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Public Art and Amenity Program

The selection and location of public art is becoming increasingly important to communities, developers and architects as they begin to incorporate art into their buildings and public spaces. Whether it's in a lobby of a private building; an outdoor garden; or in a large airport, public art is being seen as a way to attract people to public areas and enhance people's experience of the urban environment.

Project for Public Spaces, Inc. (PPS) offers a public art and amenity program that can make indoor and outdoor spaces more inviting to use. Art and amenities must be chosen carefully, and located so they function properly in a space and for the people who use the space. There are too many examples of public art and amenities that actually contribute very little to the successful functioning of a public area. In fact, ill-conceived art and design projects often inhibit use of a site.

PPS helps select art, crafts and amenities that enliven a space and make it more enjoyable and comfortable for people. PPS assists with both permanent and temporary installations, and helps select architectural ornamentation, free-standing pieces, and functional design amenities.

Project for Public Spaces, Inc. (PPS) is especially qualified to help clients choose art and amenities. The wide range of cities we work in provides us with the opportunity to observe how people actually use and experience public spaces all over the country. We offer a unique perspective on how to best select and place design elements and public art so they are integrated into a site and responsive to the needs of users.

PPS has always offered design consultation on furniture, lighting fixtures, paving materials, wastebaskets, drinking fountains, and other public space design elements. In 1983 we expanded our services to include referrals of artists and artisans to clients who wish to incorporate art into their public spaces. Through our public art and amenity program we offer information about artists, craftspeople, and fabricators who are interested in collaborative efforts at making site-specific works. To ensure the best results, we emphasize artists who already have experience in architectural installations and creating art for public spaces. We also act as an educational service, and provide information about galleries, manufacturers, consultants, museum

collections, exhibits and past projects that may relate to a client's needs. In our files, for example, we have information about artists and craftspeople who use traditional fresco techniques; fabricate mosaics, manufacture custom furniture; and specialize in prismed windows, skylights, and artist-designed lighting.

Since we do not charge a commission to the client or the artists, we offer a viewpoint that is different and more objective than a gallery or consultant representing a select group of artists.

WHAT WE DO

- o <u>Information and Referral</u>
 We refer you to works appropriate to your space, and assist with introductions and coordination of meetings with the artists and fabricators.
- o <u>Conceptual Designs</u> and <u>Site Plans</u>
 We can provide you with plans and sketches to help you visualize art work and amenities in the context of the site.
- o Management and Programming
 We can help you set up a management structure to oversee
 security and maintenance of your space, and coordinate exhibitions
 and special events. We can also assist with implementing
 special zoning and tax incentives to help support the arts in
 your area.
- o Audio-Visual Presentations and Workshops on Art and Amenities Workshops cover topics such as how to select and locate public art and amenities; contract negotiation; supervision of fabrication and installation of art works. Slide show presentations include examples of artists' work in materials such as stone; marble; mosaic tile; wood; and glass.

About Project for Public Spaces

Project for Public Spaces, Inc. (PPS) is a non-profit urban design and planning organization that was founded in 1975 to study the use of public spaces and recommend ways they can be improved. To date we have completed 200 projects in over 60 cities and towns throughout North America. Project areas have included parks, plazas, waterfront facilities, lobbies and atriums, airports and other transportation facilities, and downtown commercial districts. We provide consultation for site planning and programming of new spaces as well as upgrading and improving existing spaces.

Our services are unique because they are based on years of observing the use of public spaces. Our work is strengthened by the diversity of our staff, whose backgrounds include: architecture; landscape architecture; urban design; industrial design; fine arts; art history; historic preservation; arts administration; environmental psychology and anthropology. We have received many awards for our work, from such diverse sources as Progressive Architecture Magazine, the Presidential Design Jury, and the International Downtown Executives Association.

For additional information, please contact:

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