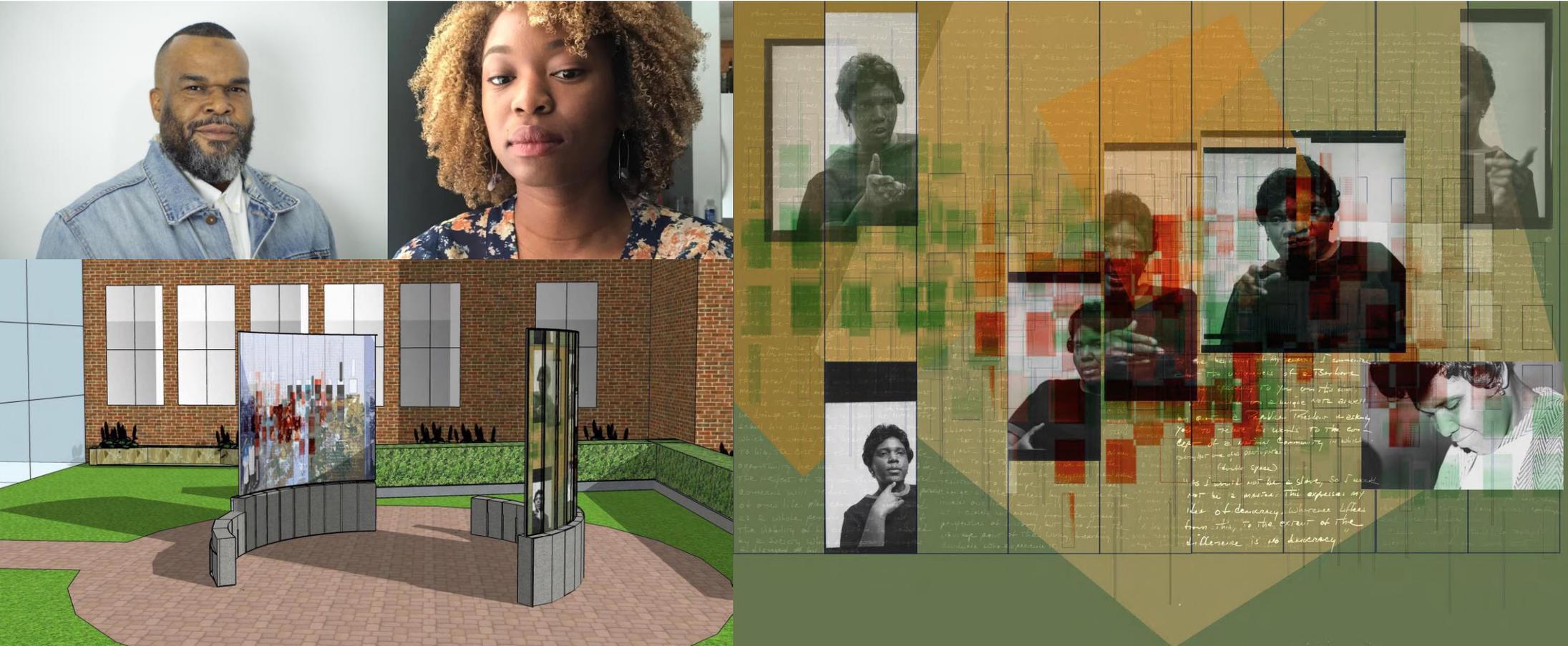
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# Houston-Centric Efforts

Latest Announcement – Honoring Barbara Jordan



## References & Links

### Contact:

Theresa Escobedo, Civic Art Program Manager

Houston Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs

Email: [Theresa.escobedo@houstontx.gov](mailto:Theresa.escobedo@houstontx.gov)

### Links:

[FY21 Annual Report + Equity Review](#)

[FY20 Annual Report + Equity Review](#)