



NYC Parks

City of New York
Parks & Recreation
www.nyc.gov/parks



Temporary Public Sculpture: Park Avenue Malls

Guidelines and Information

The Sculpture Committee of The Fund for Park Avenue and
NYC Parks, Art in the Parks Program

The Park Avenue malls on New York City's Upper East Side between East 49th and East 86th Streets provide a unique opportunity to present sculpture to the public. Exhibitions are proposed to the Sculpture Committee of The Fund for Park Avenue, who then recommends them to NYC Parks' Art in the Parks Program for approval. Exhibitions are presented under the auspices of both organizations in collaboration with the chosen artists, their galleries, and/or other arts organizations.

Please note: Spectators are discouraged from walking on the malls. Sculptures should be viewed from the street, crosswalks, and sidewalks. Artists are encouraged to keep these viewing perspectives in mind when planning the placement and orientation of their artwork.

Weight/Size Limitations and Physical Characteristics

Size & Dimensions

- Each mall measures approximately 200 feet long and 19 feet 6 inches wide (east-west).
- Flower beds at each end are roughly square: approximately 19 feet (north-south) by 18 feet (east-west).
- Artists are encouraged to visit the site(s) to take more precise measurements.

Weight Restrictions

- Maximum load: 5,000 lbs. on a base no smaller than 3' x 3'.
- No more than 8,000 lbs. may be placed on any single mall.
- *Note:* Because the malls are situated over the train tracks leading to Grand Central Terminal, these weight limitations are strictly enforced. All installations require engineering approval from the MTA Metro-North.

Height Recommendations

- For optimal visibility above landscaping, a minimum height of approximately 12 feet (including base, if applicable) is recommended.

Number of Works

- Determined at the artist's discretion, with input from the Selection Committee and NYC Parks.
- Use of three or more malls is encouraged to create a cohesive visual experience.

Placement Options

- Sculptures may be installed:
 - Mid-mall on the grassy area
 - At either end of the mall, behind the flower beds (approx. 20 feet north-south)
- Depending on seasonal plantings, placement *within* the flower beds may be allowed with prior approval from The Fund for Park Avenue.

Visibility & Safety

- Sculptures must not obstruct driver's sight lines to traffic signals on Park Avenue in either direction.
- All artworks, regardless of size or weight, must be securely anchored to prevent theft or dislodgement.

Lighting & Electrical Use

- Supplemental lighting and artworks requiring electricity are strongly discouraged.
- Electrical connections via pole taps must go through the NYC Department of Transportation. Approval is not guaranteed and, if granted, is time limited.



Guidelines and Information

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Exhibition Periods (exact time frame to be determined on a case-by-case basis)

- Preference is for artworks to be installed in March and removed in October.
- One exhibition will be presented annually on the malls.

Flower Bed Planting Schedule:

- **Tulips**
 - Planting Time: November
 - Bloom Period: Mid-April to mid-May.
- **Begonias**
 - Planting Time: Memorial Day
 - Bloom Period: June through mid-September.
- **Chrysanthemums**
 - Planting Time: Mid-September
 - Bloom Period: Mid-September to mid-November.

Installation Requirements for Exhibitors:

1. Professional Installation

- Exhibitors must hire professional riggers or installers who are responsible for securing lane closure permits from the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT).

2. Transport & Installation Coordination

- Artists or their representing galleries must handle sculpture delivery, installation, and de-installation in coordination with NYC Parks.

3. Insurance

- Exhibitors are required to provide liability insurance coverage for the duration of the installation.

4. Maintenance & Restoration Bond

- A maintenance and restoration bond must be submitted in the form of a certified check by the artist or sponsor.
 - *Typical bond amount:* \$2,000–\$5,000 (based on sculpture size and quantity).

5. Installation Timing

- Installation typically occurs late at night on weekdays or in the early morning on weekends, in accordance with DOT regulations.

6. Protection of Landscaping

- Trees, shrubs, and permanent plantings on the malls must not be integrated into installations, except in the least intrusive manner.
- Any damage to plantings or trees during installation or removal must be repaired or replaced at the exhibitor's expense.

7. Community Board Approval

- Exhibitors must obtain approval from the appropriate community board(s) prior to the issuance of a license agreement.

8. Engineering Submissions

- Upon initial approval by The Fund for Park Avenue and NYC Parks, exhibitors must submit:
 - Signed and sealed engineering drawings and load calculations by a licensed New York State engineer.
 - These documents will be reviewed and approved by MTA Metro-North.

9. Agency Coordination

- NYC Parks and The Fund for Park Avenue will assist exhibitors, as needed, in securing approvals from:
 - MTA Metro-North and Grand Central Partnership



Proposal Review Process

Sculpture Committee Review Process

The Sculpture Committee of The Fund for Park Avenue reviews all proposals and makes recommendations to the City of New York's Department of Parks and Recreation, Public Art Program.

Send Proposals to:

The Fund for Park Avenue Sculpture Committee
Attn. Amy Sheldon
445 Park Avenue, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10022
asheldon@fundforparkavenue.org

-AND-

Public Art Coordinator
City of New York, Parks & Recreation
The Arsenal, Central Park, Room 20
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10065
(212) 360-8114
artandantiquities@parks.nyc.gov

Please review the following page for submission requirements.



NYC Parks

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Public Art Proposal: Submission Requirements

As Regulated by NYC Parks' Art in the Parks Program

Submission Requirements

- **Artwork Description:**

Provide a written description of the proposed artwork including:

- Title (for Committee/Department reference)
- Medium
- Dimensions (Height x Width x Depth)
- Weight
- Installation method and anchoring procedure

- **Existing Work:**

Submit photographs or slides of the artwork, including a reference to human scale.

- **New Work:**

Provide working drawings and/or a photograph of a maquette to scale, with dimensions clearly indicated.

- **Artist's Statement and Resume**

- **Installation Budget:**

Include a detailed budget along with a description of the sponsoring organization or other financing methods. Provide the name, address, and phone number of the primary contact person.

- **Exhibition Details:**

- Proposed duration and exhibition period
- Specific location(s) of the installation site(s)

- **Previous Work:**

Up to 10 images of the artist's previous work. Each image must be clearly labeled with:

- Artist's name
- Title of the work
- Medium
- Dimensions (H x W x D)

- **Submission Format:**

For initial consideration by the Committee, please submit all the above information as a **single PDF document by email**.

Include JPEG images within the email submission as well.

- **Deadlines:**

There is **no deadline** for proposal submissions.

Parks Department Review Process

- A **departmental panel**—including the **Commissioner of NYC Parks** or a designated representative—reviews proposals that have been recommended by the **Sculpture Committee of The Fund for Park Avenue** (www.fundforparkavenue.org).
- NYC Parks gives particular consideration to:
 - **Safety** and **durability** of the artwork
 - **Suitability** of the artwork to the site
- Upon approval of a proposal, a **license agreement** is issued to the **artist and/or sponsoring organization**.
- Depending on the scope of the project, **local community board approval** may also be required.



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Public Art Proposal: Submission Requirements

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Exhibitor Responsibilities

The **artist and/or sponsoring organization** is fully responsible for:

- **Funding** the project
- **Installation** of the artwork
- Providing appropriate **insurance**
- Ongoing **maintenance**
- **Timely removal** of the sculpture
- **Restoration of the site** to its original condition



Architectural drawings for the proposed 1000 Park Avenue building. The drawings include a site plan, a floor plan, and a section view. The site plan shows the building footprint on a lot bounded by 1000 Park Avenue to the north, 1001 Park Avenue to the south, 1002 Park Avenue to the east, and 1003 Park Avenue to the west. The floor plan shows a rectangular building with a central corridor and multiple rooms. The section view shows the building's profile, including the roof, floors, and foundation. The drawings are labeled with dimensions and notes.