

Frequently Asked Questions

Does the Arts Council pay to have the sculptures shipped to and from the city?

No. The Arts Council pays a \$850.00 stipend to the artist at the time of installation, which is intended to cover the cost of getting the sculpture to Lake Oswego, installing it and removing it after its rotation.

Does the Arts Council help with any portion of the installation?

Yes. The Arts Council installs concrete plinths and, if needed, arranges to have a crane available at the scheduled time of an installation. Tools and additional people to assist with the installation are the responsibility of the artist. The Council's structural engineer will specify anchor bolts to be used (Arts Council will provide anchors). Engineering considerations include seismic activity, wind load, ADA guidelines and tampering in determining concrete pad configuration and anchoring.

Is the artwork insured by the Arts Council?

Once the piece is completely installed and for the duration of the time it remains on display, the city insures the sculpture. Up until the sculpture is installed and when it is removed, it is the responsibility of the artist to insure the work.

Have any sculptures in the rotating collection ever been damaged?

Yes. In one case one piece of a ceramic work consisting of 3 separate pieces was loosened from its base and there were some chips in the finish as a result of the loosened piece knocking against one of the other pieces. Another time a welded part of a sculpture was removed. There have been a few other incidents over the years since the Gallery began. Resolution of the problem is different each time depending on insurance, the artist's wishes and those of the Arts Council. In one case, the artist chose to get the sculpture, make repairs that were reimbursed by the Arts Council, and offered another of their works for display. Another case resulted in the purchase and repair of the piece by the Arts Council.

Have there been any sales of works in the rotating collection?

Over the past ten years, twenty-two sculptures have become part of the city's permanent art collection or sold to parties other than the city. Eight of those in the city's collection have been through the People's Choice Award. Artists have reported that they've received important commissions as a result of being in the GWW exhibit. The People's Choice cash award has been \$15,000 in recent years.

What considerations are put into placement of the sculptures?

We strive to place each piece in an appropriate place for the safety of the public and the work itself, and to prevent the potential for damage in addition to showing the piece in its best setting. Sculpture locations to date have been along city streets, in parks and on business properties, mainly in the downtown area.

How are the sculptures maintained during their 2-year rotation?

The Arts Council asks each artist for instructions on maintenance for the duration of the sculpture's stay in Lake Oswego. Volunteers use that information to the for upkeep. Also, in 2009 Rotary Club teamed up with the Arts Council for a "Spring Cleaning" before the summer sculpture tour season, using artist's provided instructions. This program continues today.

What is the process for selecting artwork for Gallery Without Walls?

A Sculpture Selection Committee meets and reviews all proposals. During review, an artist's body of work is considered along with the submitted proposal(s). Issues on quality, materials, suitability as public art and subject matter are considered. Exhibit diversity is a goal. Votes are cast and tallied. Based on the tallies, 15 artists are asked to participate.

What are installation requirements?

The Arts Council contracts with a structural engineer to review all selected sculptures for the purpose of defining specifications for plinths and anchoring methods to achieve a safe and durable installation. The Arts Council is required to adhere to these specifications. The Arts Council provides the plinths and the recommended anchors at installation time and works with the artist prior to installation to assure that the sculpture is properly installed.