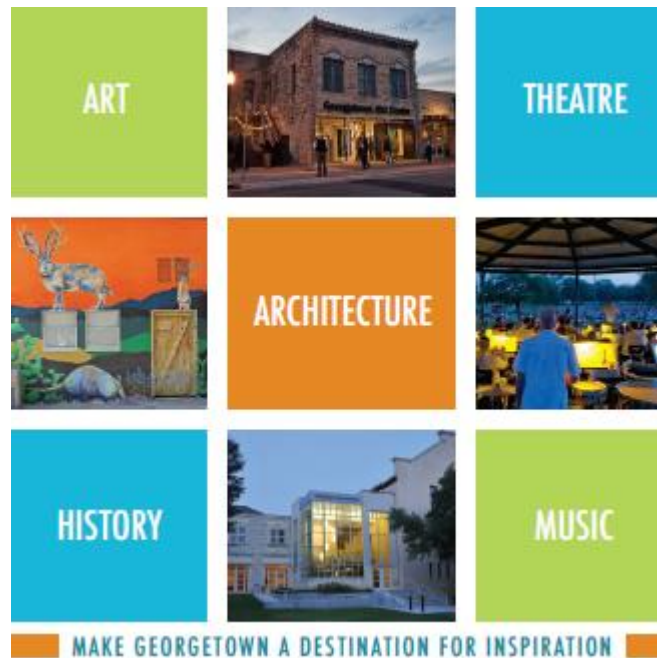




## Call for Artist Entries: 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration



Williamson County and the City of Georgetown would like to commission an artist to design and install a mural on a wall of the Williamson County Tax Office. Call opens November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The community is invited to help paint the mural on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **Application Deadline: December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Beginning November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the City of Georgetown's Arts and Culture Board will invite artist entries for the design of a mural in celebration of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Williamson County and the City of Georgetown. The mural design should be an interpretation of the history of Williamson County and how the City of Georgetown, as the site for the anniversary mural, contributed to the development of the area that is Williamson County. Community members will be invited to help begin the mural painting process after the artist and final design are selected. For more details and historic resources see the full submission guidelines.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This opportunity is open to all professional artists over the age of 18.

**BUDGET:** This project is a collaboration between Williamson County and the City of Georgetown. An artist stipend of \$8,000 will be paid to the artist selected to install the mural. The cost of materials and equipment necessary to install the mural will be covered up to \$2,000 and reimbursed to the artist upon completion of the project. Any material and equipment costs exceeding this amount will require prior approval. The selected artist will be responsible for their own travel costs, housing, and personal liability insurance.

**INSTALLATION DATE:** Mural will be completed by April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, with a community painting event held during Williamson County's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary kick-off event March 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>. A mural dedication will be held at the Spring Art Stroll on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**APPLY:** Applications will be submitted through Submittable.com between November 15<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022: <https://artsgeorgetown.submittable.com/Submit>

**SELECTION:** From the entries submitted by the deadline, the Arts and Culture Board in collaboration with Williamson County will award an artist commission for the mural design and installation. Artists will be notified of the final selection by the late January, 2023.

**APPLICATION FEE:** None

**Questions:** Contact Amanda Still at 512-930-8471 or [Amanda.still@georgetown.org](mailto:Amanda.still@georgetown.org)

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**ABOUT WILLIAMSON COUNTY AND THE HISTORY OF THE SITE:** Organized on March 13, 1848, Williamson County and the City of Georgetown are commemorating their 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023. The County's theme for the celebration is "Still Making History." The area is rich in history and community pride, and the site of the historic and architecturally significant Downtown Georgetown is the perfect backdrop for an artistic mural that weaves the major themes and stories of the community into a visual work of art with an intentional storyline. From cattle drives up the Chisholm Trail to the establishment of the railroad to modern day economic development, this mural project is an opportunity to showcase this history while envisioning ways that we, as a community, are Still Making History.

Geographic location and natural resources initially drew people to the area that eventually became Williamson County. People have inhabited this area for over 13,000 years, with the Tonkawa naming this area – takatchue pouetsu, "land of good water". The Tonkawa were native to Central Texas, and pre-mid-20th century there were numerous good, clear, natural springs in the area that encompasses Williamson County. As people began moving in, their settlements generally followed the spring locations along the Balcones Escarpment, and with the convergence of the San Gabriel Rivers within what is now the City of Georgetown, water

was a major contributor to the establishment of the community. Georgetown and the county are divided along the Escarpment with the western half composed of the beginnings of the Hill Country while the eastern half is flat Blackland prairie. This ecology led to the development of a diverse agricultural economy with crops grown in the east and ranching in the west. In the 1960s, the construction of Interstate-35 brought new growth and diverse businesses to this area, which continues to this day. Williamson County, over the past two decades, has earned a reputation as one of the fastest growing counties in the country and has an internal reputation as a technology hub due to companies like Dell, Apple and Samsung." People are drawn to the natural beauty of the land, the historic beauty of the towns, and the promise this area holds of the future.

Resources include:

<http://wilcohistory.org/> Williamson County Historical Commission

<https://www.wilcofair.com/p/about/history> Williamson County Fair and Rodeo

<https://www.wilco.org/Residents/History> Williamson County

<https://historic.georgetown.org/> Georgetown Historic Planning

<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/williamson-county> Texas State Historical Association

<https://library.georgetown.org/local-history-georgetown-williamson-county/> (Historic Photographs Section in particular may be useful)

<https://arts.georgetown.org/art/public-art/> Current public art in Georgetown

**CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS:**



The wall is located on the building that is the Williamson County Tax Office at 904 S Main St. The mural wall is facing 9th St between Main St and Austin Ave. The mural design will only cover a section of the wall closest to Austin Ave, which includes the last two rectangular spaces created by the downspouts and the tall vertical section on the end. Each rectangular section is 20'Wx16.5'H, and the vertical section is 10'Wx20.5'H. The wall material is stucco.



**SELECTION CRITERIA:** The final artist's design will be selected by the Georgetown Arts and Culture Board and Williamson County based on the following criteria:

- Quality of artistic composition
- Creativity of design in addressing the history of the site and surrounding County
- Artistic ability as demonstrated in examples of work submitted
- Evidence of experience creating durable and sustainable outdoor mural art
- Experience with public art projects
- Willingness and ability to meet contractual guidelines and deadlines
- Ability to fulfill submission guidelines

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:** *Each artist may submit only (1) design for consideration.* The following will be submitted online through Submittable at <https://artsgeorgetown.submittable.com/Submit>:

Contact information

- Full Name, address, telephone number, e-mail address
- Concept statement for proposed design
- Image(s) of proposed design
- Artist may submit up to (5) images to communicate proposed design (upload)

Support materials/Previous work

- Proposals should be accompanied by 5 to 10 images of previous work (upload)
- An artist statement describing experience and interest in creating a mural in Georgetown
- Resume (upload)

**ANTICIPATED TIMELINE:**

Call for Artist Entries – November 15<sup>th</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

- The Arts and Culture Board and Williamson County will review the design submissions and select the winning design at the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Arts and Culture Board meeting.
- Artists will be notified of the final selection by late January 2023.
- Artist contracts will be executed in February, 2023
- Work to commence by March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in preparation for the community painting event March 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>
- Mural to be completed by April 3<sup>rd</sup> and dedicated at the Spring Art Stroll on April 20<sup>th</sup>
- Featured mural cards printed for the Red Poppy Festival