

City Council Public Art Update

City of Apache Junction
July 21, 2026



PUBLIC ART | BACKGROUND

- **CREATION:** City Council approved the creation of the Public Art Commission and other governing documents on September 17, 2019 (Ordinance No. 1477; Ordinance No. 1478; Reso No. 19-24).
- **PUBLIC SENTIMENT:** City Council and community members wanted public art within the city and to create a funding source for public art.
- **A FEW PAC DUTIES:**
 - Determine appropriate placement of art commissioned or purchased under the Public Art program.
 - Oversee maintenance of art in program collection.
 - Serve as a recommending body to Council on design approval.
 - Encourage public art on private development.
- **PAC PURPOSE:**
 - Create a sense of place by infusing art, culture, and creativity through community-engaged design to enhance the built environment and highlight the city's distinctive attributes.
 - Collaborate and create partnerships with arts groups, artists, and the community.
 - Create city and neighborhood landmarks.

PUBLIC ART | FUNDING SOURCE

- **INTENT:**

- Art in Public Places Fund ("APPF") is funded by fees from qualified new commercial, multi-family, and mixed-use developments, public construction projects, and renovations. The APPF pays for the art program.
 - No taxpayer funds are used for public art projects.
 - Fee is based on a percentage of the building permit fee.
- Requires private development to pay the public art fee when the permit is issued or provide approved public art before receiving their Certificate of Occupancy.
- Current APPF budget is nearly \$640,000.

PUBLIC ART FEES	UP TO A MAX OF \$100,000
Commercial projects under 5,000 sf	.25% of permit fee
Commercial projects 5,000 - 10,000 sf	.5% of permit fee
Commercial projects over 10,000 sf	1% of permit fee
Multi-Family developments 10 units or more	1% of permit fee
Renovation of mixed-use or nonresidential buildings exceeding 50% of gross floor area	1% of permit fee

PREVIOUS PROJECTS |



LIBRARY BANNERS



VERGE MURAL

PREVIOUS PROJECTS |



DUTCHMAN DOG PARK
SCULPTURES



MGC WINDOW VINYL

PREVIOUS PROJECTS | VINYL CABINET WRAPS



IRONWOOD &
APACHE TRAIL



PHELPS &
APACHE TRAIL



WALMART



WINCHESTER &
OWH



AJHS
IRONWOOD & SOUTHERN

ARTIST ROSTER | EXAMPLES



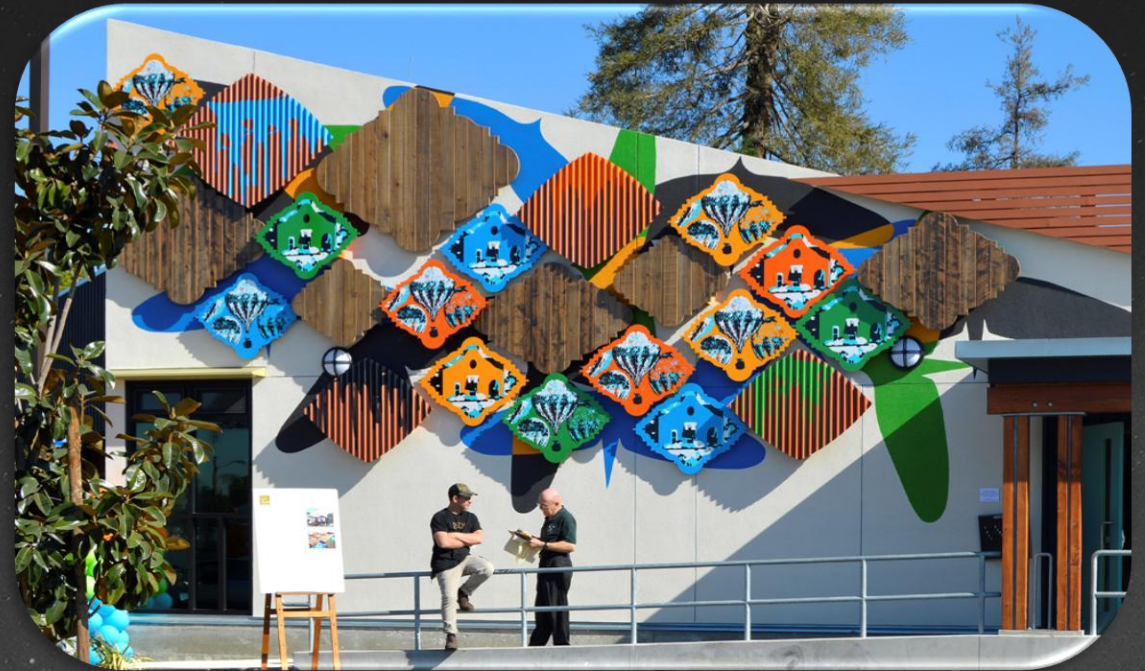
ARTIST ROSTER | EXAMPLES



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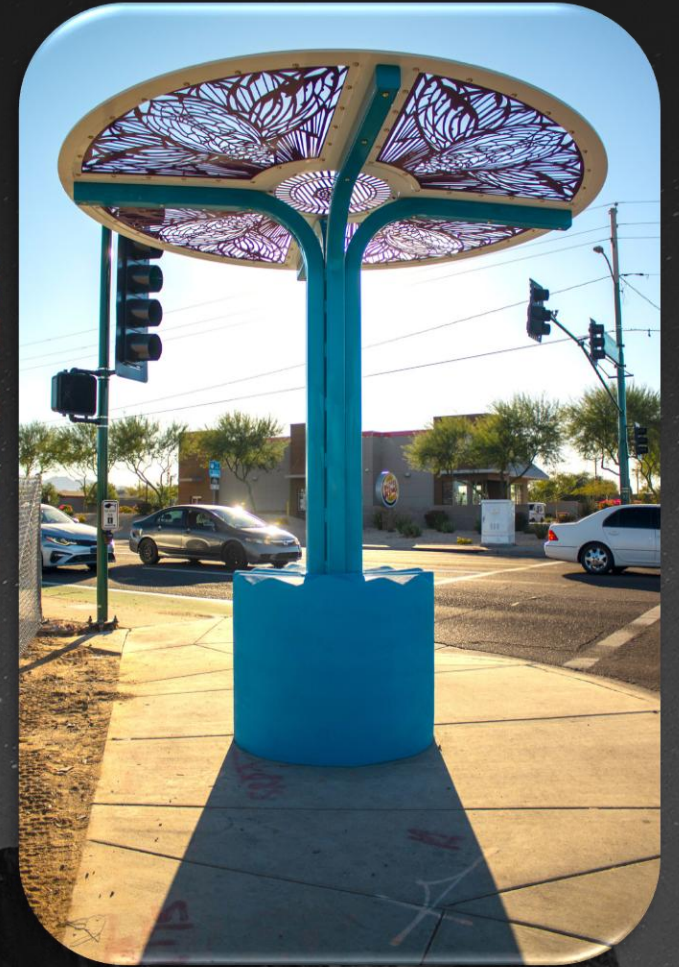
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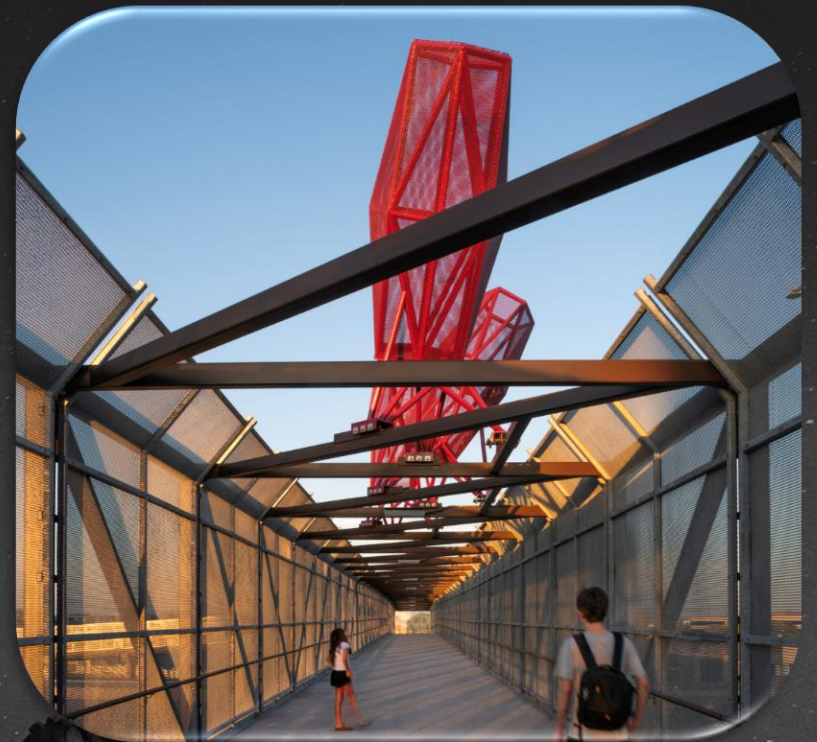
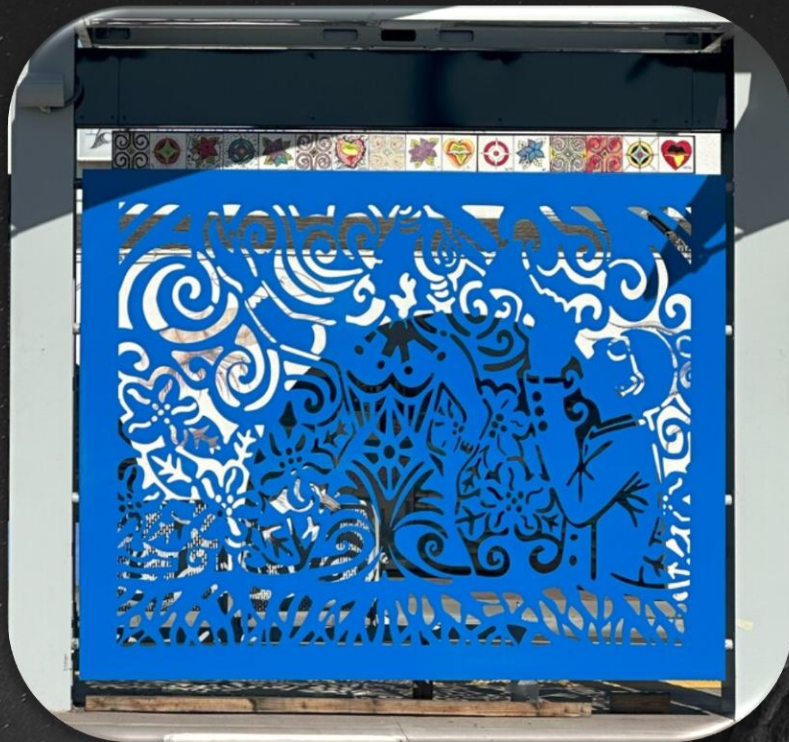
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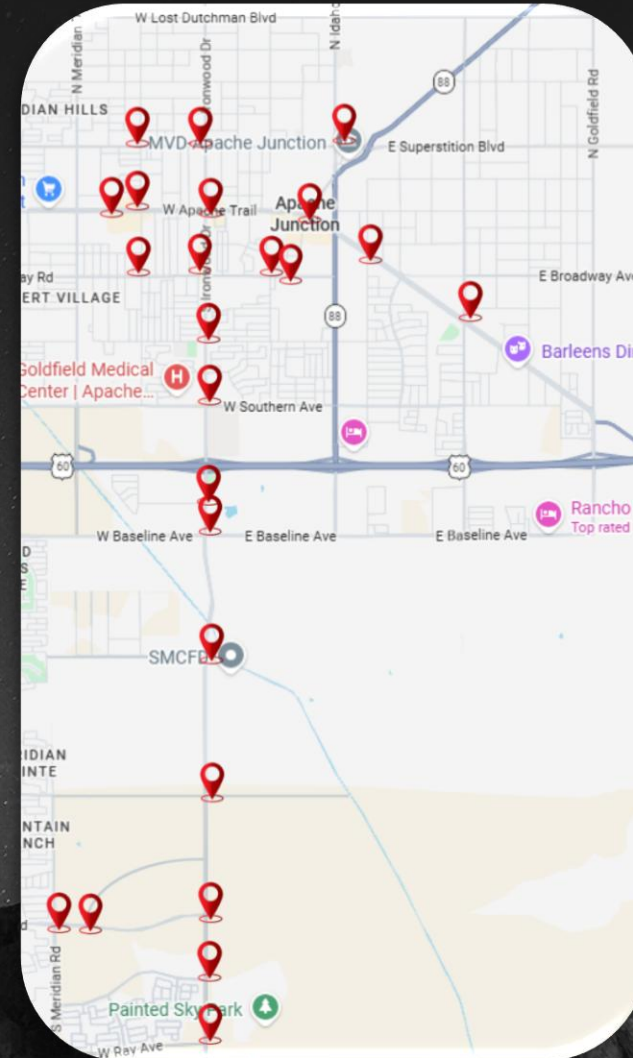


ARTIST ROSTER | EXAMPLES



VINYL CULTURE PART II | CABINET STATUS

#	CABINET STYLE	LOCATION	CORNER	BEING REPLACED /ORDER/YEAR
1	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & Baseline Ave	NE	NO
2	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & Radiance Ave	NE	NO
3	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & Ray Ave	NE	NO
4	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & Broadway Ave	NW	NO
5	Old Style w/BBC mounted (IV)	Idaho Rd & Superstition Blvd	NE	YES/#1/2026-27
6	New Style (R77)	Meridian Ave & Warner Ave	SE	NO
7	New Style (R77)	Horton Dr & Warner Ave	SE	NO
8	Old Style (IV)	Delaware Dr & Superstition Blvd	NW	YES/#2/2026-27
9	Old Style (IV)	Delaware Dr & Apache Trl	SW	YES/#4/2026-27
10	New Style (35oi)	Delaware Dr & Broadway Ave	NW	NO
11	Old Style w/BBC mounted (IV)	Ironwood Dr & Superstition Blvd	NW	YES/#10/2027-28
12	Old Style w/BBC mounted (IV)	Ironwood Dr & 16th Ave	NW	YES/#8/2027-28
13	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & 36th Ave	NE	NO
14	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & Guadalupe Ave	SE	NO
15	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & Elliot Ave	SE	NO
16	New Style (R77)	Ironwood Dr & Warner Ave	SE	NO
17	Old Style w/BBC mounted (IV)	San Marcos Dr & Broadway Ave	NE	YES/#12/2027-28
18	Old Style on a Pedestal (IV)	Phelps Dr & Broadway Ave	SW	YES/#11/2027-28
19	Old Style (IV)	Tomahawk Rd & Old West Hwy	NE	YES/#7/2026-27
20	Old Style (IV)	Walmart & Apache Trl	SE	YES/#3/2026-27
21	Old Style (IV)	Ironwood Dr & Apache Trl	SE	YES/#9/2027-28
22	Old Style (IV)	Ironwood Dr & Southern Ave	NE	YES/#5/2026-27
23	Old Style (IV)	Phelps Dr & Apache Trl/OWH	SE	YES/#6/2026-27
24	Old Style on a Pedestal (IV)	Winchester Rd & Old West Hwy	SE	NO ?



VINYL CULTURE PART II | NEC IDAHO RD & SUPERSTITION BLVD (VETERAN'S MEMORIAL)

- **ARTIST SELECTION:** Staffed facilitated input from local veterans' groups to chose one artist and two alternates on May 8th
- **WHAT & WHERE:** Traffic cabinet wrap on the NEC of Idaho Rd & Superstition Blvd to be designed with a veteran's theme. Cabinet will be replaced this fiscal year.
- **ARTIST:** Paige Reesor; New cabinet measurements provided.
- **COST:**
 - Artist design cost: \$ 2,000
 - Fabrication & Installation by AZ Banners: \$1,500 typical
- **WHEN:**
 - Timeline TBD

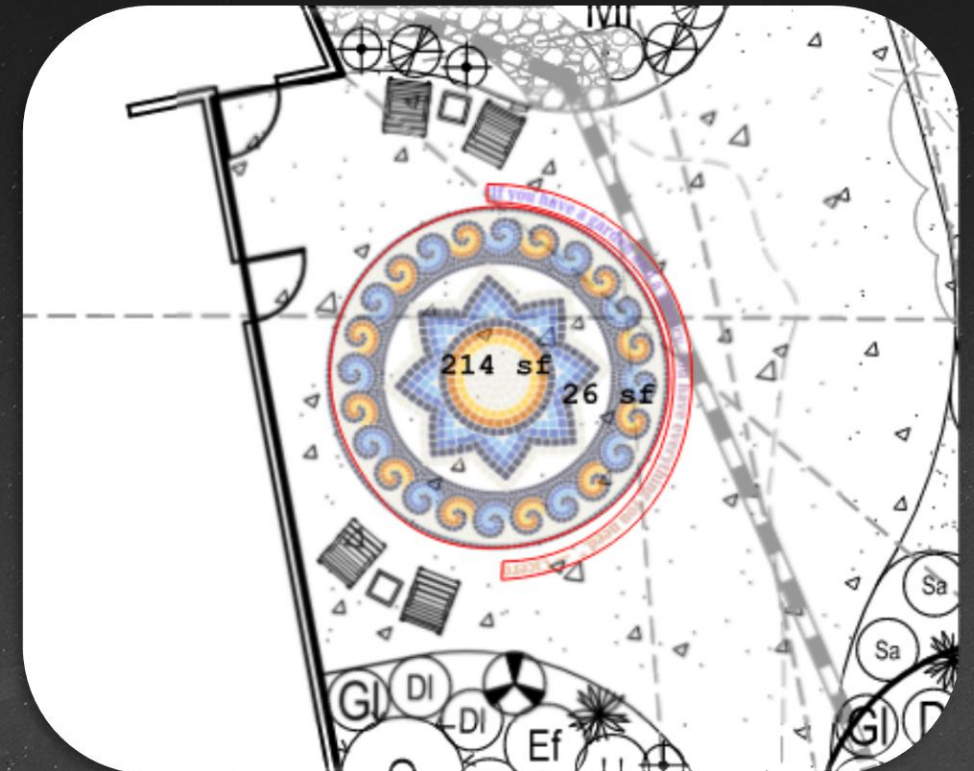


VINYL CULTURE PART II | 4 NEW CABINETS

- **ARTIST SELECTION PANEL:** a three-person artist selection panel chose four artists and four alternates on June 24th
- **WHAT & WHERE:** Traffic cabinet wraps at proposed locations:
 - NEC Ironwood Dr & Baseline Ave
 - E Ironwood Dr & Radiance Ave
 - NEC Ironwood Dr & Ray Ave
 - NWC Delaware Dr & Superstition Blvd cabinet will be replaced this fiscal year; Staff will choose an alternate location
- **ARTIST:** Artists have been notified; We have two confirmations currently.
- **COST:**
 - Artist design cost: \$ 2,000
 - Fabrication & Installation by AZ Banners: \$1,500 typical
- **WHEN:** Timeline TBD

LIBRARY | Library Garden Sandblasted Art

- **ARTIST SELECTION PANEL:** A three-person artist selection panel chose one artist and two alternates on June 4th
- **WHAT & WHERE:** Library garden sandblasted concrete art in the rear of the Apache Junction Library
- **ARTIST:** Fausto Fernandez has verbally agreed; Artist agreement draft under review.
- **COST:**
 - Artist design cost: \$ 8,000
 - Installation by Progressive Hardscapes estimated at \$100 per/sf
 - Depending on size of design, may be upwards of \$24,000
- **WHEN:**
 - Timeline TBD



LIBRARY | Library Garden Sandblasted Art



Library Staff Chosen Quote:

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."

— Marcus Tullius Cicero, Roman Philosopher

RFQ | SR 88 ROUNDABOUT

- **ARTIST SELECTION PANEL:** a five-person panel chose one artist and two alternates on May 7, 2026, out of 113 applicants
- **WHAT & WHERE:** Sculpture(s) located within the roundabout at the intersection of State Route 88 and Superstition Blvd
- **OPENED:** March 31, 2026
- **CLOSED:** April 30, 2026
- **ARTIST:** Karen Yank has verbally agreed; artist agreement being negotiated
- **ARTIST BUDGET:** \$250,000
- **HOW & WHEN:**
 - Coordinating with ADOT
 - Likely to receive initial design in September 2026
 - Installation expected Fall of 2027

SR 88 ROUNDABOUT



NORTHWEST VIEW



SOUTHEAST VIEW



ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Staff is working with Legal to create a Professional Services Agreement that can be used for present and future traffic cabinet wraps to streamline the process after an artist is chosen.
- The public art program now has a dedicated email address for public art inquiries, inquiries about applications and submissions, and inquiries by the public about the public art program. Email: PublicArt@apachejunctionaz.gov



DISCUSSION: COUNCIL IDEAS | DOWNTOWN ART



BELA VIDA – TPG TAX ON APACHE TRL

DISCUSSION: COUNCIL IDEAS | DOWNTOWN ART



THE KACHINA – OWH & APACHE TRL MEDIAN

DISCUSSION: COUNCIL IDEAS | DOWNTOWN ART



IDAHO RD AND APACHE TRL

DISCUSSION: COUNCIL IDEAS | DOWNTOWN ART



BROADWAY AVE & PHELPS DR

DISCUSSION: COUNCIL IDEAS | HIGH VISIBILITY AREAS



SR 88 & MCKELLIPS BLVD ALIGNMENT

DISCUSSION: COUNCIL IDEAS | HIGH VISIBILITY AREAS



APACHE TRL & MERIDIAN AVE

DISCUSSION: COUNCIL IDEAS | HIGH VISIBILITY AREAS



OLD WEST HIGHWAY & GOLDFIELD RD

STAFF CONTACT

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Community Vision: Apache Junction is a diverse Community of natural beauty and heritage that offers prosperity, compassion, and forward thinking to its residents, businesses and visitors.

Community Mission: We will focus on and invest in quality of life and planned improvements for serving residents, businesses, and visitors.

RFQs & ARTIST SELECTION PANELS

- **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (“RFQ”)**: Requires a resume, letter of interest, at least three references, 6-10 work samples, and an image description sheet.
- **APPLICATION PROCESS**: Applications accepted online only at CaFE: Call for Entry by Creative West, a U.S. regional arts organization at www.callforentry.org ; the RFQ is also advertised at least twice in the news paper, added to the city’s homepage and on the city’s public art webpage, email blasted to thousands of artists located in qualifying areas by CaFE, and added on other organization’s websites for opportunities.
- **ARTIST SELECTION PANEL**: Once the application closes, dates are scheduled with the panel members, typically including three or more of the following: an Apache Junction Public Art Commission member, an art commission member from another city, artists, public art managers, public art administrators, staff, and/or the Apache Junction PAC Consultant.
- **PROCESS**: the Panel reviews the applicants ahead of the panel meeting to choose their top 10 artists (or less), and the panel will review all the top artists from each member of the panel during the panel meeting (either zoom or in person) and narrow down the artists to the required number and potential alternates.

RFQ | PRE-QUALIFIED ARTIST ROSTER

- **WHAT:** RFQ for a Pre-Qualified Artist Roster for smaller and midsize projects available to staff, developers, and citizens.
- **OPENED:** December 9, 2025
- **CLOSED:** January 15, 2026
- **ARTIST SELECTION PANEL:** A three-person panel met on February 19th and chose thirty-three artists out of thirty-nine qualified artists.
- **MEDIUMS:** Large- and small-scale murals; small- and medium-scale installations (i.e., sculptures, wall art, ceiling art, etc.); sandblasting art (concrete); terrazzo floor art; ceramic/glass mosaic tile art; stained glass; visual art; multi-media art; fine art; digital art; illustration; photography; oil, acrylic, watercolor, and gouache paintings

