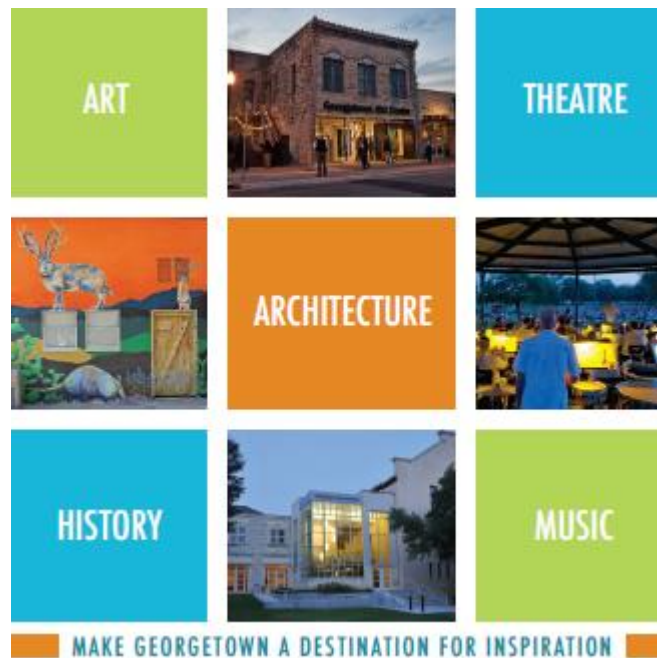




## Call to Artists: Request for Qualifications



The Arts and Culture Board for the City of Georgetown, TX is accepting qualifications from artists for the commission of a recycled street sign sculpture in the Texas Cultural District encompassing downtown Georgetown. The Board is seeking artists with demonstrated experience in repurposing used materials – including de-commissioned street signs and traffic signs– into sculptural works of art.

### **Application Deadline: April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**ELIGIBILITY:** This opportunity is open to all professional artists over the age of 18.

**BUDGET:** Up to three finalists will be selected by the Georgetown Arts and Culture Board to develop concept proposals for this project. The total project budget for the selected commission is \$7,500. Each finalist will be paid a \$500 stipend for his/her proposal. The

selected artist will be paid \$6,000 for the commissioned work. Artist will be responsible for their own travel costs, housing, fabrication equipment, and personal liability insurance.

**INSTALLATION DATE:** Installation will take place by September 15, 2020.

**APPLY:** Applications will be submitted through Submittable.com; no application fee required: <https://artsgeorgetown.submittable.com/Submit>

**SELECTION:** The artists selected by the Georgetown Arts and Culture Board to present a design proposal will be notified by **April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Questions:** Contact Amanda Still at 512-930-8471 or [Amanda.still@georgetown.org](mailto:Amanda.still@georgetown.org)

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**ABOUT THE DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN CULTURAL DISTRICT:** The Georgetown Arts and Culture Board maintains the Texas Commission on the Arts Cultural District designation and implements the Georgetown Arts and Culture Program. The Georgetown Arts and Culture Program enhances quality of life for the residents and visitors of Georgetown by promoting community engagement, cultural participation, and cultural tourism through public art programming and arts and culture collaborations. This program will help the Board fulfill the vision of becoming a nationally recognized arts destination by 2030.



The City of Georgetown is in the process of relocating City buildings and offices off the retail district of the historic Georgetown Square to a central location near the Georgetown Public Library. As part of the development of the new civic spaces, there are plans to connect Georgetown City Hall, the Municipal Court, the Historic Light and Waterworks Building, and the Georgetown Public Library with a community green space for public art, cultural programming, and a supplemental festival space for the historic Georgetown Square. Part of this development plan includes a new parking lot near the library that will include a new bus stop, farmer's market stand, a pad for a public art sculpture, and possible mural location. Because the City of Georgetown is dedicated to preserving the cultural heritage of the local community while embracing the innovation and opportunity that comes with community development and urban renewal, the repurposing of the old street signs into a public art sculpture is a great way to commemorate the past and embrace the opportunities of the future.

### ABOUT THE SITE:

Pictured below is the conceptual plan for the development of the community green space for public art and festival/cultural programming. The 10' x 10' sculpture pad where the commissioned street sign piece will be installed is located in the northeast corner of the plan directly above the northeast corner of the farmer's market canopy.







Pictured at left is a detail of the new parking lot across the street from the library. The 10' x 10' sculpture pad is indicated with a red square at the southeast corner of the parking lot.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** How do we honor our past and embrace the opportunity that comes with innovation? Can we recycle and reuse old materials and ideas and mold them into something that both commemorates the old use and directs us forward? The new historic district street signs that replaced the old were beautifully designed to pay tribute to the architectural heritage of the Georgetown community. The architectural design detail on the new signs was created by Georgetown artist Nick Ramos and was inspired by the large number of Mesker Brothers storefronts in the downtown area. As

the “Red Poppy Capitol of Texas”, the new signs are a “red poppy red” color and feature a flower as part of the architectural design. But what to do with the old street signs? Many of these de-commissioned street signs were sold to residents interested in preserving a little bit of history. The Georgetown Arts and Culture Board would like to use the remaining de-commissioned street signs to create a piece of sculptural public art that embodies the theme of recycling and reusing elements from our past to direct us forward into a better future. *(Pictured at right – new historic district street signs)*



The Georgetown Arts and Culture Board will commission a professional artist to design and fabricate a sculpture using the de-commissioned street signs. The inventory of street signs includes (6) blue metal street signs size 6" x 18-24", (15) brown metal street signs size 6" x 36", (5) green plywood street signs size 10" x 48", (5) green plywood street signs size 18" x 60"-72", and various metal traffic signs. Additional traffic signs and other recyclable material from the City of Georgetown's Environmental Services Department is available for artists to use as material for the artwork. Once selected as a finalist, (3) artists will make appointments with the Georgetown Arts and Culture Coordinator to view the site and inventory/inspect the materials to be used in order to create their final design proposal.

Pictured below are examples of street and traffic signs to be used as materials for the sculpture.



**SELECTION CRITERIA:** The (3) finalists will be selected by the Georgetown Arts and Culture Board based on the following criteria:

- Artistic ability as demonstrated in examples of work submitted
- Evidence of experience creating durable and sustainable outdoor sculpture with repurposed/recycled materials
- Experience with public art projects
- Willingness and ability to meet contractual guidelines and deadlines

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:** The following will be submitted online through Submittable at <https://artsgeorgetown.submittable.com/Submit>:

- Artist Statement
- (10) digital images of previous artwork
- Resume
- (3) references
- (1) page preliminary concept/sketch for this project; video concepts are acceptable

**ANTICIPATED TIMELINE:**

- Call to Artists/Request for Qualifications – March 15 – April 15
- Up to (3) Artists selected by board and notified by April 24
- Artist appointments to inspect site and materials; final artist design proposals due by June 5
- Final design proposal selected by board and notified by June 19
- Sculpture installation to be completed by September 15