



PALM DESERT
CALIFORNIA

City of Palm Desert Call for Entries

2027-2028 El Paseo Sculpture Exhibition

(DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES – January 29, 2026)

ABOUT THE EL PASEO SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

El Paseo, located in Palm Desert, California, is the premier shopping and art district of the Coachella Valley. The Exhibition showcases large-scale sculptures on eighteen concrete pads in the median of El Paseo between Highway 74 and Portola Avenue. Selected sculptures will remain on display for approximately two years, with installation tentatively scheduled for October–November 2026 and de-installation in October 2028.

DEADLINE

Thursday, January 29, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (MST)

HONORARIUM

Each selected artist receives **\$6,000**. Artists are responsible for transportation, on-site delivery, and pick-up of artwork. Payments: **\$5,000** upon delivery/installation and **\$1,000** at pick-up/removal.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all U.S. based artists, galleries, museums, and nonprofit arts organizations. (International submissions will not be accepted due to logistical constraints.)

TO APPLY: **(Insert CaFÉ link)**

Submit electronically via the City's **Artist Opportunities** page:

<https://www.palmdesert.gov/departments/public-art/artist-opportunities>

(Or apply directly via CaFÉ: **[Insert CaFÉ link]**.)

If you are unable to apply online, contact **Erica Powell** at (760) 776-6346 or epowell@palmdesert.gov.

Required Materials

- Current résumé or CV
- Up to five (5) JPEG images of the proposed sculpture
- Description of the proposed sculpture, including materials and dimensions
- Three (3) professional references

Note: Renderings are not accepted for alternates.

PAD AND SCULPTURE SPECIFICATIONS

- **Pads:** Seventeen (17) pads at **8' × 8'** (usable footprint **7' × 7'**); one (1) pad (**Pad 16**) at **8' × 25'** (suited for larger or multi-part works)
- **Height (incl. base):** minimum **8'**, maximum **13'**
- **Maximum weight: 3,000 lb**
- **Viewing:** sculptures must be in-the-round

- **Anchoring:** secure via tabs or other non-invasive methods; **pads may not be altered**
- **Materials:** durable, outdoor-appropriate, able to withstand desert conditions (high winds, extreme temperatures)
- **Power:** artworks requiring electricity will be considered
- **Delivery:** artist or representative must deliver in person on installation day

TIMELINE (Tentative)

- **January 29, 2026:** Deadline for entries
- **March 2026:** Review and selection by the Cultural Arts Committee
- **April 9, 2026:** City Council approval
- **April–May 2026:** Notification to selected artists
- **October–November 2026:** Installation
- **January 2027:** Exhibition dedication (TBD)
- **October 2028:** De-installation (TBD)

SALES

Works may be sold, but must remain on view through the end of the Exhibition. The City of Palm Desert takes no commission on sales.

PROVIDED BY THE CITY

- Professional installation and de-installation
- Lighting, routine maintenance, and insurance
- Exhibition signage, virtual tour, and promotional materials
- Advertising for the Exhibition

QUESTIONS?

Contact Erica Powell, Management Analyst

- epowell@palmdesert.gov
- 760-776-6346

Overview of El Paseo with Artwork in the Median



Eye of the Wind by Nico Meyer



Hygge by Hector Ortega



Big Bang by Ray Katz (Pad 16 – 8' x 25')



Dione the Water Goddess by Lynn Jaye (Only pad with electricity.)



Timepiece by Mitch Levin