



# CALL TO ARTISTS

## Tacoma Dome Public Art



**Budget: \$75,000**

**Applications Due: July 24, 2025, 5pm (Pacific)**

**Location: Tacoma Dome, 2727 E D St. Tacoma WA**

### Summary

The City of Tacoma's Arts and Cultural Vitality Division in partnership with Tacoma's Venues & Events Department, in communication with the Puyallup Tribe's Heritage Division, seek an artist or artist team to create artwork to welcome visitors to the Tacoma Dome. We seek artwork that will honor and amplify the cultural presence, stories, and language of the Puyallup Tribe. The project will include Lushootseed language components. The Puyallup Tribal language program has agreed to partner and provide Lushootseed language for this project. Artwork should activate the lower Northwest Plaza of the Tacoma Dome and/or the surrounding perimeter. There are opportunities for outdoor wall mounted work, murals, cut metal, carvings and/or free-standing work, as well as artworks attached to or scribed into the fence perimeter. As the main entrance to the Tacoma Dome, this will be an active location during events. The artwork should be visible, impactful, and engaging. As a gathering site for hundreds of thousands of visitors who attend events year-round, this artwork is an opportunity to tell the story of this place and welcome visitors to Tacoma.

### Eligibility

- Artists cannot be an employee of the City of Tacoma or be a member of the Tacoma Arts Commission or City's Events and Recognitions Committee.
- Before starting work, the chosen artist(s) must have:
  - General Liability Insurance
  - A City of Tacoma business license

## About the Project

The Tacoma Dome provides world-class entertainment to hundreds of thousands of guests each year. It is one of the largest wood domed structures in the world. The City of Tacoma's Venues & Events Department own and operate the Tacoma Dome. It is the largest indoor venue in the state of Washington, with the flexibility to host 1,000 to 21,000 guests per event. We will ask the chosen artist to participate in the ribbon cutting, photoshoots and public appearances associated with the project.

## Selection Criteria

- Artistic quality and creativity as exemplified in past work
- Ability to think and work in a scale and with materials that can be translated to the site
- Ability to create work that can tell the stories of Puyallup Tribe and integrate Lushootseed language
- Experience working in public spaces with durable, weather-resistant materials

## Timeline (subject to change)

June 17, 2025	Applications released
July 24, 2025	Applications due
End of August	Finalists selected*
August/ September 2025	1 hour site visit – final selection (*optional)
September 2025	Contracting
Fall 2025	Design proposal development
Winter '25 – Spring '26	Fabrication
June 2026	Installation

## How to apply

We will ask you to provide 8 work samples or portfolio images of existing work in [Submittable](#). In addition, we will ask the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in this project? (200 words or fewer)
2. What is your connection to Puyallup Tribe and the Lushootseed language (200 words or fewer)
3. OPTIONAL: Anything else you want to tell us? (200 words or fewer)

## A successful project will:

- honor and amplify the cultural presence, stories, and language of the Puyallup Tribe
- meaningfully incorporate Lushootseed language or visual storytelling elements that acknowledge Indigenous stories and create a strong sense of place
- serve as a visual landmark that reflects Tacoma's unique identity and Indigenous roots, while engaging a broad and diverse audience, including residents and international visitors, as a welcoming point to the Tacoma Dome
- Be thoughtfully integrated into the site, considering pedestrian movement, visibility, and the activation of public space
- use materials and fabrication methods suitable for a high-traffic, outdoor environment, with long-term durability and minimal maintenance required
- demonstrate artistic excellence and creativity

## Questions?

Contact Marissa Laubscher, Public Art Program Manager, at [mlaubscher@tacoma.gov](mailto:mlaubscher@tacoma.gov)



## Resources: Images of Potential Artwork Locations

We are sharing these images to begin to show what's possible. We will invite the chosen artist(s) to visit the site and propose a location or locations for the artwork. Options are not limited to what is included here.

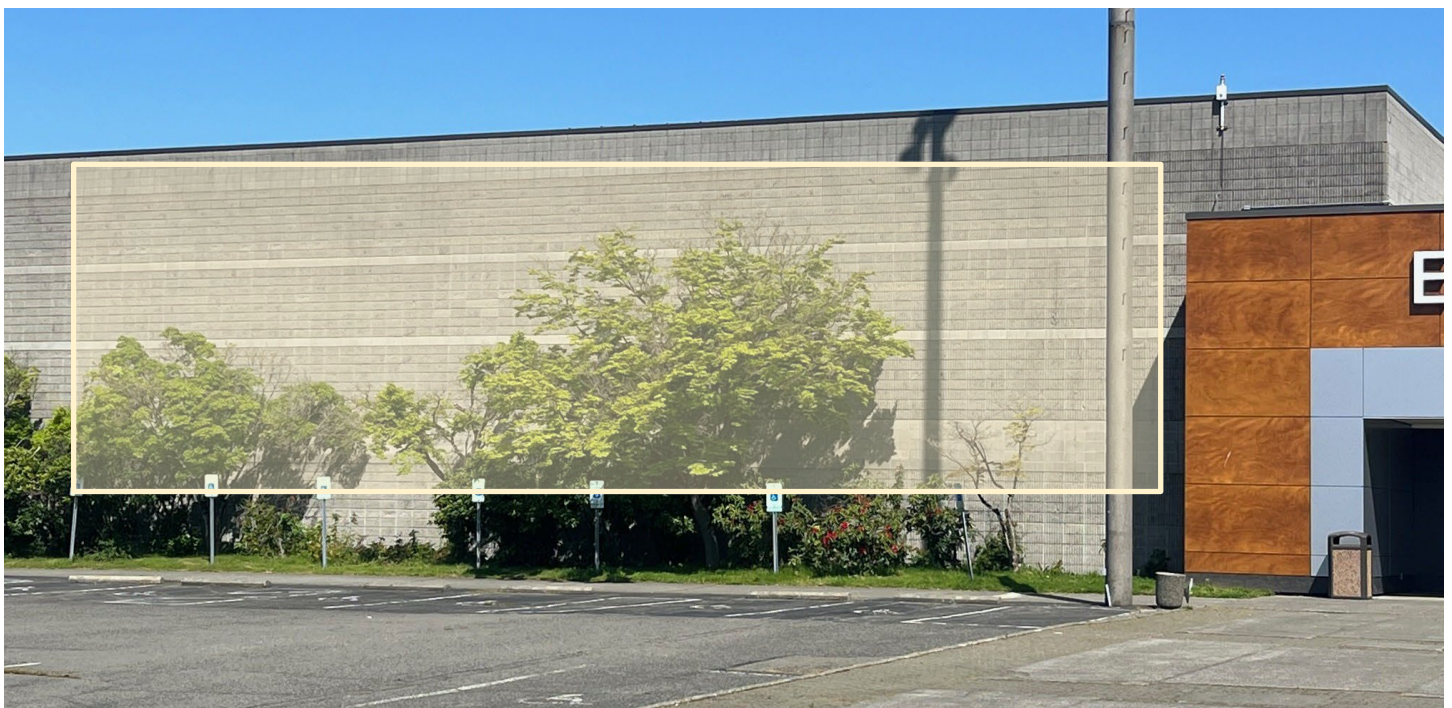
### NW Entry Ramp Exterior

Front of Tacoma Dome on E D Street, 6' x 120'



### Exhibit Hall Exterior Wall

Front of Tacoma Dome on E D Street, 20' x 60'





## Plaza Planter

Front of Tacoma Dome on E D Street. Free-standing artwork opportunity, planter area is 15' x 30'



## Walls on Way to Box Office

Front of Tacoma Dome on E D street







**Clock Tower**  
Front of Tacoma Dome on E D Street, 35' x7' on all four sides

