

ERIN MENDENHALL  
MAYOR



LORENA RIFFO-JENSON  
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Salt Lake Art Design Board Meeting**

Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

5:00 – 8:00 pm

**PRESENT:** Meggie Troili      Tiffini Porter      Alex Moya  
Michael Mejia      Angela Dean      Colour Maisch

**Staff Members**

Felicia Baca, Executive Director, Arts Council  
Renato Olmedo-González, Public Art Program Manager, Arts Council  
Amy Childress, Public Art Program Coordinator, Arts Council

**EXCUSED:** Jen Lopez

**GUESTS:** Nancy Monteith, SLC Public Lands, Landscape Senior Architect  
Kat Andra, SLC Public Lands, Public Land Planner  
Jamie Fogle, Design Workshop, Contracted Landscape Architecture  
Consultant for Pioneer Park  
Jinyoun Lee-Lodge and Scout Invie 1, Finalists  
Andrew Rice and Jason Manley 2, Finalists  
Horacio Rodriguez and Cheryl Derricotte. 3, Finalists

*Mission: To amplify art in Salt Lake City to enrich, enhance, and build a dynamic city where art and artists thrive.*

**AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order, Introductions, and Welcome**

Mr. Alex Moya welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated the Art Design Board's mission.

**II. Approval of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Colour Masich put forward a motion to approve the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting minutes, Ms. Meggie Troili seconded; all Board members present voted in favor.

**III. Pioneer Park finalist presentations (Potential Action)**

Mr. Renato Olmedo-González went over the Pioneer Park public art project background, scope, artwork goals, and artist selection criteria for the Salt Lake City Pre-Qualified Artist Pool Request for Qualifications (RFQ). The art installation ultimately chosen through this RFQ process will be the first public artwork for Pioneer Park. Four areas within Pioneer Park's northern portion have been identified as suitable locations for a public artwork: near the proposed playground, in the vicinity of

the north or north-east entrance of the park, or on or within the footprint of a future misting fountain. Artists may propose another location of their choosing within Pioneer Park. The artwork goals for the project: 1) presents an opportunity to enhance placemaking and define the character of downtown Salt Lake City's primary green space; 2) Is inclusive, accessible, and welcoming for individuals of all abilities, incomes, age, genders, and cultural backgrounds; 3) Responds to Pioneer Park's layered history and provides value to future generations; 4) Recognizes Pioneer Park importance as a place that serves visitors on a daily basis and connects individuals from the greater Salt Lake metropolitan region to our downtown urban core; 5) Considers and incorporates sustainable concepts and materials that will amplify Pioneer Park's goal to be a green space that responds to our climate challenges; 6) Is considerate of the future resources required to support elements within the proposed artwork (excluding the use of water) and provides a projection of required resources to supplement proposals which include these elements; 7) Meets all public safety, structural, and maintenance standards and complies with the Americans for Disabilities Act (ADA), Salt Lake City requirements, and all other applicable laws, codes, and regulations. This RFQ was open to artists in the 2023-2025 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. To encourage the participation of more artists, prospective Pool applicants were encouraged to apply as a team and given the option to have team members who were not in the Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. Only Pool applicants who submitted interest in being considered for this commission were reviewed by the Art Design Board and project stakeholders. At the May 2024 Art Design Board meeting, 3 teams were selected to create proposal: 1) Jiyoun Lee-Lodge and Scout Invie; 2) Andrew Rice and Jason Manley, and; 3) Horacio Rodriguez and Cheryl Derricotte. These teams will each have 20 minutes to give their presentations on their proposals followed by a 10-minute Q&A session. Once all of the teams have presented their proposals, the Board and stakeholders will discuss and hopefully vote on a proposal to be recommended to the Mayor for commission. The Board may also decide to request revisions from one or all of the artists teams and present their revisions at another Art Design Board meeting, or decide to reissue the RFQ and start the Call for Artists process over.

The first team to present was Jiyoun Lee-Lodge and Scout Invie. Everyone present introduced themselves. Jiyoun Lee-Lodge is a Salt Lake-based artist, she has both local and national public art installations. Scout Invie is also a Salt Lake-based artist and writer who works mainly with fiber arts and has collaborated with musicians and choreographers. They have been collaborating for the past two years. The artists gave a presentation on their proposed artwork: *Portals*. *Portals* is an installation of three stainless steel portal-like loops within an infinity form, engraved and cut out with elements significant to the natural and human history of Pioneer Park. The sculpture's proposed location will be within the footprint of the proposed misting fountain. The sculpture would be 13 feet high by 13 feet long by 8 feet wide. The form of their sculpture was inspired by the concept of cyclical time. The sculpture honors the past, present, and future of Pioneer Park. The sculpture is interactive as it encourages visitors to walk through the arching rings. The three rings are themed by the concept of time, the connection of people, and land/ the natural history of Utah. The cutouts are inspired by the quaking aspen, which is Utah's state tree, water, which has shaped the Utah geological landscape over time, and language, specifically the different languages that have been and are currently spoken in Utah. The team presented the board with two variations of their proposed sculpture. The second variation has the will separate each ring from one another, but still allowing for people to walk through them. To fabricate the sculpture, their team will be working with Metal Arts Foundry. Their final budget is projected at \$115, 000 and includes general expenses, labor, artist fee, contingency, and fabrication and installation. The team asked several questions to the design team on what the process would be with collaborating with the design team throughout the project. The board had questions about how the sculpture would interact with the mist fountain and were concerned about

safety issues with the metal cutouts. The team was very open about making engineering and design changes to their sculpture if needed.

The second team made up of artists Andrew Rice and Jason Manley gave their presentation next. Everyone present introduced themselves. Jason Manley is a sculptor and professor of sculpture at Weber State University. Andrew Rice, who joined virtually, is an artist who teaches printmaking at Weber State University. They presented on their project: *Drift*. *Drift* will be a series of functional sculptural benches. The benches will include collage imagery and poetry. The team was inspired by how a fallen tree can represent both decay and renewal. They were also inspired by the writing of Salt Lake poet, Nan Seymour. The location for the series of benches will be in the central northern part of the park. The imagery will depict the geological landscape of Utah and the poetry will include writing commissioned from local poets. Through multiple sculptures, the team wanted to create a more dynamic installation that encourages the community to gather and create a space for connection. The central sculpture of their installation includes a large cast aluminum tree trunk that has a bench carved into it. The rest of the functional sculptural benches will all be cast aluminum and be shaped in different ways, like tree branches. The total budget for their project is \$115,000 and includes a stipend for poets, and fees for insurance, consultations, fabrication, installation, tools and materials, and a contingency fund. They project that they will have the sculptures installed by Summer of 2026. The board had questions about the colors of the benches and the texture, how the imagery will be created, and how the imagery will be installed onto the benches. There were concerns about vandalism, specifically people scratching the benches and mowing around the benches.

The third and last team to present was made up artists Horacio Rodriguez and Cheryl Derricotte. Everyone present introduced themselves. Horacio Rodriguez is a Salt Lake City based sculptor, working primarily in ceramics, who taught at the University of Utah's Department of Art & Art History. Cheryl Derricotte is a San Francisco-based sculptor working primarily in glass. The two sculptors met while Cheryl was the Warnock Artist-in-Residence at the University of Utah this past spring. The team presented their project: *9 Pillars*. *9 Pillars* is a sculptural manifestation of the diversity of ancestors who called the Pioneer Park neighborhood "home." The sculpture consists of 9 pillars that focus on 9 communities including the Shoshone, Goshute, Ute indigenous tribes, the Mormon Pioneers and the black slaves that they brought with them, and the Italian, Greek, Japanese, and Mexican communities who immigrated to Salt Lake during the turn of the century. Each pillar is 15 feet high by 2 inches thick and made of powder coated steel and resin. The total footprint of the 9 pillars is 11 feet wide. Each of the 9 communities are represented by medicinal plant or culturally significant flower that will be laser cut out of the pillar. The preferred location of the sculpture is a position that takes full advantage of the trajectory of the sun which is near the central northern section of the park. The cutouts will create shadows and during the solstice the sun will be aligned with the middle 3 pillars in the sculpture. The total budget for this project is \$115,00 and includes artists fees, architectural renderings, structural engineering, legal fees, photography, insurance, and travel expenses. Their full team includes fabricator, Stephan Cross, structural engineer, David Dunn, and architect Brent Bowen. The board had questions about how community members will interact with the sculpture, the symbols, and the choice of material. The team was very open to feedback and making design changes.

Following the presentations, the Board discussed the three proposals. Mr. Moya felt that Jiyoun Lee-Lodge and Scout Invie's proposal was the strongest but was concerned about the engagement aspect. The board had technical, design, and material concerns about their proposal including the size of the cutout designs in the metal. Ms. Troili was concerned about the safety of the cutouts. There were concerns that the second variation they proposed was too similar to Nancy Holt's *Sun Tunnels*, and a

public art sculpture in Park City commemorating the 2002 Winter Olympics. The Board had concerns about how the imagery and poetry of Andrew Rice and Jason Manley's project was incorporated into the sculptural benches and how it didn't seem to fit together. Ms. Nancy Montieth was concerned there would be too many maintenance challenges with the benches being placed on the grass. She said Horacio Rodriguez and Cheryl Derricotte's proposal had the least maintenance concerns. There were risk concerns about the first proposal and the possibility of people hanging off the *Portals*. Mr. Olmedo-González confirmed that the Public Art Program works with the City's Risk Manager to mitigate these issues. Ms. Montieth felt like none of the teams created work that was site specific to Pioneer Park and conveyed how the teams rather focused on the regional area but not the specific narrative of Pioneer Park and its history. Ms. Colour Maisch agreed with Ms. Montieth's comments. She felt like none of the proposals felt integrated into the park or acknowledged the Park's multifaceted history. The Board and stakeholders agreed that the proposals were not site specific to Pioneer Park. Ms. Felicia Bacca reiterated to the Board that they had the option to not choose one of the proposals and reissue the call. Mr. Olmedo-González recommended that the call be open to national artists and went over the process if the call was reissued. He recommended that the call be reissued in August. Ms. Maisch made a motion that the Board not proceed with any of the proposals presented and choose to reissue the call nationally. Mr. Michael Mejia seconded; all Board members present voted in favor.

#### **IV. Public Comment**

No public comment

#### **V. Other Business / Adjourn**

Ms. Tiffini Porter put forward a motion to close the meeting. Mr. Alex Moya seconded; all Board members present voted in favor.