



THE PROCESS OF ACHIEVING ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC ART

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INDIANA ARTS HOMECOMING



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Today we will cover...

- Universal design for public art
- Best practices for accessible public art
- Strategies and standards for designing and constructing accessible public art installations

How do we Define Public Art?

Simply put, public art is art in a public space.

- Can take a range of forms
- Can speak to history or identity of place
- Doesn't have to be permanent



How do we Define Public Art?

- Can express community values
- Can transform a landscape
- Can foster community expression
- Is for EVERYONE



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Why is Public Art Important for Cities?

1. Impact quality of life
2. Enhance sense of place
3. Support economic development goals
4. Support community vision



Why is Public Art Important for Cities?

- 70% of Americans believe that the arts improves their community image.
- 70% of Americans say they experience arts in a “non-arts” venue
- Half of people with college degrees (49 percent) and a majority of Millennials (52 percent) and Generation Xs (54 percent) say they would strongly consider whether a community is rich in the arts when deciding where to locate for a job.

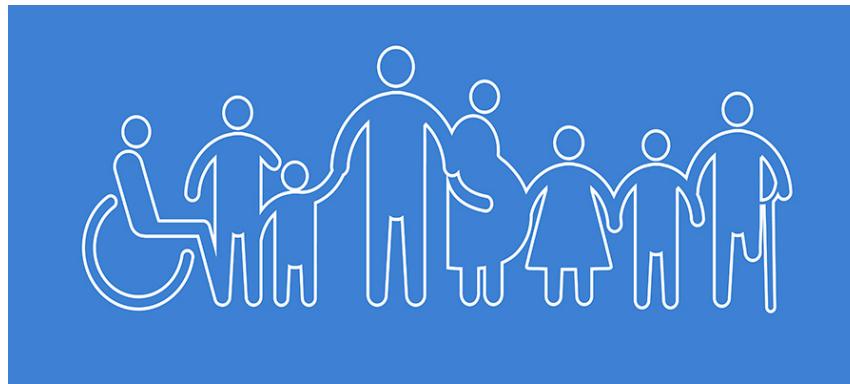
The Benefits of Planning for Public Art

1. Involve community in planning process
2. Create an art collection that reflects the community
3. Determine best locations for accessible art
4. Determine accessible process



What is Universal Design?

Design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.



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Why is Universal Design Important for Public Art?

One billion people, or 15% of the world's population, experience some form of disability.

(World Bank)

Why is Universal Design Important for Public Art?

The global population of people over 65 years of age is expected to double, from 8.5 percent to 17 percent, by 2050, totaling 1.6 billion people.

(National Institutes of Health)

Why is Universal Design Important for Public Art?

Seventy five million people, or 1% of global population, require a wheelchair.

(World Health Organization)

Why is Universal Design Important for Public Art?

44 million of the global population suffer from Alzheimer's.

16 million people in the U.S. alone have cognitive disabilities.

(Center for Disease Control)

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Why is Universal Design Important for Public Art?

Roughly 70 million people (1% of world population) are autistic.

(World Health Organization)

Why is Universal Design Important for Public Art?

Worldwide, 1.3 billion people, or 17 percent of the population, have some form of visual disability, 217 million people, 3 percent of the population, have a moderate to severe vision disability, and 36 million people, or 0.5 percent of the population, are blind.

Why is Universal Design Important for Public Art?

Worldwide, there are 466 million people with a hearing disability, a number expected to grow to 900 million people by 2050.

(World Health Organization)

Principals of Universal Design



- Accessible
- Comfortable
- Participatory
- Ecological
- Multi-Sensory
- Predictable
- Walkable/Traversable

*American Society of Landscape Architects
and Center for Universal Design*

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Common Accessibility Issues

1. Operable Parts
2. Space allowance
3. Accessible Route
4. Protruding Objects and Vertical Clearance
5. Accessible Ground Surface
6. Benches
7. Entanglement, Entrapment, Corners and Edges

Checklist

1. Is the site accessible for people using a wheelchair, walker, or stroller?
2. Can the artwork be experienced through more than one sense?
3. Will there be enough light so that individuals with lower vision can see better?

Checklist

4. Can tactile components be reached? Are they durable enough?
5. If the artwork is interactive, can it be used by users of all abilities?
6. Is there an opportunity for secondary interpretation of the artwork?

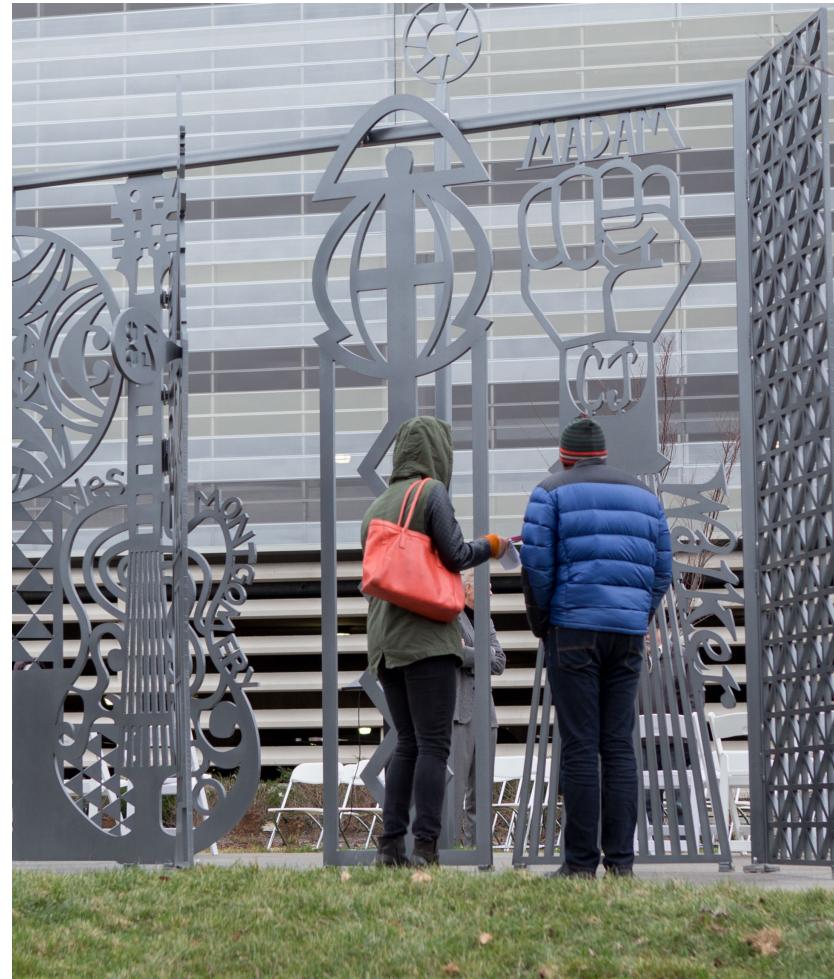
Checklist

7. If there are long pieces of text, can a simple overview be included?
8. Is written information or areas of fine detail placed within comfortable viewing zone for both standing and seating (between 48-67" above ground)?
9. Can people get close enough to view it or read text?

















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Resources

- Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities
- Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media
- Smithsonian Guidelines for Accessible Exhibition Design
- U.S. Consumer Product Public Playground Safety Handbook



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