



For Immediate Release
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PIANOS ABOUT TOWN PROGRAM SEEKS ARTISTS

Program offers two different information sessions for potential applicants

FORT COLLINS, Colorado, December 19, 2019- Pianos About Town, an interactive public art program in Fort Collins, announced today that it is seeking artists or artist teams to paint or artistically decorate pianos in 2020.

The program will offer two different sessions designed to provide resources for potential applicants. Neither session is required in order to apply. During the first session, potential applicants will hear a presentation about the application process and will have opportunities to ask questions. The second session is an open house and application review, during which program staff will work one-on-one with attendees to review their applications and make application recommendations.

Application Information

The program is looking for diversity in artwork styles and concepts, with a preference for emerging artists and new and exciting ideas. Selected artists will receive an honorarium of \$1,000. To apply, artists must submit a letter of intent and concept rendering. The application deadline is 5 p.m. MST on Feb. 10. An Art in Public Places committee selects artists each year. For further information and to apply, visit fcgov.com/artspublic/current-competitions.

Session I: Presentation and Q&A

Jan. 9, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Carnegie Center for Creativity, 200 Mathews St., Fort Collins

This session will include a presentation at 6:30 p.m. about the application and review process. Handouts will be provided and program staff will be available to answer questions during the rest of the session.

Session II: Open House and Application Review

Jan. 23, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Carnegie Center for Creativity, 200 Mathews St., Fort Collins

At this drop-in session, staff will be available to sit with applicants one-on-one to review applications and make application recommendations. Staff also will be available to provide general information for applicants who were unable to attend the first information session. Information about other artist opportunities offered by the City of Fort Collins will be available.

About Pianos About Town

[Pianos About Town](#) is a public art initiative that provides paid work to local visual artists, gives the public the opportunity to observe these artists work in real time, showcases the work of artists throughout town, and brings opportunities for spontaneous musical expression to the streets of Fort Collins.

The original inspiration for Pianos About Town comes from British artist Luke Jerram, who created a 60-piano installation that toured the world, stopping in New York City in June 2010. Pianos About Town also was inspired by a similar project on Denver's 16th Street Mall. The first pianos were placed in Downtown Fort Collins in 2010.

Pianos are acquired through donations made by community members looking for a new home for their used instruments. Pianos are picked up, free of charge, from their previous homes and brought to a storage area where they are cleaned, tuned, prepped for painting, and readied for the outside elements. After that, the painting begins. Each selected local artist spends approximately two weeks painting their piano in downtown Fort Collins, outdoors in a public location when weather permits. Once painted, each finished piano enters into rotation at Pianos About Town locations throughout Fort Collins. Area businesses play a key role in the success of the project by "adopting" the painted pianos and covering them during inclement weather.

Pianos About Town started as a collaboration among [Bohemian Foundation](#), the [Downtown Development Authority](#) and the [City of Fort Collins Art in Public Places Program](#).

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