



OKLAHOMA Arts



Project: Ardmore Municipal Airport Mural

Deadline: June 19, 2026

Overview and Project Description

Oklahoma artists and artist teams are invited to submit qualifications for the design and installation of artwork for an Oklahoma public art project at the Ardmore Municipal Airport. The Oklahoma Arts Council, in partnership with Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell and the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, is seeking an artist or artist team to create a mural in the airport located at 620 General Street, Ardmore, Oklahoma. The location for the public art will be on an interior wall of the airport in a publicly accessible area. The vision for this project is for a signature artwork to welcome visitors arriving to a state offering exceptional opportunities to work, live, and thrive.

The selected artist or artist team will paint their mural directly on the wall. The design must cover a minimum of 300 square feet of a wall measuring 576 square feet. The mural is expected to remain in place until October 2027, with possible extension through October 2029. We encourage applications from artists who work with colorful imagery and whose work demonstrates a unified vision or aesthetic.

Theme and Intent

This mural will include an artistic interpretation of the Official Brand of the State of Oklahoma. The mural must include the phrase "Welcome to Oklahoma" but cannot include any calls to action to visit specific destinations. Requests to include any other text must be submitted for approval. Iconic, non-commercial Oklahoma locations can be illustrated in the work. The goal of the mural is to drive tourism and commerce to the state while fostering enthusiasm and pride from current residents.

The selected mural will be a vibrant and visually powerful work of distinguished quality and enduring value, greeting passengers arriving to the state, whether they are tourists or residents. The art will highlight the Official Brand of the State of Oklahoma, connecting and assisting in developing a recognizable identity for the State of Oklahoma. This mural will be original art appropriate for interior wall installation and able to stand up to the condition of heavy pedestrian traffic. The art will enhance the interior with a distinctive aesthetic experience both highly visible and welcoming to visitors.

Project Funds

The artist or artist team will receive \$6,000 to create the mural. Artists will be responsible for design, fabrication, delivery, and installation of the artwork within the given budget, using appropriate paints for the surface and painting a protective sealant on top of the mural. All costs associated with the public art project are covered by this budget, and no additional funds will be available.

Application Requirements

[Artists must complete the application form](#) and provide support materials including a letter of interest, resume/CV, five images of past artwork, and image details. Please be sure to allow adequate time to submit your application as technical difficulties can occur. Applications that are mailed, emailed, or hand-delivered will not be considered. Applications will not be accepted after the June 19, 11:59 p.m. (CDT) deadline.

Application materials include:

- Statement of Interest
 - A statement of interest will include a brief summary of artistic focus and professional career, especially as your background relates to this project.
 - Statements cannot exceed one page.
- Resume
 - If applying as a team, please include the team/studio resume. If a team/studio resume is not available, please combine the individual resumes of each team member into one document.
- Five images of relevant previous work
 - Files can be up to 2MB. Images should be at least 72 dpi.
 - Please number images 1-5, etc. In the filename using this system, #lastname,firstname.jpg
- Image descriptions
 - Please include title, medium, dimensions, and year for each artwork. You may also include a brief statement about each work (two sentence maximum).
 - Number your descriptions, corresponding to the file names.

Selection Process

RFQ applications will be reviewed and scored by the Oklahoma Arts Council public art program staff to identify the short list of qualified artists to be considered for the project based on the following criteria.

- Artistic excellence as evidenced by representations of past work and other supporting materials.
- Appropriateness of artwork to the goals of the project, as evidenced by representations of past work and other supporting materials.
- Professional experience is adequate to meet the demands of the project.
- Availability to participate in the design, approval, and implementation of the project as required.

Three finalists will be invited to develop mural proposals after attending a mandatory in-person orientation session. Each finalist will be paid an honorarium of \$500 for the development and presentation of a design proposal. The artist selection will be approved by the Oklahoma Arts Council. Once the selected artist's final design is approved by the Airport Director and the Oklahoma Arts Council, any changes thereto must be approved in writing by both parties prior to installation of the artwork. The Oklahoma Arts Council reserves the right to withhold the award of a commission and re-release the call for entries as needed.

Timeline*

Application opens | May 2026

Application deadline | June 19, 2026

Notification of selected finalists | July 6, 2026

Mandatory in-person finalist orientation session in Ardmore | July 14, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

Finalist proposal deadline | August 14, 2026

Notification of selected artist | Late August 2026

Installation of artwork | September 2026

**Timeline above is subject to change. Artists will be notified of any changes in advance.*

Once selected, the artist or artist team will work with Cara Alizadeh-Fard, Public Art Manager, to coordinate an installation schedule.

Questions/Follow up

Please direct questions or requests for additional information to Cara Alizadeh-Fard, Public Art Manager, at cara.alizadeh-fard@arts.ok.gov or (405) 317-3297.

