



# Staff Report City of Richmond, Virginia Public Art Commission



Write legislation/ordinance number here.	Meeting Date: 7/18/2022
Applicant/Petitioner	Public Art Commission
Project Description	<p>Richmond’s Public Art Commission is commissioning a permanent, site-integrated public art installation for a new building that will replace Fire Station #12, the city’s oldest operating station originally built for a horse-and-buggy fire crew in the early 20th century. Project funding is \$150,000.</p> <p>Interested applicants were asked to focus on the building’s exterior including the tower, which can accommodate artwork within both of its two-story openings.</p> <p>Artists were encouraged to consider the following design objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing an iconic image or structure resulting in a signature piece for the neighborhood.</li> <li>• Considering all mediums, including lighting and digital media.</li> <li>• Highlighting the importance of the site as a community facility.</li> <li>• Commemorating the long history of the site as the City’s oldest fire station (1908).</li> <li>• Complementing the architects’ biophilic priorities decoratively.</li> </ul> <p>Thirty-nine artists from around the country responded to the RFQ. Six applicants were invited to submit a full proposal and the Artist Selection Panel made its final selection: A Gang of Three + 1 consisting of Lincoln Hancock, Will Belcher and William Dodge of North Carolina and Sylvio Lynch from Richmond, VA.</p>
2223 W Cary St, Richmond, VA 23220	
City-wide	
City-wide	
Council District(s): <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> City-Wide	
(Recommending body) Recommendation	Approval, with Conditions

Staff Contact	Susan Glasser, Secretary, Public Art Commission, 804.644.7319, susan.glasser@richmondgov.com
Conditions for Approval	<p>A Gang of Three +1 shall be responsible for meeting all terms of the City contract including all necessary permits.</p> <p>The design team will work closely with the architect to ensure final material selection and installation requirements met the structural requirements of the building.</p> <p>Following a community engagement process, final design modifications must be reviewed and approved by the Architect, the Deputy Chief of the Fire Department, the PDR Director, Land Use Administration Principle Planner, and the Public Art Commission Secretary.</p>

## ARTISTS' QUALIFICATIONS

Lincoln Hancock is an artist and designer based in Raleigh, NC. Through painting, installation, public and community-oriented projects, his work leverages strategies and approaches from art and design to explore notions of site and site-specificity that bridge into the historical, social, and cultural realms. His solo and collaborative projects have been seen in traditional and nontraditional venues including the NC Museum of Art, the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, and CAM Raleigh. He is currently in his third term as a member of the City of Raleigh's Public Art and Design Board.

William Dodge's background is deeply rooted within his North Carolina upbringing and the many facets of the art, design and construction industries in which he has worked. An award-winning designer and researcher, William has a propensity for innovation and a seemingly inexhaustible enthusiasm for intriguing possibilities which often manifest themselves in unexpected but insightful ways.

Will Belcher is a nationally recognized and award-winning landscape architect, artist and placemaker. Over the course of his career, he has led the design and construction of award-winning urban parks, civic art installations, corporate headquarters, academic landscapes, and mixed-use projects throughout North America and around the world. His work in the design of inventive, ecologically intelligent and socially purposeful landscapes has garnered both international recognition and publication.

And Sylvio Lynch III is an artist and public history professional based in Richmond, VA. On cultural and scholarly projects, he has collaborated with the American Civil War Museum, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and the John Marshall Center for Constitutional History and Civics. His artwork and illustrations have been shown throughout the Southeast, including a solo exhibition at Reynolds Gallery in Richmond.

## CORRELATION TO THE PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN

The PA Master Plan states: Distribute Public Art Equitably (p. 55)

... To engender interest and enthusiasm about public art in the city, the program must be active in neighborhoods outside of the downtown core to engage more citizens. Smaller-scale projects created by artists that interact with neighborhood residents can contribute to the texture and identity of an area and help provide a sense of community by adding landmarks, touchstones, and a unique character.

Funding for Local Artists and Projects: (p.58)

This plan strongly recommends that the Public Art Program use a portion of its annual funding to support high quality public art projects by local artists.

### Priority Sites & Projects (p. 89)

#### Infrastructure Sites

Bridges, civic buildings, water and wastewater facilities, public transportation, and recycling centers — anything the City of Richmond is responsible for designing and building — present opportunities to integrate art into the public realm.

## CORRELATION TO RICHMOND 300 MASTER PLAN

### Goal 4: Urban Design (p. 99)

Public art is critical to showcase a place's uniqueness, culture, and history. . . . Future public art projects and improved streetscapes in all parts of the city set the tone for high-quality development and create pride for residents as they look forward to the future prosperity of their neighborhood and their personal household.

### Objective 4.2 (p. 102)

Integrate public art into the built environment to acknowledge Richmond's unique history and neighborhood identity, and engage the creative community, focusing public art efforts in areas that do not have public art today.

## ATTACHMENT(S)

A Gang of Three +1 design proposal