



**Economic Development Board
Creative Sonoma Update
June 2024**

PUBLIC ART

Fire Memorial

The RFQ for artists qualifications was published on June 6 and is available on the Creative Sonoma website: <https://www.creativesonoma.org/Fire/>. The deadline to submit qualifications is **July 19**. The County issued a press release and several news agencies have published the opportunity.

Public Art Plan

Staff completed a revised draft of the Sonoma County Public Art Plan and will present to the Board of Supervisors on **July 16**. Staff is seeking Board adoption of the Public Art Plan as well as input and direction for the subsequent Public Art Policy.

ARTS EDUCATION

Arts Education Framework Grantees

All 5 school district grantees have requested extensions to complete their districtwide arts plans or showcase materials.

Workforce Development Committee

The Arts Education Workforce Committee met in June to identify what message and collateral are needed for an anticipated Careers in the Arts campaign, focused on engagement with high school and college students. A marketing plan and repository for next steps will also be created. Connections for support have been established with North Coast School of Education and Patti Andrews, EDB, around JobLink opportunities. The Magnolia Project will partner with district arts leads to increase the number of arts apprenticeships this school year.

GRANT MAKING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2025 Arts Impact Grants for Organizations

The next funding cycle of this program will open in July 2024. The funding pool for this program is \$150k from the regular Creative Sonoma budget, with an additional \$30k from the National Endowment for the Arts, to total \$180,000. Staff anticipates making up to 40 grants of \$3,000-5,000 each to support operating costs and programming.

Professional Development

A report of the impact of FY23-24 initiatives will be available in July 2024. Staff are currently pursuing new contracts with Professional Development Partners to provide training opportunities to our creative community in FY24-25.