Public Art Administrators

What is a public art administrator? A public art administrator manages the

development and implementation of public art in their

communities.

the facilitation of public art projects and artworks. They work with artists, community members, local decision-makers, representatives of municipal agencies, and other stakeholders to ensure public artworks are designed, installed, and maintained. They play a key role in each stage of a project's lifecycle and are

They do this through the management of public art programs and

responsible for the administrative and management tasks within public art programs. What is a day in the life of a public art administrator?

Each day is different and can range widely depending on the projects they are working on.

Their days may include site visits to understand how an artwork

may be installed in a location, project meetings to go over details of artworks in progress, interest meetings with community members, public relations events, and engagements with artists, among others. Throughout their day, public art administrators may interact with

artists, representatives of municipal agencies, local politicians, community members, private developers, media, and more. No two days look the same for most public art administrators.

Collection Research, Planning,

What are the responsiblities of a public art administrator?

Management

Program & Policy

- Short term and long term planning.
- Budget management
- and development. Create opportunities for artists.
- Oversee staff. Build and maintain
- relationships.

Work with community engagement campaigns.

Community

Engagement

- Respond to public inquiries.

programs. Research to assist with any artist needs.

Research to develop

& Evaluation

- Long term program planning. Evaluate completed
- And the last of th Marketing

projects.

campaigns. Manage public

communication.

Implement marketing

- - **Funding for Programs & Projects**

Manage a variety of

public and private

Management &

Conservation

funding sources. Fundraising and grant writing.

Author and track

Contracts &

Legal Issues

 Keep consistent and accurate records.

Management Manage selection

- panels. Manage call for
- facilitate meetings.
- Provide project updates to
- Run public galleries.

Soft Skills Hard Skills

What are the qualifications for public art administrators?

Organized Time management

Creative problem solving

Conflict management

Facilitation

- Project management
 - Detail oriented
 - Public speaking/communication
 - Critical thinking

Dedication to community service Ability to focus on the bigger

- picture
- Strong sense of teamwork
- Risk taking
- Ability to manage criticism Sense of accountability
- Willingness to work with people
- Willingness to learn
- **Experience**

Art Administrators: 51% have a master's degree

35% have a bachelor's degree

Local Arts Field in 2017. Among Public

Americans for the Arts conducted a

Baseline Demographic Survey of the

Education

4% have some college 2% have an associate's degree The field generally asks for a Bachelor

> **Art History Architecture Landscape Architecture**

Arts Administration

of Arts in a related field such as:

Fine Arts

for the Arts.

It is a self-supporting

field, so don't be

work in public art.

However, experience can potentially replace a degree.

Urban Planning/Design

Arts fundraising Local community work

include:

Experience in a related field: Practicing artist Art history

> Landscape architecture Placemaking/creative placemaking

Being knowledgable about the following areas is also beneficial: Visual arts **Government financing**

Placemaking

What are the salary ranges for public art administrators?

Public Art Managers and Directors Assistants, Associates, and Coordinators \$30,000 - \$132,678 \$35,000 - \$63,000

Learn as much

learning while

working in the

field.

as you can

What are some observations from the field?

The work is a privilege and a responsibility, it's something that connects deeply with people.

afraid to ask for about the field advice or for lunch and be open to with people who continued

What is the outlook for public art administrators?

country to include public art in their public spaces.

the end! groups on one project.

There is an increase in demand for public art administrators and their skills with the growth of interest from communities across the

In a 2001 report, Americans for the Arts estimated 350 public art programs across the United States whereas a 2017 survey identified twice as many. The growth comes from inside the arts and culture sector as community engagement with art created in public places grows, as well as the rapid development of the creative placemaking field, which began in 2010.

Creative placemaking and the ongoing growth of engaging artists early on in planning and community development projects is also encouraged as non-arts sectors such as transportation include artists in the design of civic enhancements and infrastructure. The skills of a public art administrator easily adapt to working with artists in large and complex projects that span different sectors.

Resources

Americans for the Arts Online Tools ArtsU: Public Art Professional Development

 ArtPlace America Forecast Public Art National Endowment for the Arts' Creative Placemaking

Public Art Network

Other Online Tools

Public Art Resource Center

- The National Consortium for Creative Placemaking
- **Higher Learning Opportunities**
 - **Certification Programs** • Public Art Certificate of Achievement from the Berkeley City College • Public Art and Placemaking Undergraduate Certificate from the University of Cincinnati
 - **Master Programs**
 - Master of Planning and Master of Public Art Studies dual degree program from the University of

Review artwork artist contracts. donations. • Process deaccessions. Manage maintenance and conservation of the collection. **Project**

artists.

- Conduct site visits. Coordinate and
- stakeholders.

Sense of empathy

- Can see different perspectives Curiosity
- Patience Interest in visual arts
- Mature, even-temperament
- years of related experience, which can **Project managment**

Positions generally ask for at least 3 to 5

Anthropology Curation Construction management

Salaries vary depending on the location in the country as well as full time or part time status. These ranges are based on a 2018 Local Arts Agency Salary Report by Americans

Have the stamina to

juggle projects and

will be rewarding in

see them all the

way through—it

Develop a thick

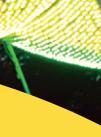
skin! It can be a

work with many

challenge to

stakeholders

and interest



Southern California • Master of Art, Design and the Public Domain from Harvard University

Public Art **Network** A Program of Americans for the Arts