



Ames[™]
PUBLIC ART
COMMISSION

■ 2027-2028

Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition

The Ames Public Art Commission (PAC) is honored to invite entries for its 2027-28 Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition (AAOSE). Selected AAOSE sculptures will be displayed in Downtown Ames from May 2027 to April 2028. Each AAOSE selection will merit an honorarium and be considered for a “Best in Show” award. PAC reviews all AAOSE sculptures on display for potential purchase for the City’s permanent collection. The sculptures are also advertised as available for private purchase after the conclusion of AAOSE.

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER 15, 2026

Entry deadline

NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 1, 2026

Jurying of submissions

DECEMBER 15, 2026

Artists notified of selections

JANUARY 15, 2027

Loan agreements executed

APRIL 1-30, 2027

Sculptures delivered and installed in
Downtown Ames

MAY 1, 2027

Exhibition opens
Honoraria issued

JUNE 4, 2027*

Annual Art Walk from 5 - 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2027*

Best-in-Show winner selected by the
public at the annual Octagon Art Festival

APRIL 1-30, 2028

Participating artists pickup sculptures
Exhibition transitions to host the
2027-28 AAOSE

Questions? Contact the Ames City Manager’s Office
515.239.5101 or publicartcommission@cityofames.org
www.CityOfAmes.org/PAC

ENTRIES

Each artist may enter up to 3 sculptures with a limit of 5 photos for each sculpture.

Entries must include the following:

- Completed entry form
- Up to 5 photos for each sculpture submitted (each side of the sculpture must be visible from photos)
- Artist's statement about each entry
- Explanation of how to install and secure the sculpture
- Preferred contact method (email, mail, phone). All work submitted must be original, of sound design, free standing, suitable for public display, safe under conditions of direct public access, and finished as represented.

Entries open on August 15, 2026. Entry deadline is November 15, 2026. Artwork previously selected for display is ineligible.

Please consider safety and durability as the sculpture will be displayed where it will be accessible to the public and a variety of weather conditions.

IMAGES

Entries are juried from photographs. High resolution digital images are preferred. Documentation of the images along with the information listed above must include the artist's name, title of work, media dimensions, weight, and listed value.

To enter, use one of the following ways:

- Electronic submission: Email publicartcommission@cityofames.org or visit www.CityOfAmes.org/AAOSE
- Mail printed photos to: City of Ames Public Art Commission, P.O. Box 811, Ames, IA 50010

INSTALLATION

Please note that it is the responsibility of the artist to transport the selected sculptures to and from Ames, Iowa. A level, 36" square concrete pad will be provided and bolts in the pad will be installed upon request. One 84" pad and one 96" pad are also available. Artists will work with City staff to install sculptures. Artwork must remain on display throughout the duration of the exhibition.

INSURANCE

The City of Ames will insure the sculptures up to a maximum of \$10,000 property loss after installation. The City retains the right to remove damaged sculptures in the absence of prompt and satisfactory repair in the interest of public safety.

JURORS AND AWARDS

A panel of individuals from the Iowa art community will jury entries. Artists whose work is selected for exhibition will receive a \$2,000 honorarium per sculpture. In addition, a \$1,000 'Best in Show' award will be given in Fall 2025.

SALES

City Purchase: Annually, PAC invites City neighborhoods and businesses to request placement of individual AAOSE sculptures in public spaces through the Neighborhood Sculpture Program. The number of sculptures purchased varies based upon available funds, requests received, and potential price discounts negotiated with the selected artist(s). Private Purchase: PAC publicizes the opportunity for private purchases of AAOSE sculptures. No sales commissions are charged by PAC.

Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition Entry Form

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:		
Email:		
**Please select preferred contact method; contracts will be mailed		
ENTRY 1		
Title:		
Media Dimensions (HxWxD):		
Weight:	Year Created:	
Price or Value:		
ENTRY 2		
Title:		
Media Dimensions (HxWxD):		
Weight:	Year Created:	
Price or Value:		
ENTRY 3		
Title:		
Media Dimensions (HxWxD):		
Weight:	Year Created:	
Price or Value:		