



CITY OF HOUSTON
**CIVIC ART
PROGRAM
ANNUAL
REPORT
2021**



FRONT & BACK COVER IMAGES

Margo Sawyer
Synchronicity of Color, 2008
Discovery Green
District I



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF
**CULTURAL
AFFAIRS**

**CIVIC ART COLLECTION
ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

BY THE CITY OF HOUSTON MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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Elaine Bradford, *Pachikadi and his Flying Friends*, 2011
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CITY DEPARTMENTS

- GSD - General Services Department
- HAS - Houston Airport System
- HFC - Houston First Corporation
- HFD - Houston Fire Department
- HHS - Health and Human Services
- HPD - Houston Police Department
- HPL - Houston Public Library
- Legal - Legal Department
- HPARD - Houston Parks and Recreation Department
- PMD - Parking Management Division
- PWE - Public Works and Engineering
- SWMD - Solid Waste Management Department

RACE / ETHNICITY DEFINITIONS

- White** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe or North Africa
- Hispanic, Latin American, or Latino** - A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race
- Black or African American** – A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa
- American Indian or Alaska Native** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment
- Asian** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Middle East, Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands
- BIPOC** - Black, Indigenous, and persons of color
- LGBTQIA+** - a person who identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning (one’s sexual or gender identity), intersex, and asexual/aromantic/agender

The Equity Review included in this report employed Census guidelines for categorizing race and ethnicity to compare the demographics of Houston and the United States. It is important to note that, as the Census guidelines state, these categories are “not an attempt to define race biologically, anthropologically, or genetically.”

The **Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs (MOCA)** advances the Mayor's cultural priorities through the City's programs, partnerships, and communications. MOCA is the point of contact for many of the City's cultural strategies and implements the City's Arts and Cultural Plan, which was developed in coordination with the City's first General Plan.

MOCA manages the City of Houston's Civic Art Program and facilitates temporary art, art donations to the City's Civic Art Collection, community murals, and special projects. MOCA upholds the values established and described in the Cultural Plan to foster an environment in which art and culture flourish for the sharing and benefit of all residents of and visitors to Houston.

This annual report sets out the prior year's Civic Art Program activities and financial report. Budgets referenced in the project summaries are for the entire term of the project and often encompass more than one year.

The Civic Art Program is just one way Houston invests in the cultural development of its communities.

Find out more about MOCA programs and activities at www.houstontx.gov/culturalaffairs, on YouTube channel HoustonMOCA, and by following @HoustonMOCA on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the latest news and information.



Dixie Friend Gay, *Books of a Feather*, 2017
Alice M. Young Neighborhood Library, District D

OVERVIEW

As part of the City's capital asset investment program, the City of Houston's Civic Art Program (managed by MOCA) produces and conserves permanent visual artworks for placement in public and civic spaces city-wide.

Houston's Civic Art Ordinance appropriates 1.75 percent of design and construction costs on qualifying City Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects. The CIP is an annually updated five-year plan addressing the infrastructure needs of the City of Houston. Civic Art projects include paintings, murals, prints, drawings, photographs, videos, films, decorations, stained glass, statues, sculptures, monuments, fountains, arches, or other structures of permanent character located on City property. Civic Art funds may also be used to conserve or repair existing artworks in the City of Houston's Civic Art Collection, but funds cannot be used for routine cleaning and maintenance.

Civic Art projects are generated through the CIP by nearly every City department, typically as part of the construction of new facilities and major expansion. Civic Art funds are appropriated by City Council for eligible projects and only apply to capital projects for which funds are assigned.

The City's Civic Art Collection currently holds 678 works of art and represents artwork from 390 artists. The Collection will grow to acquire more than 93 works of art and will accession more than 167 works of art in Fiscal Year 2022.

YEAR IN REVIEW

For MOCA, Fiscal Year 21 began with an in-depth investigation into the makeup of Houston's Civic Art Collection through the lens of equity and, throughout the year, saw unprecedented activity for the Civic Art Program in acquiring new artworks for the City and in conserving the cultural assets already in the City's possession.

The publication of our first-ever Equity Review, which looks closely at the identities of artists represented by the City of Houston's permanent collection of public artworks, was released in October 2021. The Equity Review launched a series of local and national presentations about

MOCA's methodology and findings, demonstrated the need for in-depth surveys of public art collections, and detailed our strategy to build a Civic Art Collection which is truly representative of the unique character of Houston, the keystone of which is ethnic diversity.

This effort emphasized the need for new practices in our commissioning of artworks, reinforced MOCA's commitment to the transparency of the Civic Art Program, and placed us at the forefront of a nation-wide conversation for increased BIPOC artist inclusion in public art collections.

The results of our first Equity Review informed the Civic Art Program of immediate adjustments needed throughout every phase of the artwork commissioning processes to ensure the diversification of Houston's Civic Art Collection. With regard to the commissioning process, MOCA has begun analyzing applicant data to evaluate the success of program outreach and has made a concerted effort to invite arts professionals who value equity in their own work into the process. Most significantly, MOCA's work in the past Fiscal Year has emphasized community representation as a vital consideration for every discussion about artwork in Houston communities, including temporary art. Early efforts to ensure that communities are represented in MOCA's processes have been extremely impactful. To underscore the City's commitment to improved practices, with this year's Annual Report and Equity Review MOCA is issuing the inaugural city-wide policy outlining new collaborative processes and emphasizing Civic Art Program priorities. MOCA continues to invite feedback from our partners and community members.

We look forward to a future for our program which involves MOCA even more deeply in work to engage community at the front end of new projects, during our commissioning processes, and as we introduce new artwork to Houston communities. We look forward to a future for Houston which allows us to better tell the story of our city – its history and its neighborhoods – through world-class public art.

ACTIVITY REPORT

In Fiscal Year **2021** **19** new projects were initiated. Work continued on **18** ongoing projects from previous fiscal years, for a total of **37** active projects. **15** active projects were completed in FY21 and **22** are still ongoing.

Civic Art projects in FY21 included work on **9 active** artwork commissions, **2** of which were completed within the fiscal year and **7** of which are still ongoing. **4** of the ongoing projects for new artwork were initiated in FY20 and **3** were initiated in FY21.

20 conservation projects were active in FY21, **10** of which were completed within the fiscal year and **10** of which are still ongoing. Of all conservation projects active in FY21, **8** were initiated in FY20 and **12** in FY21.

8 collection management projects were active in FY21, **3** of which were completed within the fiscal year and **5** of which are still ongoing. **4** of the **8** active projects were initiated in FY21.

The total amount of funds authorized for projects active in FY21 was \$7,346,401.31, though some projects were initiated in previous fiscal years. **Projects initiated in FY21 authorized funds in the amount of \$2,676,039.74.**

During FY21, funds in the amount of **\$1,470,095.34** were paid in fees for artists and conservators for work on new art acquisitions and conservation projects.

Project management on these projects was carried out under contract by Houston Arts Alliance (HAA), to whom **\$207,856.16** was paid for administrative services on these activities.

ACTIVITY REPORT

The summary of activity is as follows:

Table 1 – Active Projects

PROJECT TYPE	STATUS	FY20	FY21
New Artwork Commissions / Acquisitions	Completed	0	2
	In-Progress	1	7
	Initiated	5	3
Active Projects		6	9
Conservation	Completed	23	10
	In-Progress	3	10
	Initiated	9	12
Active Projects		35	20
Collection Management	Completed	0	3
	In-Progress	1	5
	Initiated	2	4
Active Projects		3	8
Donations		0	0
TOTAL PROJECTS ACTIVE IN FY21		44	36

ACTIVITY REPORT

DEPARTMENT POOL BALANCES

The breakdown of new and ongoing activity by department is as follows:

Table 2 – Active Projects per City Department

DEPARTMENT	FY20	FY21
GG	3	3
HAS	20	23
HFD	1	0
HHD	3	1
HPARD	2	1
HPD	5	3
HPL	5	2
PWE	4	2
SWMD	0	0
HHD / HPL / HPARD	1	2
TOTAL ACTIVE PROJECTS	44	37

The 37 active projects include Civic Art activities within 8 City departments and 6 city council districts (B, C, D, F, I, and K). 2 Collection Management projects are city-wide. The Alief Neighborhood Center merges activity of 3 departments: HHD, HPL, and HPARD.

Funds in Service is the portion of available funding allocated to projects through letters of authorization (LOAs). Activity on LOAs is calculated as a percentage of total available funds. Available Funds are equal to the End of Year (EOY) Balance for FY20 + funds newly appropriated in FY21. A portion of the EOY Balance within each department pool/fund is reserved.

Table 3 – Funds in Service*
Department Pool Balances – EOY FY21

DEPARTMENT	END OF FY20 BALANCE	NEW FUNDS	ACTIVITIES	YEAR END BALANCE	% PUT IN SERVICE
GEN GOV. (GG)	\$54,633.00	-	-\$38,604.18	\$16,028.82	71%
HOUSTON AIRPORTS (HAS)	\$2,181,351.00	\$3,072,372.00	-\$1,199,267.04	\$4,054,455.96	23%
HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD)	\$717,508.00	-	-	\$717,508.00	0%
HOUSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT (HHD)	\$165,266.00	\$534,008.00	-	\$699,274.00	0%
HOUSTON PARKS & REC. DEPT (HPARD)	\$302,122.00	\$49,704.00	-\$210,000.00	\$141,826.00	70%
HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD)	\$171,895.00	\$156,990.00	-	\$328,885.00	0%
HOUSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY (HPL)	\$332,173.00	\$68,539.00	-\$33,705.00	\$367,007.00	8%
HOUSTON PUBLIC WORKS (PWE)	\$48,405.00	-	-	\$48,405.00	0%
WATER & SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND	\$666,905.00	-	-\$100,000.00	\$666,905.00	15%
SOLID WASTE (SWMD)	-	\$173,398.00	-	\$173,398.00	0%
OTHER	\$440,853.00	\$154,613.00	-\$1,188.32	\$594,277.68	0%

*Funds in Service is the portion of available Civic Art funding (EOY balances + new funds) allocated to projects through letters of authorization within FY21

NEW ARTWORK COMMISSIONS

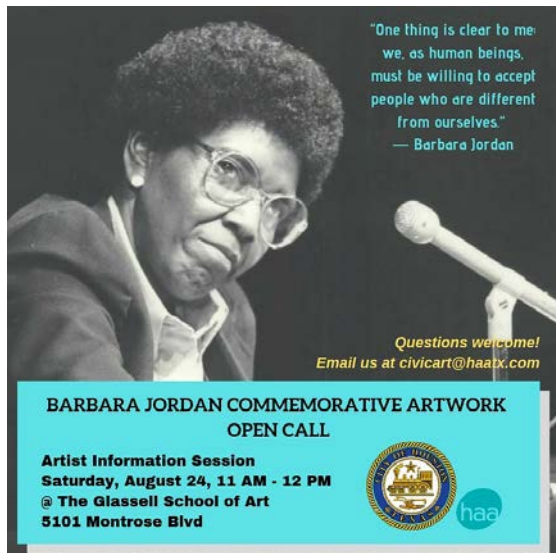
NEW ARTWORK COMMISSIONS



Project: Southwest Police Station
 Department: HPD
 Year Initiated: 2016 / FY16
 District: K
 Location: Southwest Police Station; 3097 Nitida Street, Houston, Texas 77045
 Budget: \$289,000
 Current Status: Completed
 Description: *Outdoor sculptural artwork commissioned for the new Southwest Police Station in District K and adjacent to Cambridge Village Park*



Project: Alief Neighborhood Center (Artist Selection)
 Department: HPL/HHS/HPARD
 Year Initiated: 2019 / FY20
 District: F
 Location: 11903 Bellaire Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77072
 Budget: HPL: \$90,000; HHD: \$90,000; HPARD: \$90,000; TOTAL: \$270,000
 Current Status: *Artist selection complete*
 Description: *Three (two interior and one exterior) new artworks commissioned for the forthcoming Alief Neighborhood Center, a multi-use facility shared by three city departments.*



Project: Barbara Jordan Commemorative Monument
 Department: HPL
 Year Initiated: 2019 / FY20
 District: C
 Location: African American Library at the Gregory School; Freedmen's Town; 1300 Victor Street, Houston, Texas 77019
 Budget: \$282,500
 Current Status: Design development complete
 Description: *This project will produce an interpretive monumental artwork commemorating historically significant Houstonian, Barbara Jordan.*



Project: Sunnyside Multi Service Center (Artist Selection)
 Year Initiated: 2019 / FY20
 District: D
 Locations: 4410 Reed Road, Houston, Texas 77051
 Budget: \$158,800
 Current Status: Selection process ongoing
 Description: *Two new artworks (one interior, one exterior) commissioned for the forthcoming Sunnyside Multi-Service Center.*

NEW ARTWORK COMMISSIONS

NEW ARTWORK COMMISSIONS



Projects:

1. New Commissions (10 artworks)
2. Portable Works (up to 88 artworks)

Department: HAS
 Year Initiated: 2020 / FY20
 Districts: B, I
 Locations: Bush Intercontinental (IAH) and Hobby (HOU) Airports
 Combined Budget: \$3,000,000
 Current Status: RFQ/RFA artist submissions received; panelist selection process active
 Description: Ten new artwork commissions and up to 88 portable (2D or 3D existing) artworks for acquisition.



Project: Alief Neighborhood Center (Design + Fabrication)
 Department: HPL/HHS/HPARD
 Year Initiated: 2020 / FY21
 District: F
 Location: 11903 Bellaire Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77072
 Budget: HPL: \$210,000; HHD: \$210,000; HPARD: \$210,000; TOTAL: \$630,000
 Current Status: Design Development ongoing
 Description: Three (two interior and an exterior) new artworks commissioned for the Alief Neighborhood Center, a multi-use facility shared by three city departments



Project: Municipal Workers Memorial
 Department: PWE
 Year Initiated: 2020 / FY21
 District: C
 Location: 500 McKinney Street, Houston, Texas 77002
 Budget: \$100,000
 Current Status: LOA issued
 Description: A commissioned memorial for Houston's municipal employees who have lost their lives in the line of duty. There are roughly 30 names to memorialize. An appropriate site for this memorial is being determined in partnership and collaboration with Buffalo Bayou Partnership.



Project: Barbara Bush Literacy Plaza
 Department: HPL
 Year Initiated: 2020 / FY21
 District: C
 Location: TBD
 Budget: \$ 33,705.08
 Current Status: Artist selection process ongoing
 Description: New mosaic artwork commissioned for four custom planters bordering the children's outdoor area.

CONSERVATION

FY21 saw **20** active projects for conservation of artworks within at least **3** districts (B, C, & I) and under the management of **5** City Departments: GSD, HAS, HPD, HPARD, and PWE. **10** of the conservation projects active in FY21 were completed, 5 of which were initiated in FY20. **12** conservation projects were initiated in FY21. In total, the City has allocated **\$2,326,319.28** for these conservation projects, **\$1,776,143.96** of which was authorized in FY21.

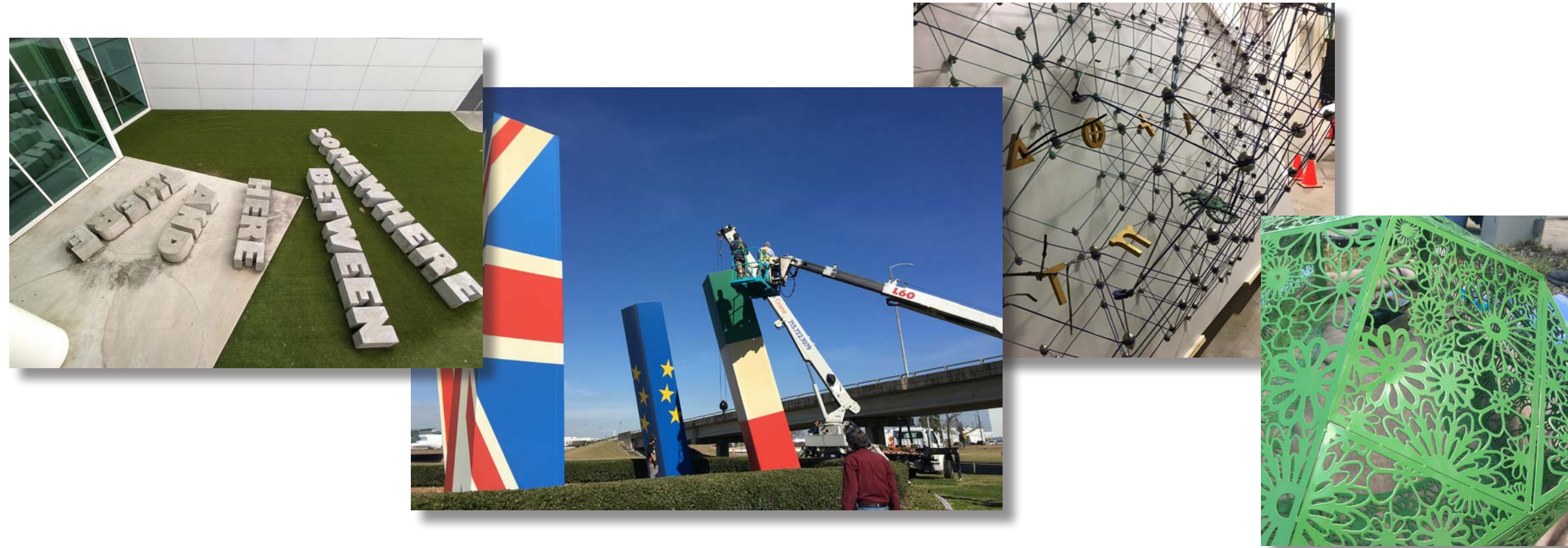


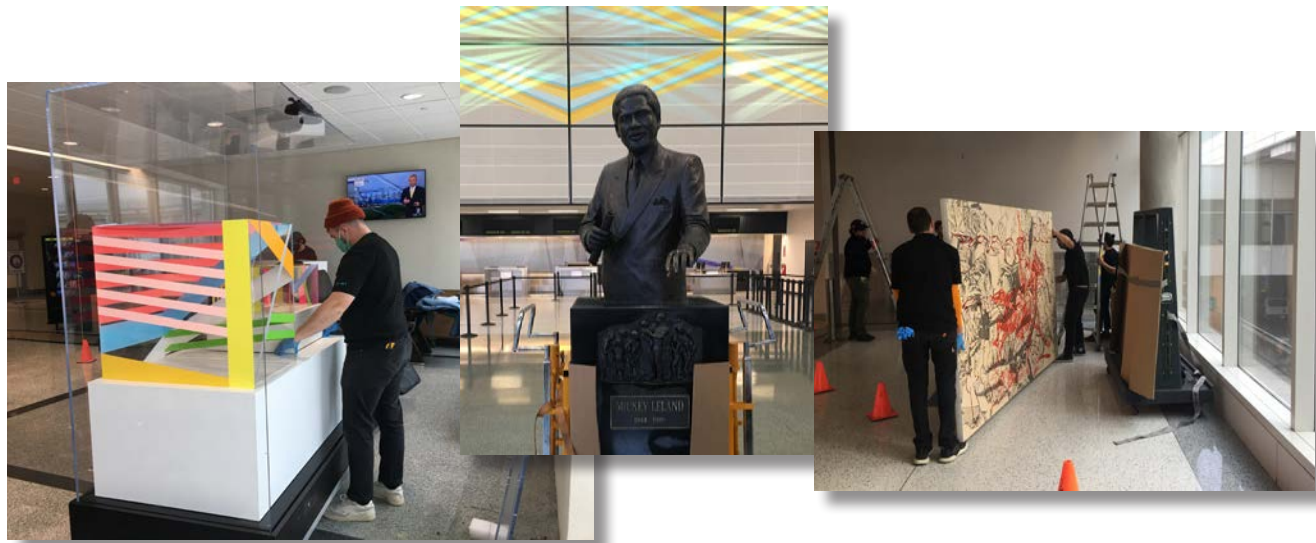
Table 4 – Conservation Projects

LOA #	LOA Date	INITIATED	PROJECT TYPE	DEPARTMENT	DISTRICT	PROJECT NAME	STATUS	AUTHORIZED FUNDS
LOA 001	9/5/19	FY20	Conservation	GSD	C	"Urban Overgroth, Spring"	Completed	\$13,399.00
LOA No. 14	11/25/19	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B	"Edge of Sky"	Ongoing	\$76,532.50
LOA 006	12/17/19	FY20	Conservation	HPD	C	"Houston Police Officer's Memorial "	Ongoing	\$3,370.00
LOA 005	2/6/20	FY20	Conservation	PWE	I	"The Houston Oracle in Two Parts"	Completed	\$12,060.00
LOA NO. 15	3/17/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B	"Moonwalker (Cow)"	Completed	\$24,162.50
LOA No. 17	3/18/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B	"Light Spikes"	Ongoing	\$393,218.82
LOA No. 19	3/19/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	B + I	"Sky Wall" and "Travel Light"	Completed	\$19,829.75
LOA No. 11R	3/20/20	FY20	Conservation	HAS	I	"Black and White Longhorn"	Completed	\$7,602.75
LOA No. 23	8/21/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Take-Off" Lighting	Initiated / Completed	\$11,998.75
LOA 009	10/5/20	FY21	Conservation	HPD	C	"Houston Police Officer's Memorial" (Granite)	Initiated/ Completed	\$19,175.00

Table 4.1 – Conservation Projects (continued)

LOA #	LOA Date	INITIATED	PROJECT TYPE	DEPARTMENT	DISTRICT	PROJECT NAME	STATUS	AUTHORIZED FUNDS
LOA No. 24	10/9/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Vector HH"	Initiated / Completed	\$10,468.00
LOA No. 25	10/20/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Illuminated Icon"	Initiated / Completed	\$2,486.25
LOA No. 26	12/18/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	"Radiant Fountains"	Initiated / Ongoing	\$1,130,086.29
LOA No. 27	12/18/20	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	TEOS Engineering, Storage	Initiated / Ongoing	\$27,097.75
LOA No. 29	3/25/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	I	"Travessia" Lighting	Initiated / Completed	\$12,543.75
LOA No. 31	4/20/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	"West of the Pecos" Lighting	Initiated / Ongoing	\$10,316.25
LOA No. 17R	4/28/21	FY21	Conservation	HAS	B	Baker "Light Spikes" Conservation	Initiated / Ongoing	\$433,698.92
LOA 013	5/10/21	FY21	Conservation	HPARD	C	"Fonde Totems"	Initiated / Ongoing	\$5,827.50

FY21 saw **8** projects active for collection management and other services. **4** of these projects were initiated in FY21, while **4** are ongoing from FY20. Combined, a total of **\$256,076.65** of Civic Art funds has been authorized for these projects, **\$136,190.40** of which was authorized in FY21.



City Department Directors may authorize Temporary Art Permits for the installation of non-permanent artworks on City of Houston property.

In FY21 **10** permits for temporary artworks were issued for limited-term placement on City property in **6** Council Districts (**A, B, C, D, G, H**); **4** of the permits were issued and/or renewed for *Insta11ations* – a special initiative of the MOCA executed in collaboration with local non-profit Art League Houston. The temporary art initiative was launched to support the creative and professional development of **11** local artists and artists’ teams. This public art initiative installed **1** site-specific work of public art in each Council District in Houston, **4** of which are on HPARD-managed property.

Table 5 – Collection Management Projects

LOA #	LOA Date	INITIATED	PROJECT TYPE	DEPARTMENT	DISTRICT	PROJECT NAME	STATUS (End of FY)	AUTHORIZED FUNDS
LOA No. 9	11/25/19	FY20	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Collection Exhibition + Display	Completed	\$58,400.00
LOA 004	1/15/20	FY20	Collection Management	GG	Various	Civic Art Collection Management	Ongoing	\$19,140.00
LOA No. 18	3/18/20	FY20	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Framing 3 Artworks	Completed	\$13,966.25
LOA No. 22	5/5/20	FY20	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Collection Management + Other Services	Ongoing	\$28,380.00
LOA No. 28	1/7/21	FY21	Collection Management	HAS	I	New Plaques for 50 objects @ HOU	Initiated / Completed	\$9,558.75
LOA No. 30	4/20/21	FY21	Collection Management	HAS	B	Mickey Leland plaques	Initiated / Ongoing	\$9,839.15
LOA 011	5/10/21	FY21	Collection Management	GSD	Various	Collection Management - Additional	Initiated / Ongoing	\$39,792.50
LOA No. 34	6/23/21	FY21	Collection Management	HAS	B + I	Exhibition & Display (2)	Initiated / Ongoing	\$77,000.00



Project: *Acres Homes Rocks*
 Artist: Israel McCloud
 Permitting Department: HPARD
 District: B
 Location: Various locations in the Acres Homes neighborhood along South Victory Drive
 Current Status: Installed (until December 2021)
 Description: Acres Homes Rocks is a dynamic and innovative mixed-media installation. The work has multiple components, including 3 welded art rocking chairs, 2 free-standing sculptural elements, 1 2-sided painted “A” sculpture; and 1 2-sided totem sculpture. McCloud’s installation, currently on view, is located in the median along South Victory Drive and can be viewed while carefully driving along South Victory Drive.



Project: *Geo'd*
 Artist: Marsha Dorsey-Outlaw
 Permitting Department: HPARD
 District: K
 Location: Townwood Community Center
 Current Status: Installed (until December 2021)
 Description: *Geo'd*, is a collaborative, large-scale mosaic installation signifying cultural vitality and addressing matters of propagation, renewal, and obsolescence.



Project: *Rethinking Your Neighborhood: A Collaborative Experience*
 Artist: Violette Bule
 Permitting Department: HPARD
 District: H
 Location: Irvington Park
 Current Status: Installed (until December 2021)
 Description: *Rethinking Your Neighborhood: A Collaborative Experience* is an invitation for visitors to engage in a collective experience of constructing a shared vision for their community. The interactive public art installation begins with the collection of information through interviews and surveys and continues with playful interactions involving the grid and sculptures and conversations around shared understanding and creative proposals. The vision of the project is to catalyze unified advocacy among community leaders and elected officials.



Project: *Oakbrook Gateway*
 Artist: Sherry Owens and Art Shirer
 Permitting Department: HPARD
 District: A
 Location: Oakbrook Greenspace
 Current Status: Installed (until December 2021)
 Description: *Oakbrook Gateway* features a pair of vertical sculptures made of welded steel. The forms, abstractly depicting trees, are located opposite of each other on the walkway leading from the White Oak Bayou Greenway Trail.



TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL CABINET PROGRAM & MINI MURALS

The Traffic Signal Control Cabinet (TSCC) Art Program is an initiative to bring more public art to neighborhoods in the City of Houston. The program is overseen by the MOCA and the City of Houston Department of Public Works and Engineering (PWE). The TSCC murals executed through project management by Up Art Studios, a contacting partner, are known as “Mini Murals.”

To date, **324** Mini Murals have been completed in the Greater Houston Area. **58** Mini Murals were completed in FY21, 22 of which were funded by the City of Houston. In the same fiscal year, **26** Mini Murals were sponsored by Management Districts in Houston and 3 by Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) organizations.





Jesús Bautista Moroles, *Houston Police Officers Memorial*, 1990
Buffalo Bayou Park, District C

KEY FINDINGS

The City of Houston's Arts and Cultural Plan outlines a vision for the City to "foster an environment in which art and culture flourish for the sharing and benefit of all residents and visitors." Because Houston is the most ethnically diverse major metropolitan area in the country, the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs (MOCA) assesses the Civic Art Collection annually to determine how closely it represents the diverse populace of the city.

The 2021 Equity Review presents statistics on the genders, races, and ethnicities represented by the 678 artworks in Houston's Civic Art Collection, with a key focus on the representation of female artists of color. This year, to strengthen the quality of anecdotal data and add depth to the 2020 Equity Review, MOCA initiated a survey of living artists whose works are included in Houston's Civic Art Collection. MOCA also analyzed the geographic placement of art objects in public spaces across Houston to evaluate the distribution of investment and activity driven by the Civic Art Program throughout the course of its history.

Though the gender, racial, and ethnic makeup of Houston's Civic Art Collection is typical of municipal public art collections in the U.S., MOCA is committed to realizing a Civic Art Collection that represents Houston as an internationally renowned, vibrant hub for cultural dynamism. This effort requires improving the nature, quality, and character of Houston's Civic Art Collection and related public programming.

- The geographic placement of artworks across Houston, by Council District, is disproportionate and underserves District E, which hosts no artworks in the City's Collection, and District F, which hosts only 1 artwork in the City's Collection.
- Houston's Civic Art Collection over-represents male artists and severely under-represents BIPOC women artists.
- Hispanic/Latinx artists, Black or African American artists, and Asian artists are underrepresented despite growing populations in Houston.
- The data and findings presented in this report signal the continued need for immediate adjustments to acquisition and artist selection processes within the Civic Art Program.
- Immediate actions taken by the Civic Art Program in FY21 have improved commissioning processes; those actions include publicly releasing the 2020 Equity Review, presenting the 2021 Equity Review findings to panelists in the artist selection process, and collecting demographics from artist applicants.
- Long-term efforts include engaging Houston Arts Alliance's (HAA's) Civic Art Committee, developing pathways for under-represented artists, and establishing trust with communities.

MOCA made significant methodological adjustments to realize more accurate and nuanced data in 2021. What follows is a summary of methodological updates and their impact on data and findings.

2020 EQUITY REVIEW: ASSUMED IDENTITIES BASED ON CENSUS CATEGORIES

In July of 2020, Houston Arts Alliance (HAA) generated a report of Houston's Civic Art Collection that focused on the following data for 678 artworks by 387 unique artists: accession number, title of artwork, location, artist name, date created, date acquired, department, original cost, conservation status and costs, and valuation. MOCA compiled the data and researched artist gender, race/ethnicity, and place of birth, and birth year using internet research. Self-identifying information on artists' websites was used. MOCA employed Census guidelines to categorize race and ethnicity and to compare the demographics of Houston to the demographics of the U.S. As Census guidelines state, these categories are "not an attempt to define race biologically, anthropologically, or genetically."

2021 EQUITY REVIEW: UPDATED CATEGORIES AND ARTIST SURVEY

Updated Categories. To address the oversimplified nature of the U.S. Census demographic categories and procure data more aligned with the diversity of Houston's populace, MOCA adjusted the ethnic/demographic categories in two key ways. "European" artists were designated as "White." For artist partnerships and teams, each artist was categorized individually. The category adjustments added nuance to the 2020 findings.

Artist Survey. MOCA collaborated with HAA and contracted with DLG Research to conduct an artist survey. Using contact information collected from artists provided by HAA or publicly available, DLG Research surveyed 72 living artists. Providing multiple answer choices and a write-in option for added complexity, the survey collected the following information via self-report: artist name, age, race and/or ethnic identity, gender identity, LGBTQIA+ identification, disability, personal income, household income, location of birth, current residence, level of education, religious affiliation, and length of artistic career.

Implications. For the 72 artists who participated in the self-report artist survey, a direct comparison with the U.S. Census was not possible due to inconsistent demographic categories. However, revised demographic categories and the survey format captured additional findings and more nuanced data for survey respondents.

The artist survey captured data around socioeconomic status, LGBTQIA+ identification, and disabilities that were not obtained using Census categories. The survey format also exposed important demographic subtleties. For instance, the survey supplemented binary and outdated male and female-only categories with answer options for respondents who do not identify with one single gender. Similarly, the survey's utilization of more updated and specific race/ethnicity categories produced more precise information about contributing artists. For example, the 2020 data indicated that, of the 72 survey respondents, 95.83% were White (alone), whereas 2021 findings of the same respondents reveal that 31.95% of identified as White (alone) and 66.67% identified as Multi-racial.

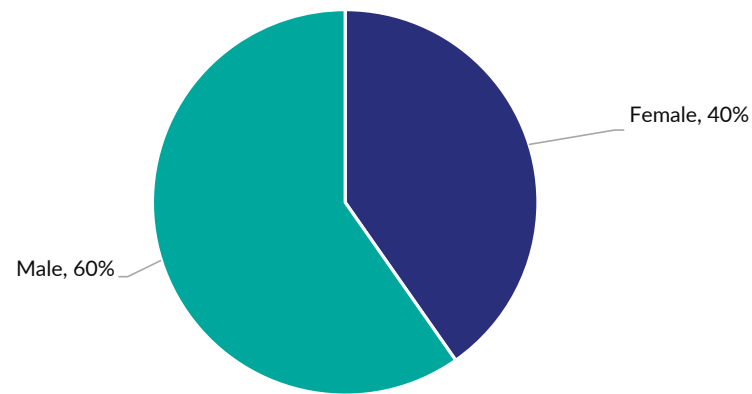
The role of self-report survey methodology in collecting data that is more expansive and more exact is notable. The 2021 artist survey data will bolster MOCA's efforts to improve the Civic Art Program and inform future methodological approaches.

DISCLAIMERS

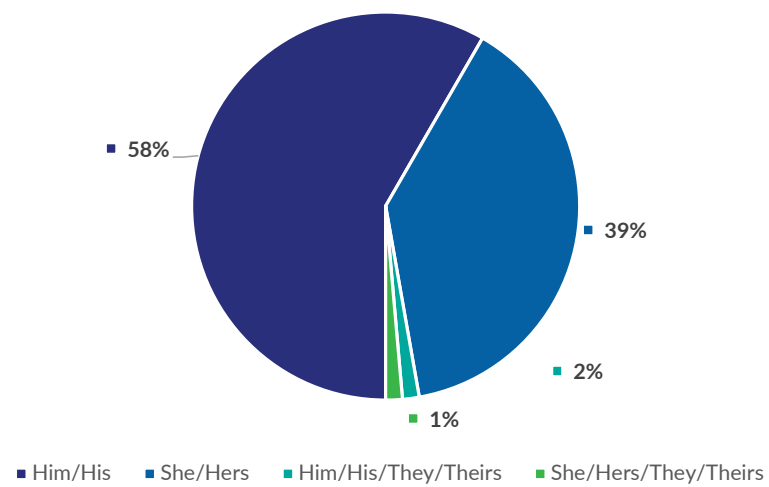
While this report represents both a large step forward in understanding the demographics of Houston's Civic Art Collection and the employment of best practice methodology, data remains incomplete. Additional research is necessary to capture the identities of all living artists (as several artists did not respond to the survey) and to classify the demographics of deceased artists. The survey would be strengthened by further refining of the race/ethnicity categories. The Collection in its entirety has not been appraised, so there remain significant gaps in valuation of artworks across the collection. Further, conservation costs and status rely on numerous factors and challenges that each unique artwork presents (i.e., placement, medium, context, year of acquisition). To gain a more accurate understanding the Collection's valuation, more appraisal, expense, and related analysis must be performed. In HAA's listing of artists and artworks provided to MOCA, there are instances where the artwork's donor is listed and no original cost was documented. In these instances, MOCA assumes the artwork was gifted to the City and the cost to the City was \$0.00.

The charts on this page illustrate the demographics of the 72 artists who participated in the 2021 artist survey. On the left is the 2020 data collected from the 72 artists using Census categories. On the right is the 2021 self-report data of the 72 artists.

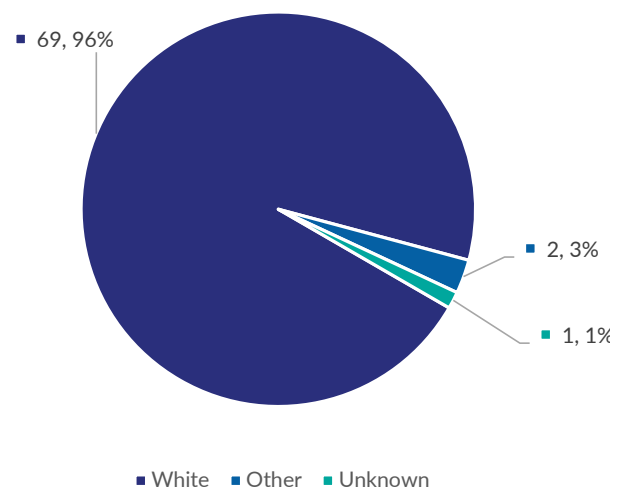
Artist Genders (Anecdotal)



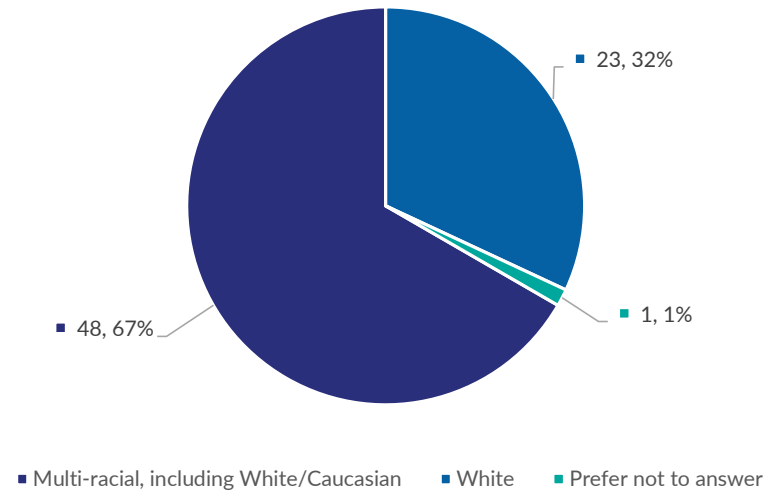
Artist Genders (Self-Identified)



Artist Ethnicities (Anecdotal)



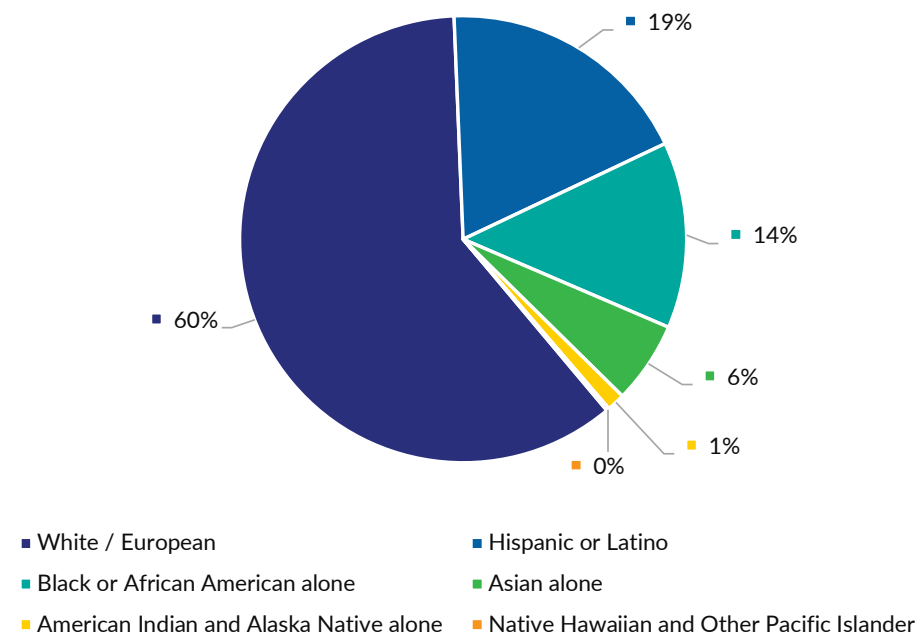
Artist Ethnicities (Self-Identified)



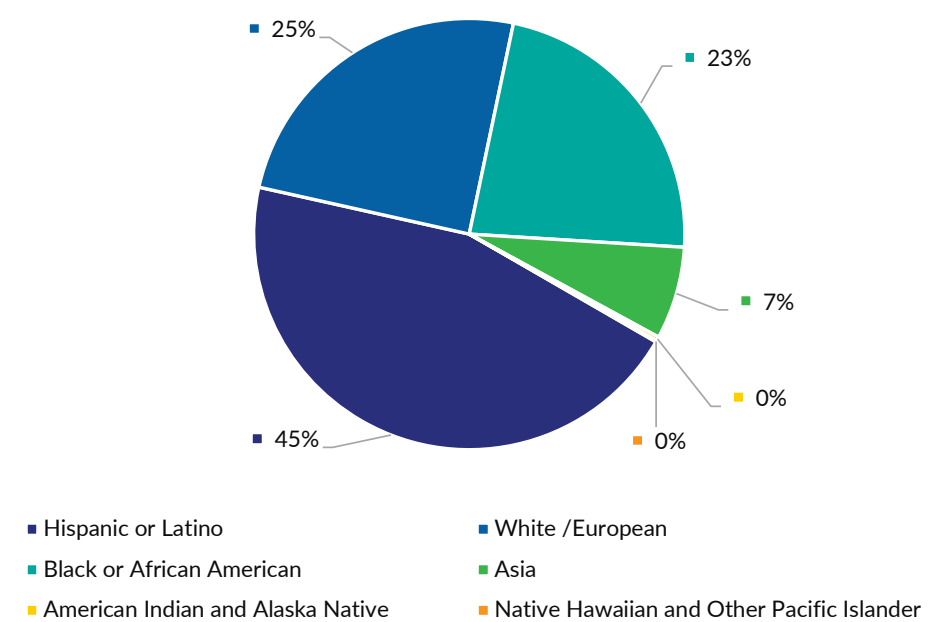
The City of Houston's Civic Art Program, managed by the Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs as part of the City's capital asset investment program, produces and conserves permanent visual artworks for placement in public and civic spaces city-wide. The City's Civic Art Ordinance appropriates 1.75 percent of design and construction costs on qualifying City Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects. The CIP is an annually updated five-year plan addressing the infrastructure needs of the City of Houston. Civic Art Projects are generated through the CIP by nearly every City department, typically as part of the construction of new facilities and major expansion. The Civic Art appropriation is an amount equal to 1.75 percent of the amount appropriated by City Council for an eligible project and only applies to capital projects where funds are appropriated by City Council. Civic Art Projects include paintings, murals, prints, drawings, photographs, videos, films, decorations, stained glass, statues, sculptures, monuments, fountains, arches, and other structures of permanent character located on City property. Civic Art funds may also be used to conserve or repair existing artworks in the City of Houston's Civic Art Collection, but funds cannot be used for routine cleaning and maintenance.

Based on Census 2019 estimates for Houston and the United States, Houston reflects a far more diverse population than the United States overall. Notably, the White demographic makes up a minority of the population in Houston, whereas the White population is the majority in the United States as a whole. The Hispanic or Latino community comprises the majority of the population of Houston. The percentage of Black or African American and Asian persons is higher in Houston than in populations across the United States in general. The Census estimates that Houston's female demographic makes up 50% of the City's population. It should be noted that these estimates reflect all ages, whereas the City only commissions artworks from adult artists.

United States Population



City of Houston Population

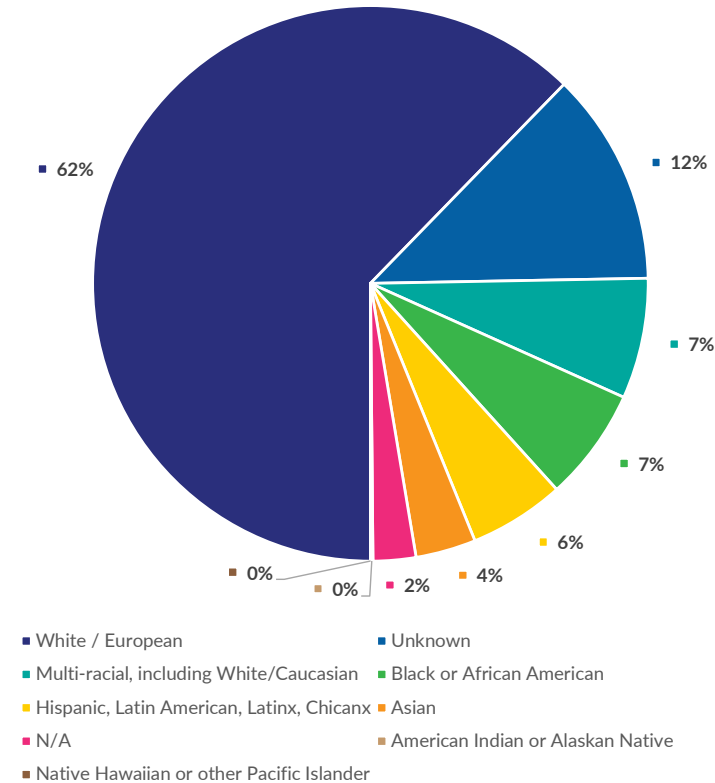


ARTIST ETHNICITIES REPRESENTED COLLECTION-WIDE

RACE/ETHNICITY

The artworks in the collection overwhelmingly represent artworks created by White artists at 62.28%, followed by 'unknown' at 12.43%. Artworks in the collection reflect only 5.56% Hispanic or Latino artists, 6.58% Black or African artists, and 3.51% Asian artists. The City of Houston only has 1 artwork in the collection by an American Indian and no artworks by a Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. The collection demographics do not reflect the diversity of Houston; the White demographic is overrepresented. Though the Hispanic/ Latino population largely comprises the population of Houston at 44.8%, only 38 unique artworks in the collection reflect the work of Hispanic or Latino artists.

Artist Ethnicities Represented Collection-Wide

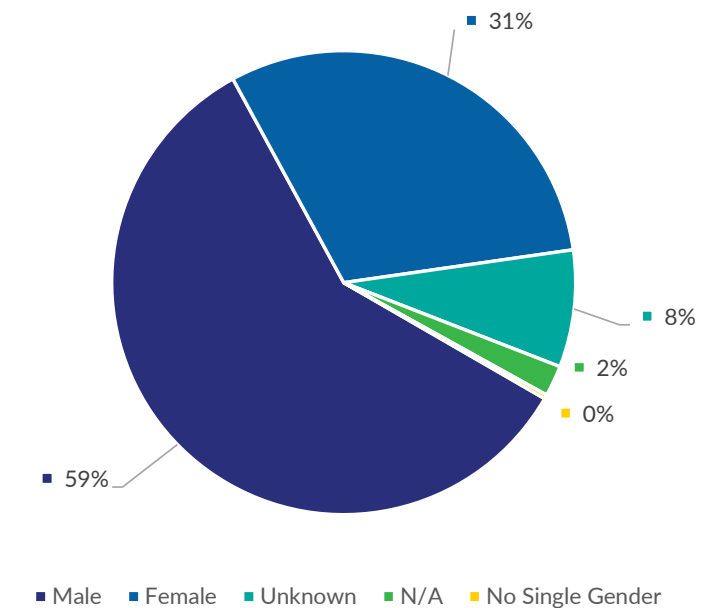


ARTWORKS REPRESENTED BY GENDER

GENDER

The majority of the Collection's artworks were made by male artists (60%). The work of female artists represents 32% of the collection, and artists of unknown genders represent 8%. Separately, with the exception of Houston Police Department and Solid Waste Management, within almost every city department's individually managed artworks, the majority were made by male artists.

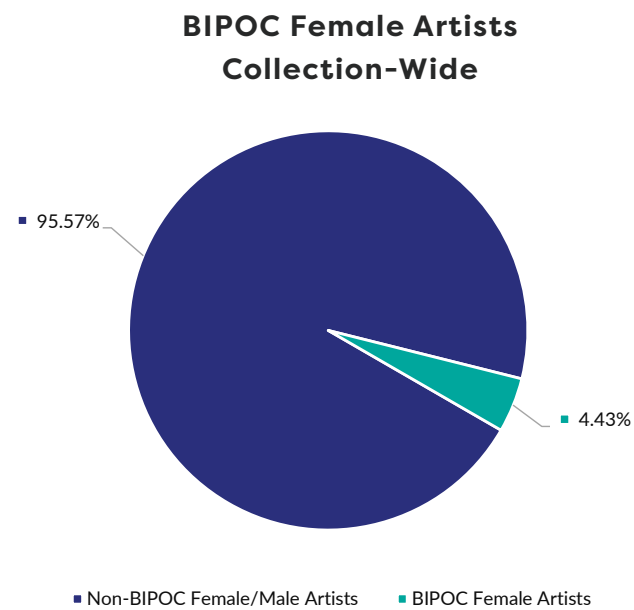
Artist Genders Represented Collection-Wide



ARTWORKS REPRESENTED BY GENDER

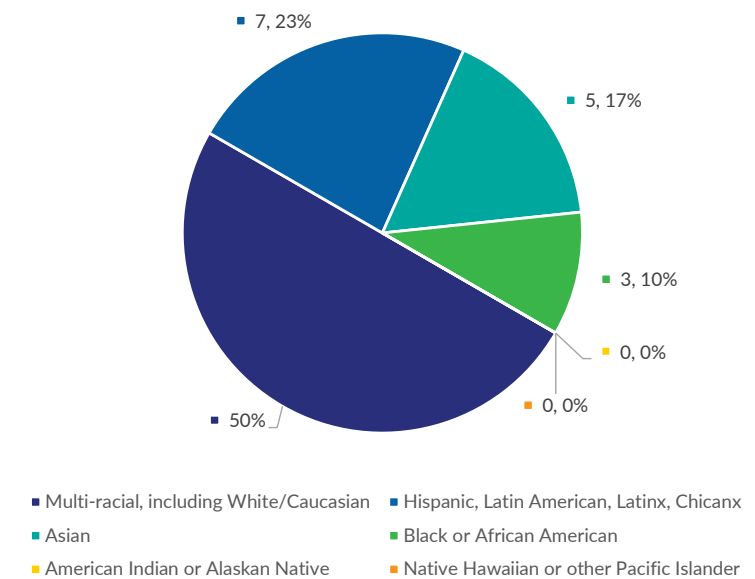
BIPOC FEMALE ARTISTS

Out of 678 objects in the Civic Art Collection, only 30 reflect the work of BIPOC women, which represents 4.4% of the collection. Only \$577,900, or 3.3% of collection cost, was spent on works by BIPOC women. HAA's report contained no data on conservation associated with artwork made by BIPOC women; MOCA assumes that no conservation has occurred for artworks made by BIPOC female artists in the City's collection.



ARTWORKS REPRESENTED BY GENDER

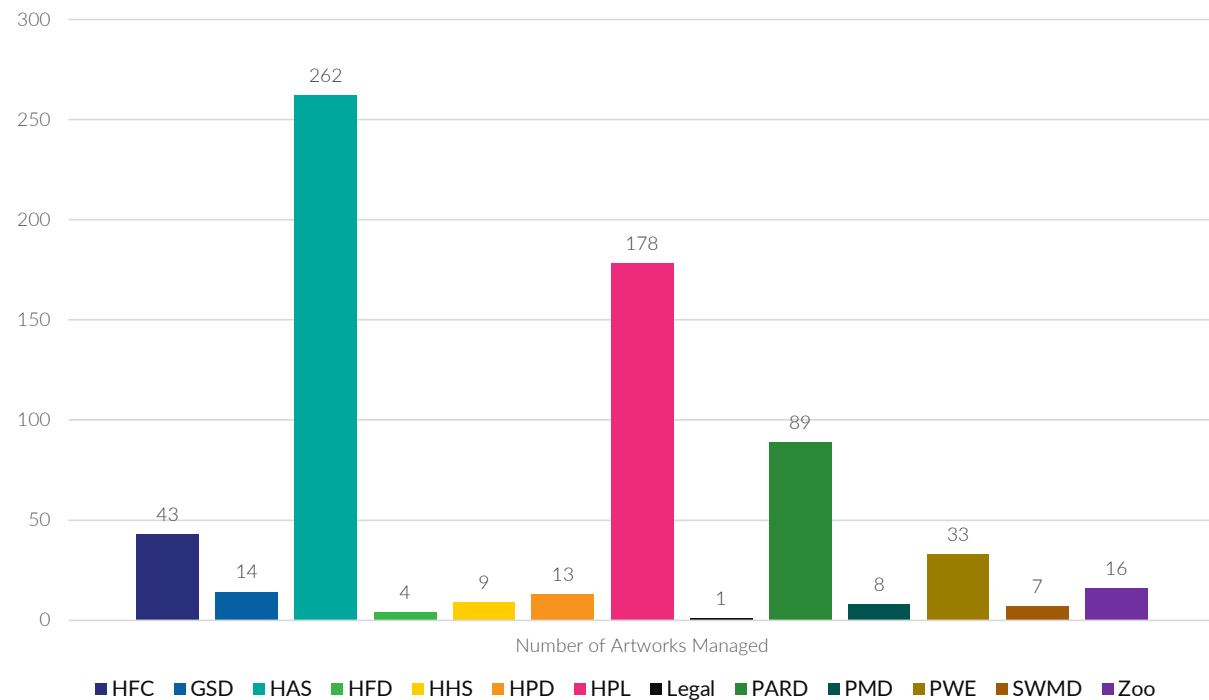
BIPOC Female Artists Ethnicities Collection-Wide



CIVIC ART COLLECTION BY CITY DEPARTMENT

The majority of artworks included in the Civic Art Collection are managed by HAS (262 artworks), HPL (178 artworks), and HPARD (89 artworks). Every City of Houston department which manages artwork in the Civic Art Collection manages artworks by a majority of White artists, with the exception of Health and Human Services which manages a majority of objects by Black or African American artists (44%).

Civic Art Collection
Artworks Managed per COH Department

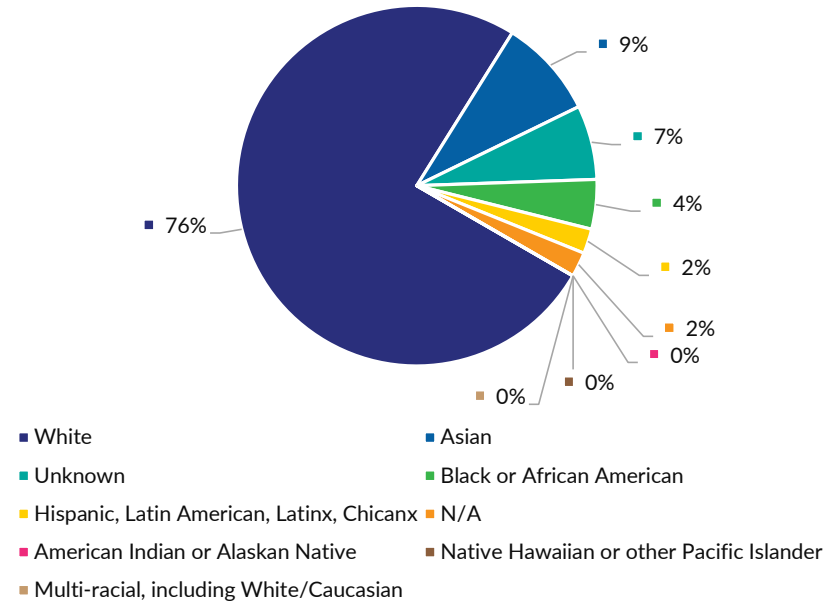


Pie charts in this section show percentages from the total number of artworks in each department's jurisdiction.

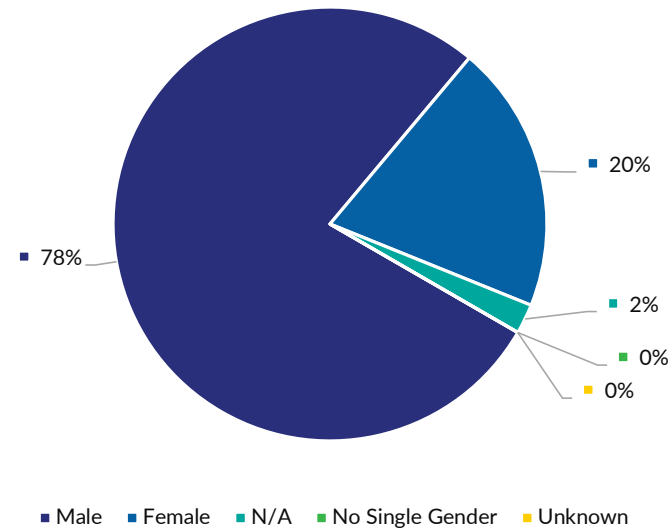
CIVIC ART COLLECTION BY CITY DEPARTMENT

- GSD - GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
- HAS - HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM
- HFC - HOUSTON FIRST CORPORATION
- HFD - HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
- HHS - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
- HPD - HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
- HPL - HOUSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
- LEGAL - LEGAL DEPARTMENT
- HPARD - HOUSTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
- PMD - PARKING MANAGEMENT DIVISION
- PWE - PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING
- SWMD - SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

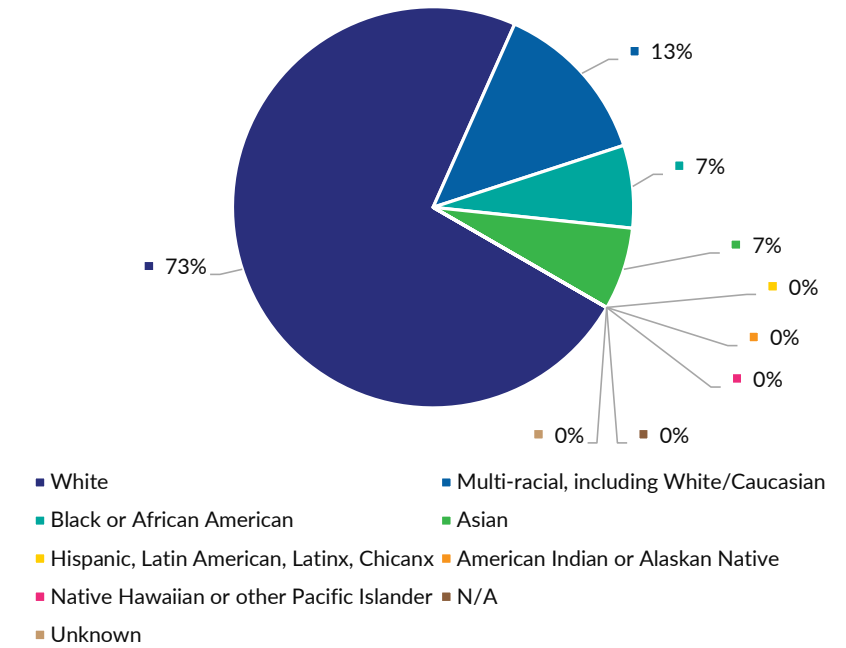
Artist Ethnicities Represented by HFC-managed Artworks



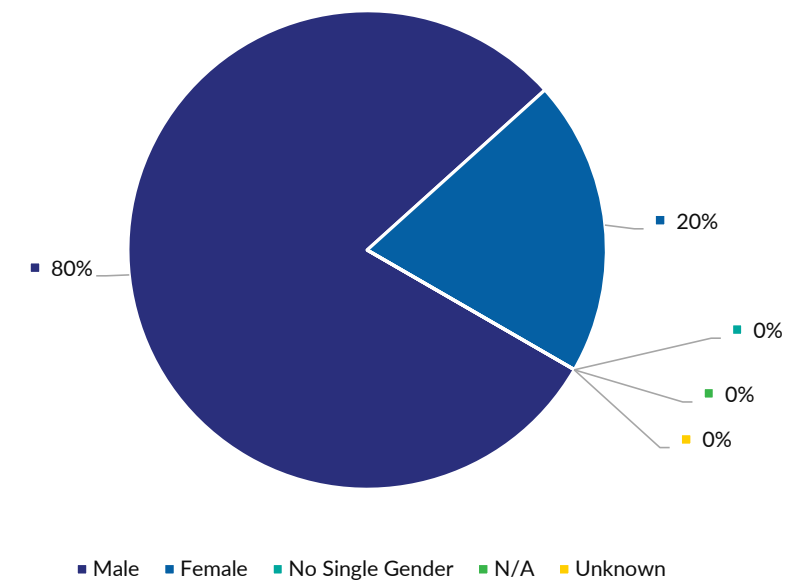
Artist Genders Represented by HFC-managed Artworks



Artist Ethnicities Represented by GSD-managed Artworks

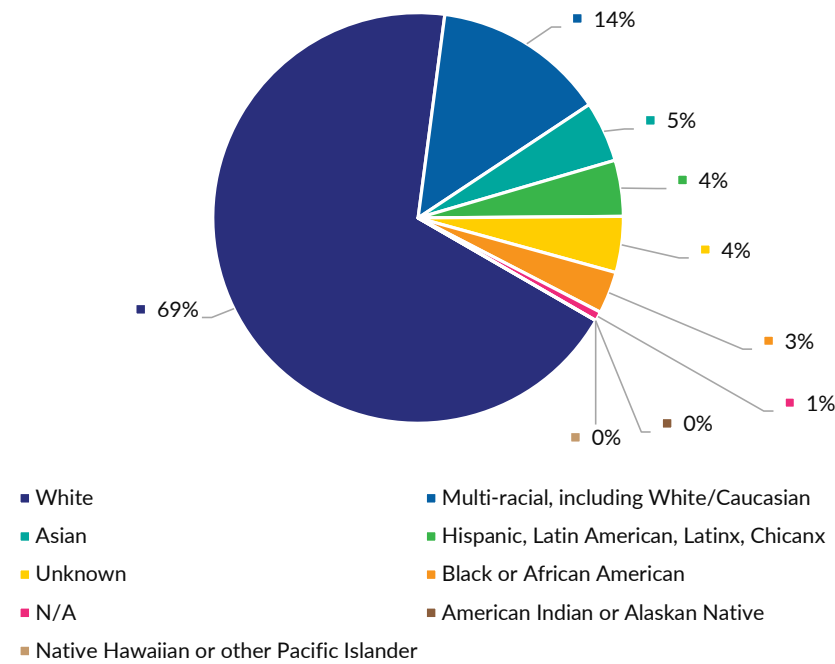


Artist Genders Represented by GSD-managed Artworks

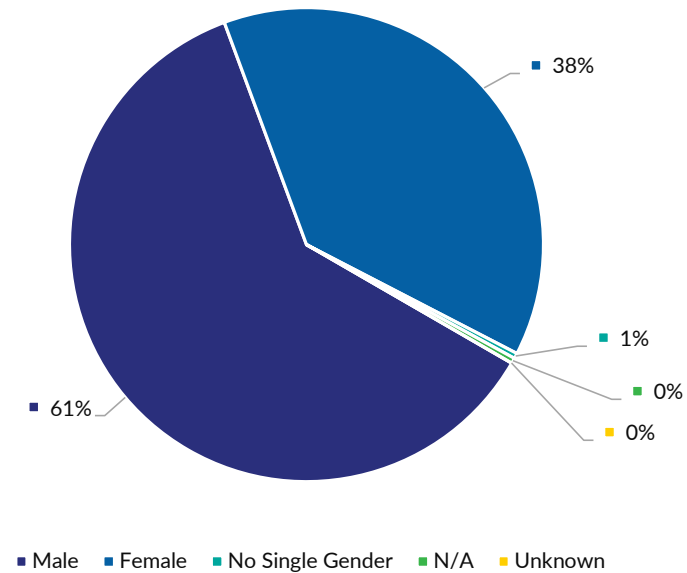


HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM

Artist Ethnicities Represented by HAS-managed Artworks

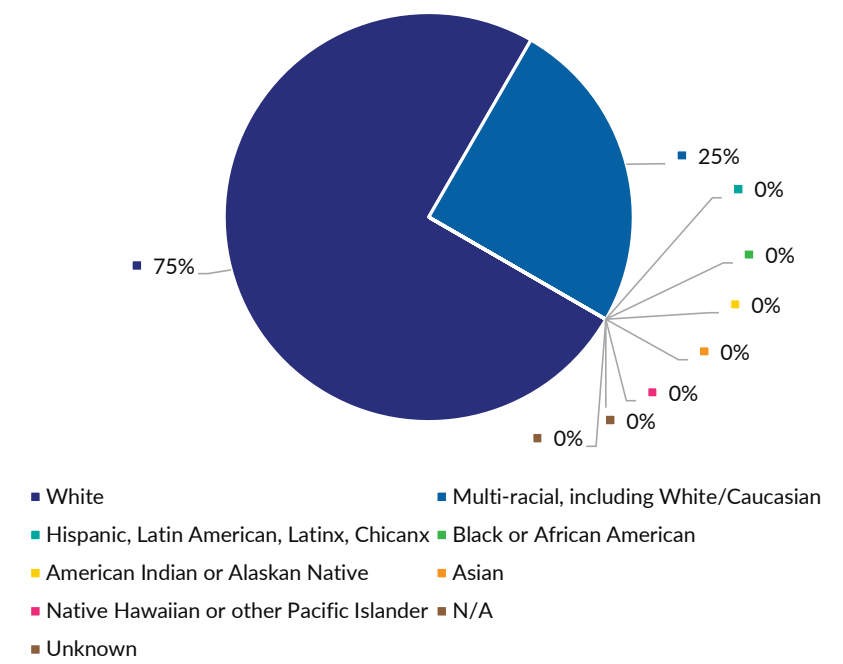


Artist Genders Represented by HAS-managed Artworks

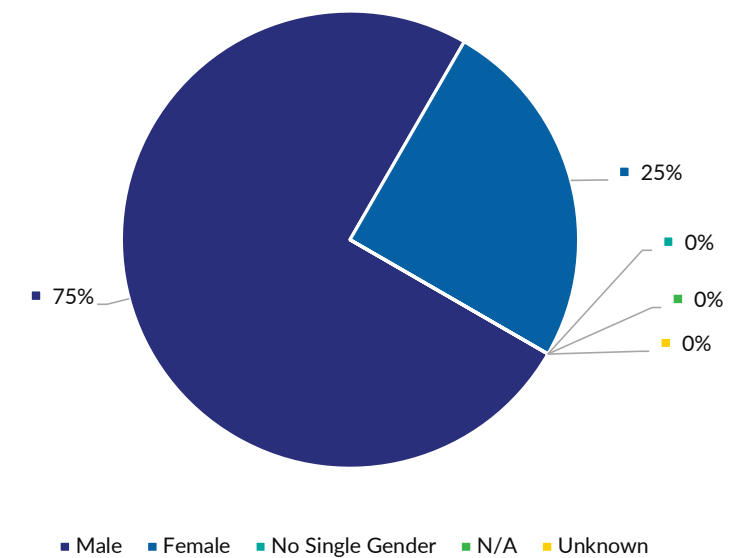


HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

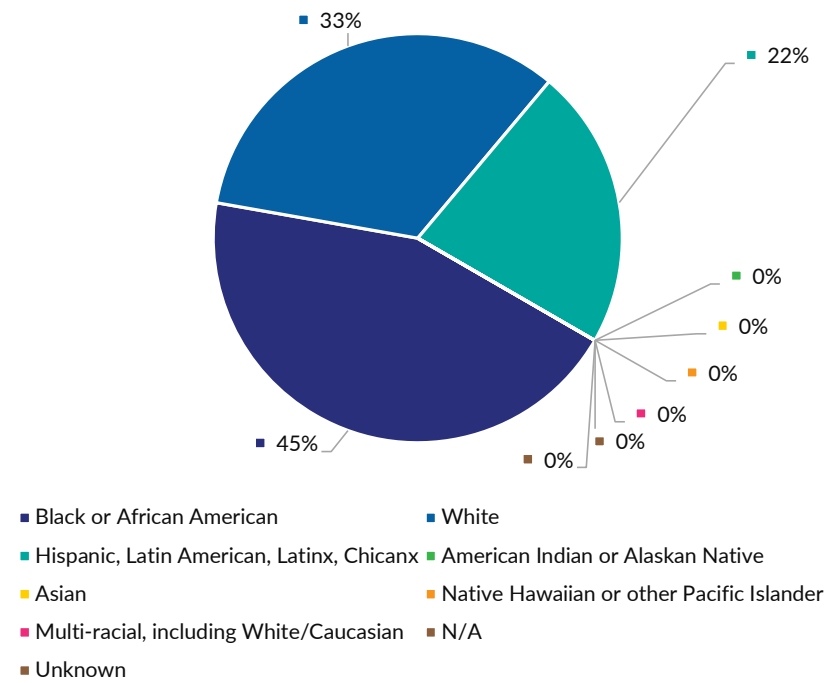
Artist Ethnicities Represented by HFD-managed Artworks



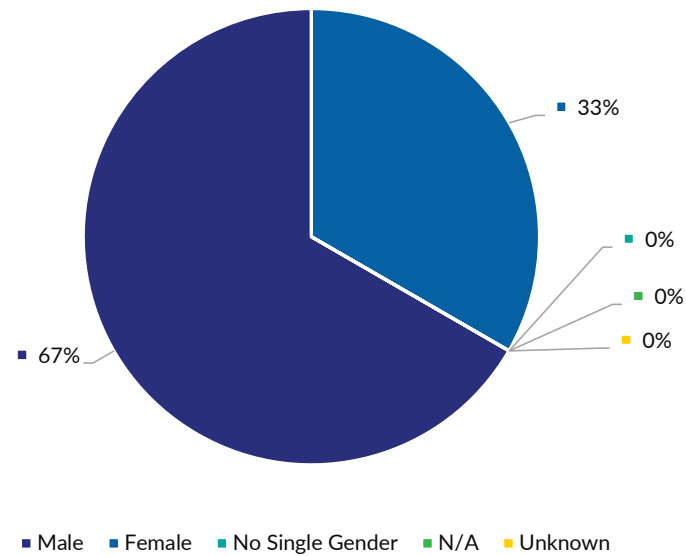
Artist Genders Represented by HFD-managed Artworks



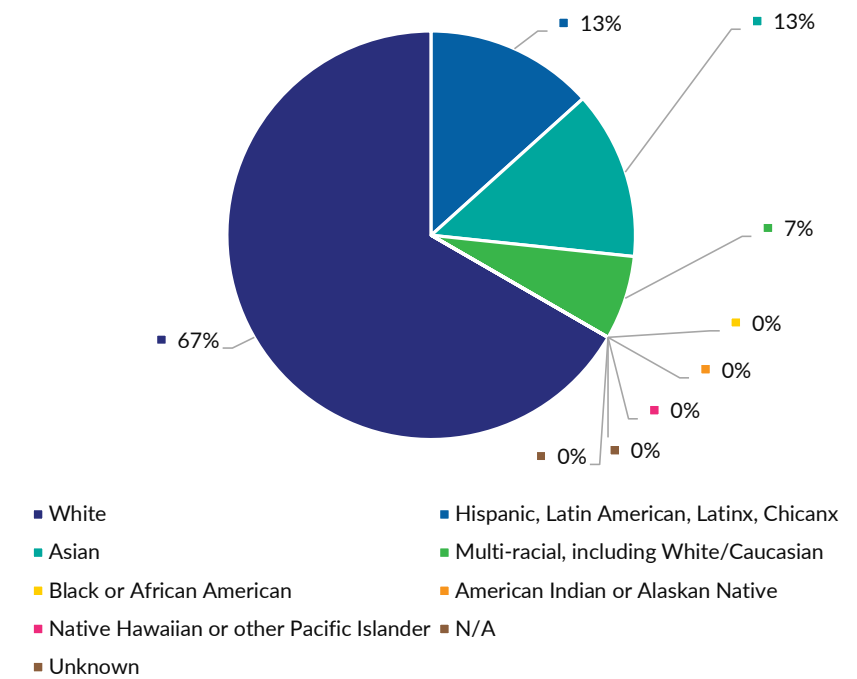
Artist Ethnicities Represented by HHS-managed Artworks



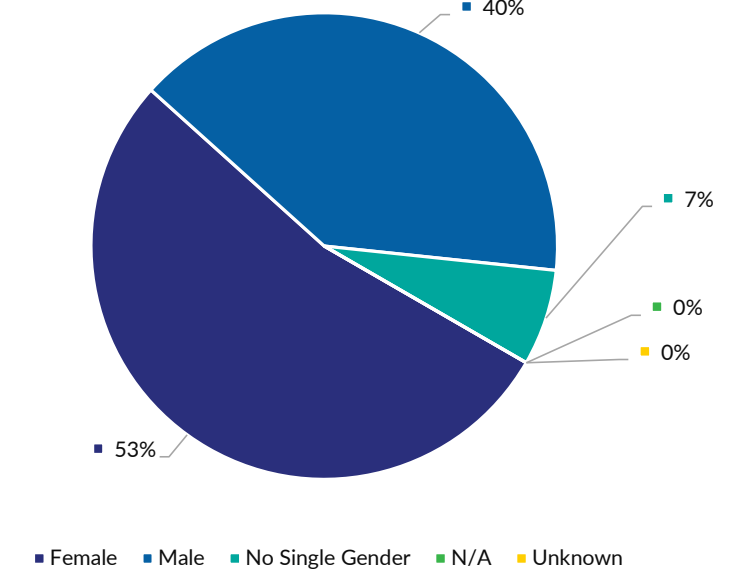
Artist Genders Represented by HHS-managed Artworks



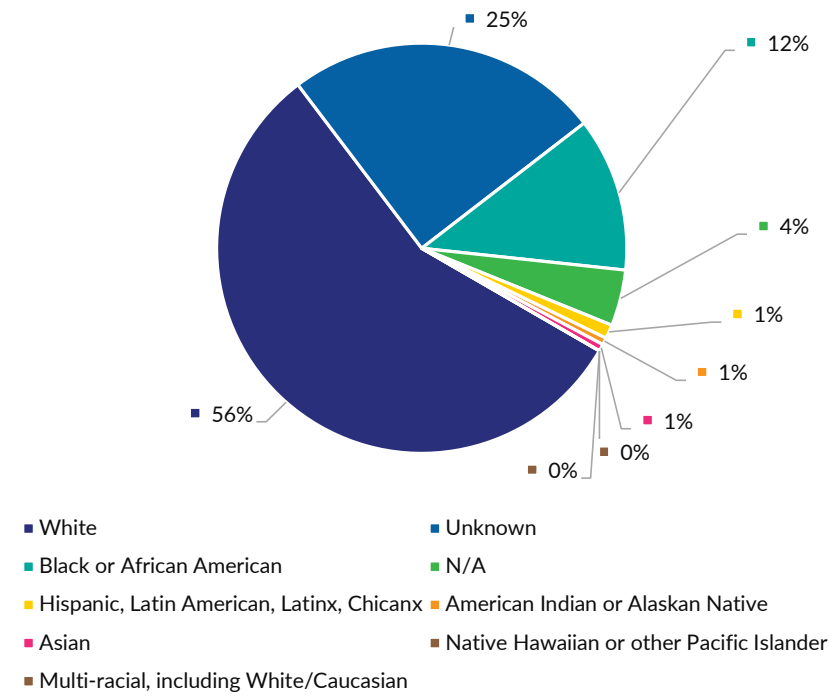
Artist Ethnicities Represented by HPD-managed Artworks



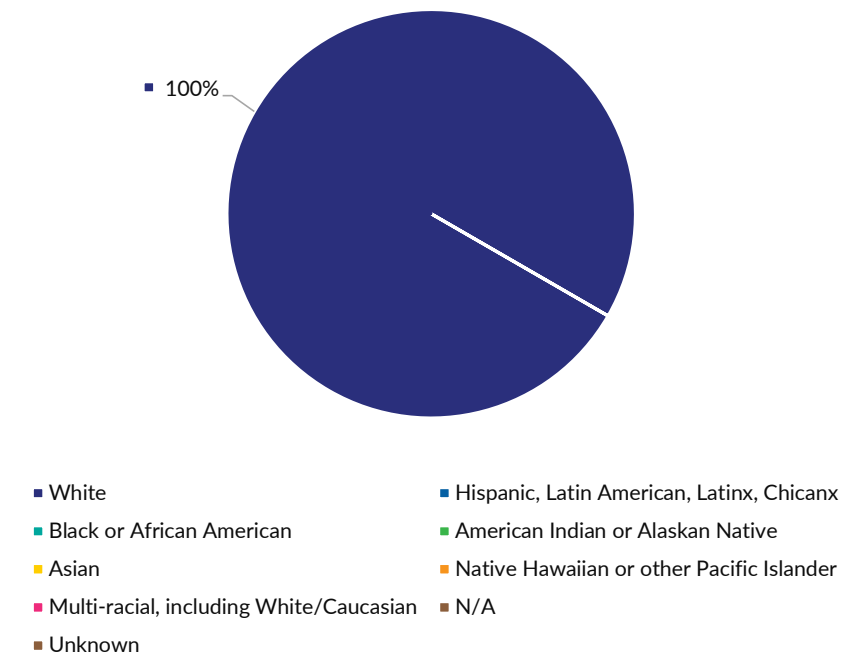
Artist Genders Represented by HPD-managed Artworks



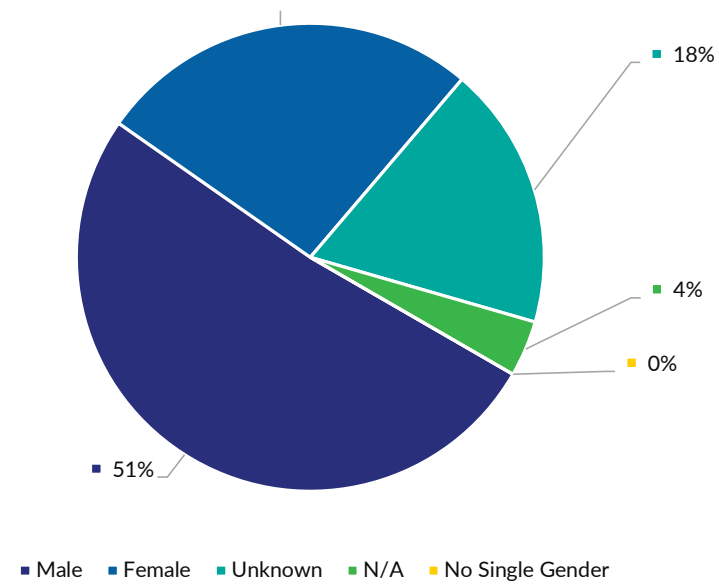
Artist Ethnicities Represented by HPL-managed Artworks



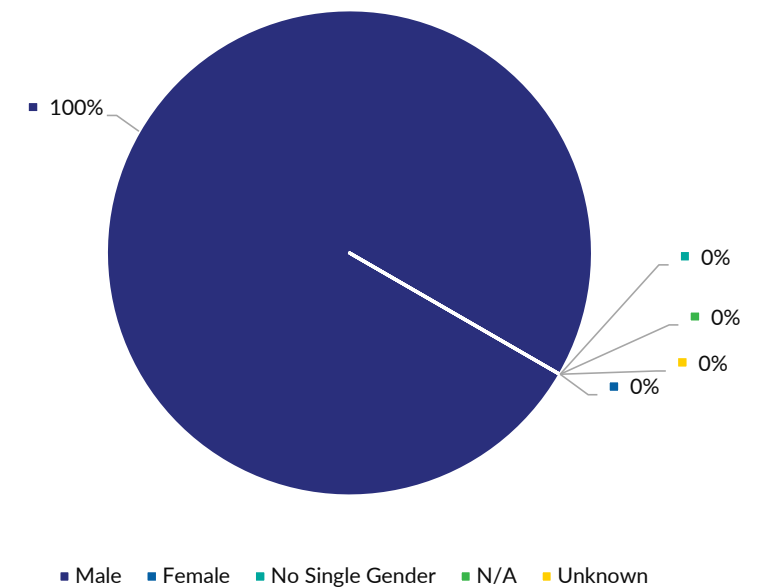
Artist Ethnicities Represented by LEGAL-managed Artworks



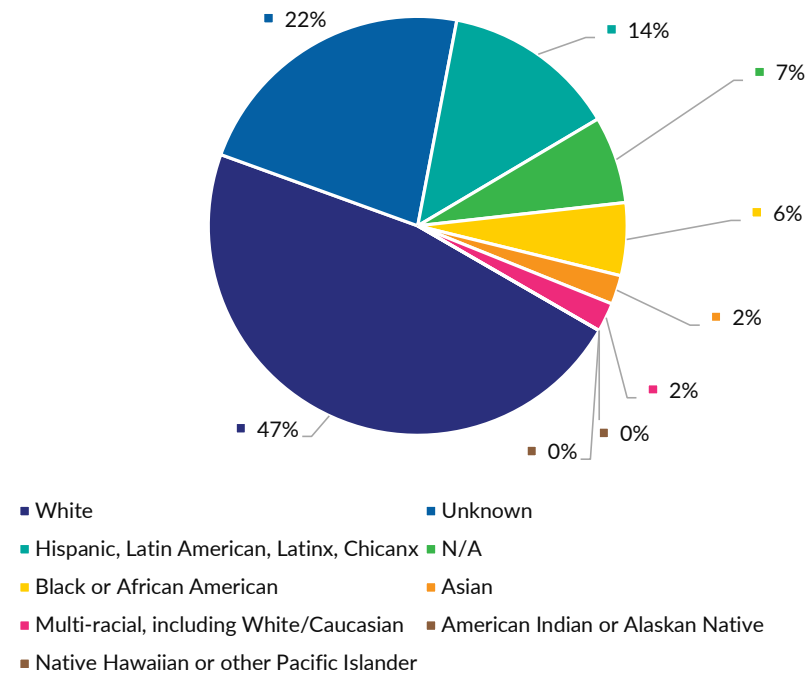
Artist Genders Represented by HPL-managed Artworks



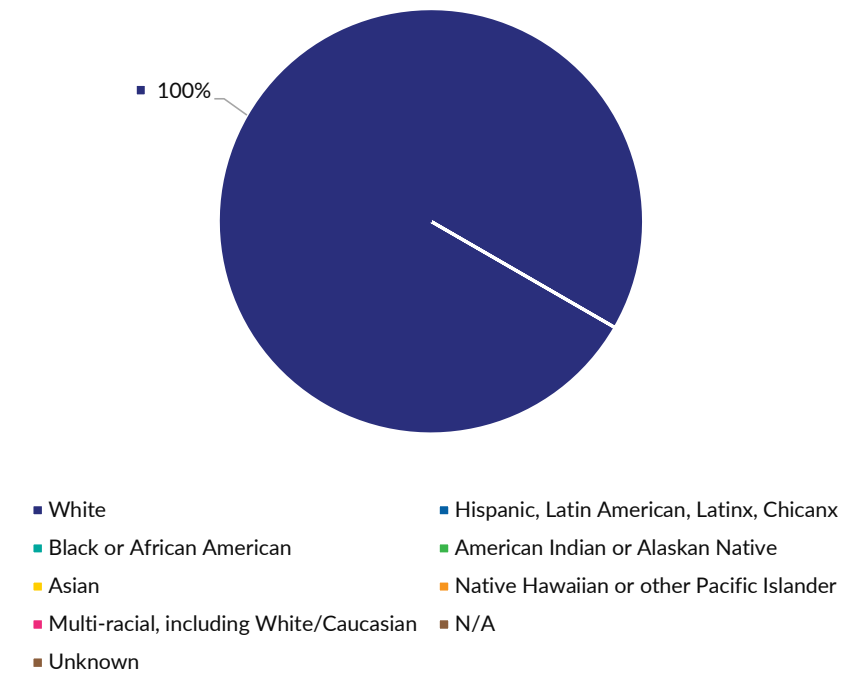
Artist Genders Represented by LEGAL-managed Artworks



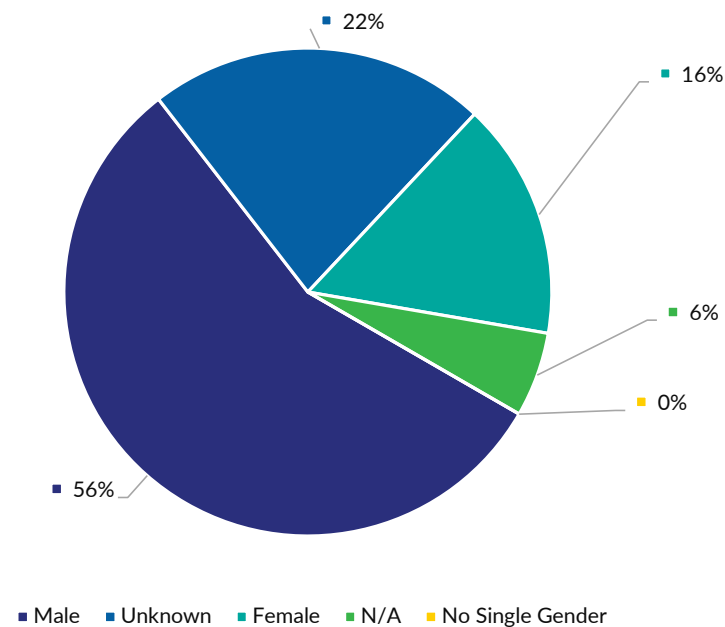
Artist Ethnicities Represented by HPARD-managed Artworks



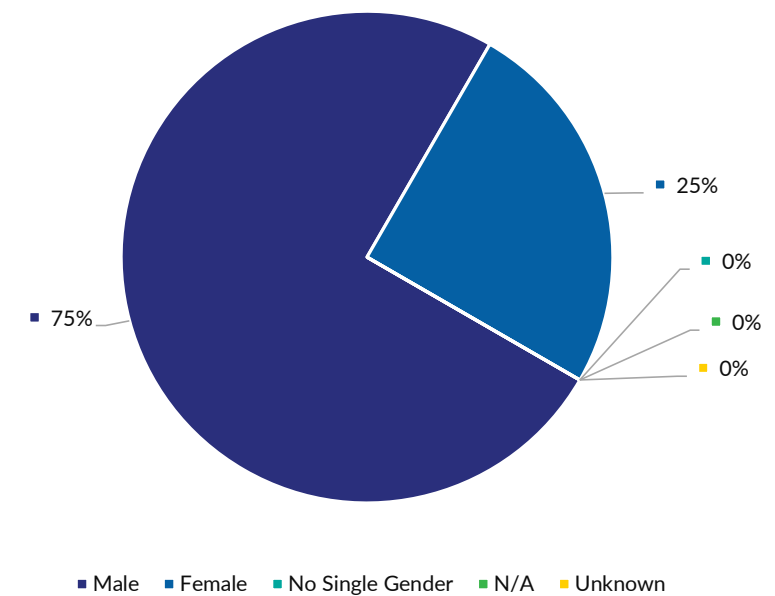
Artist Ethnicities Represented by PMD-managed Artworks



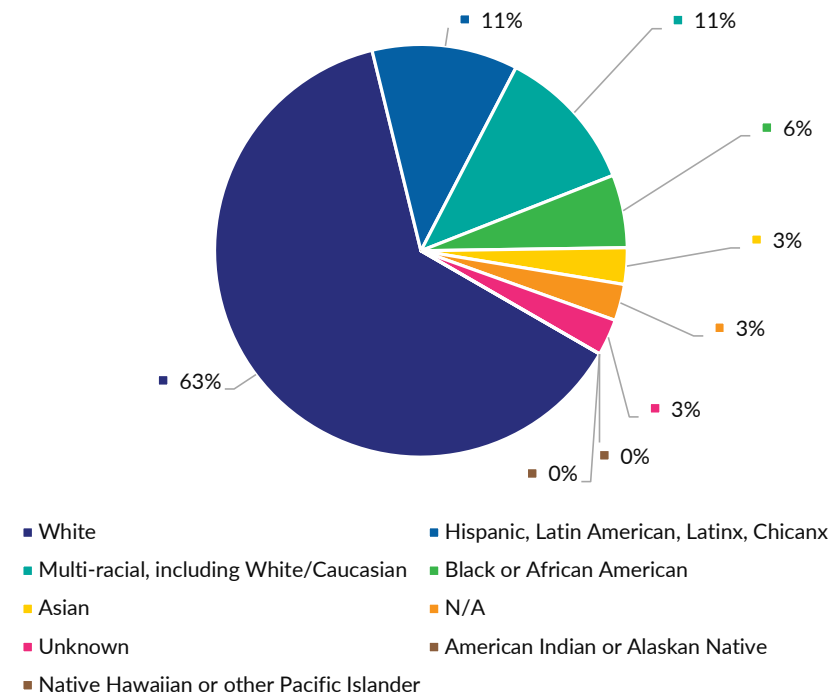
Artist Genders Represented by HPARD-managed Artworks



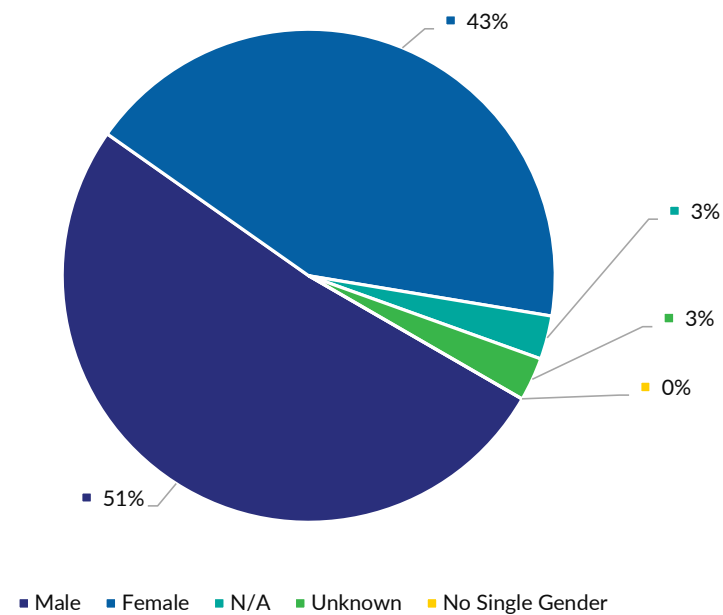
Artist Genders Represented by PMD-managed Artworks



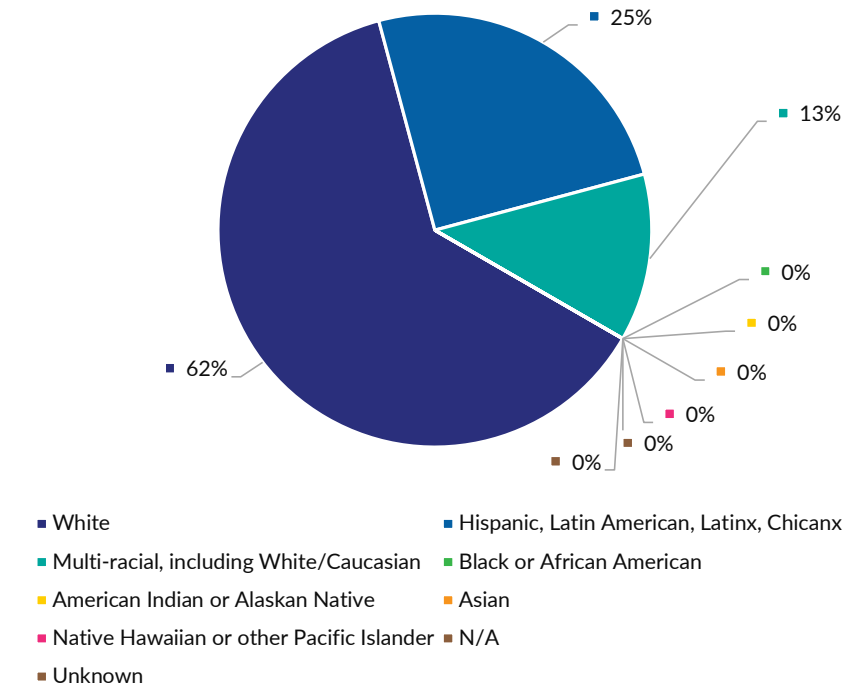
Artist Ethnicities Represented by PWE-managed Artworks



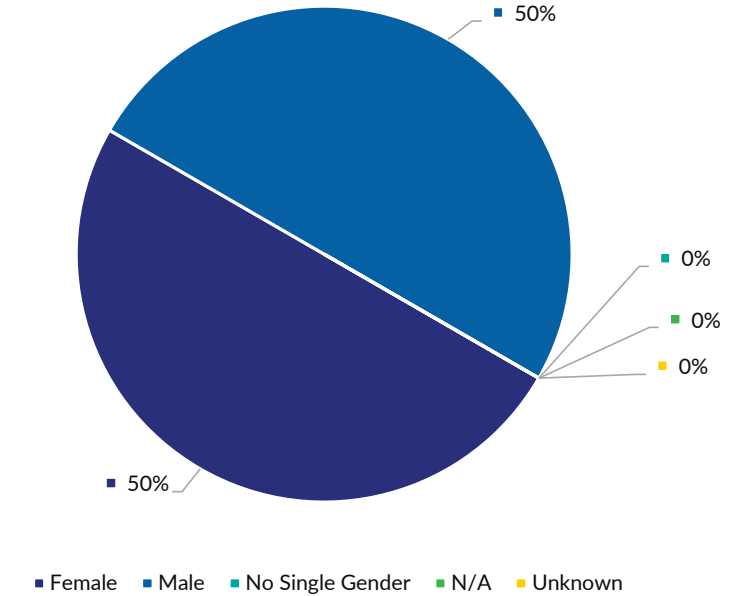
Artist Genders Represented by PWE-managed Artworks



Artist Ethnicities Represented by SWMD-managed Artworks



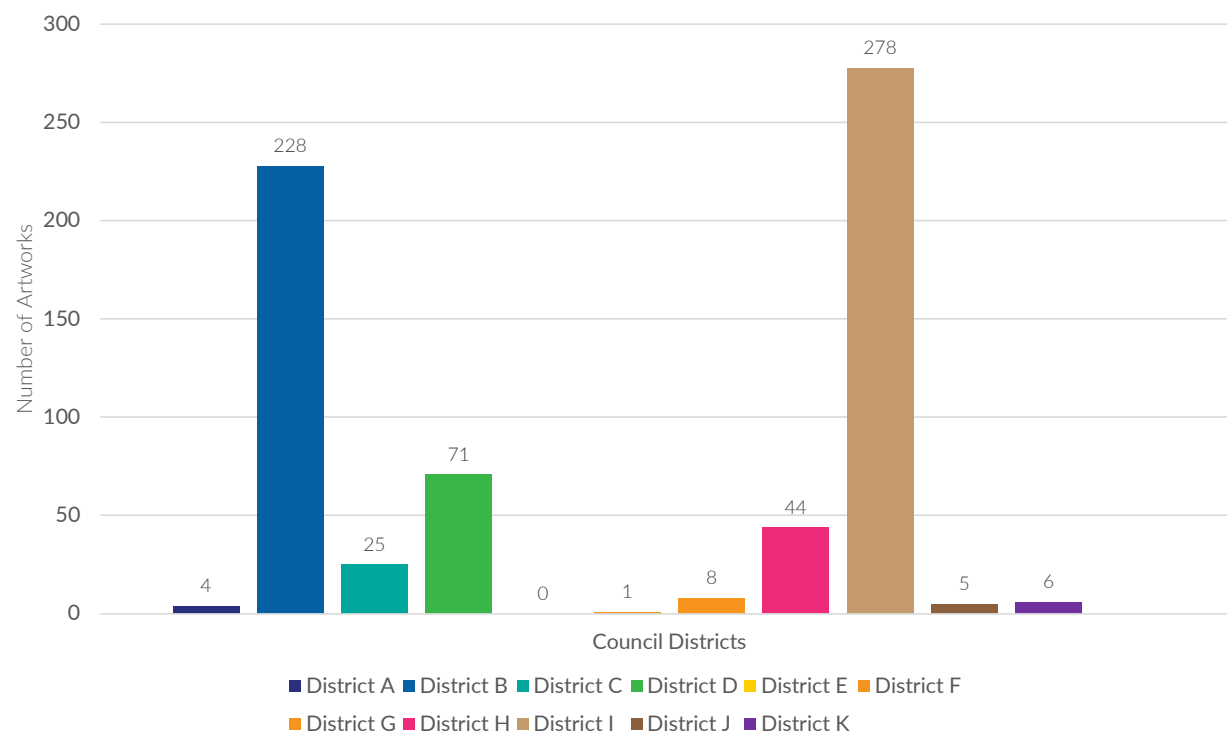
Artist Genders Represented by SWMD-managed Artworks



DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC ART ASSETS BY COUNCIL DISTRICT

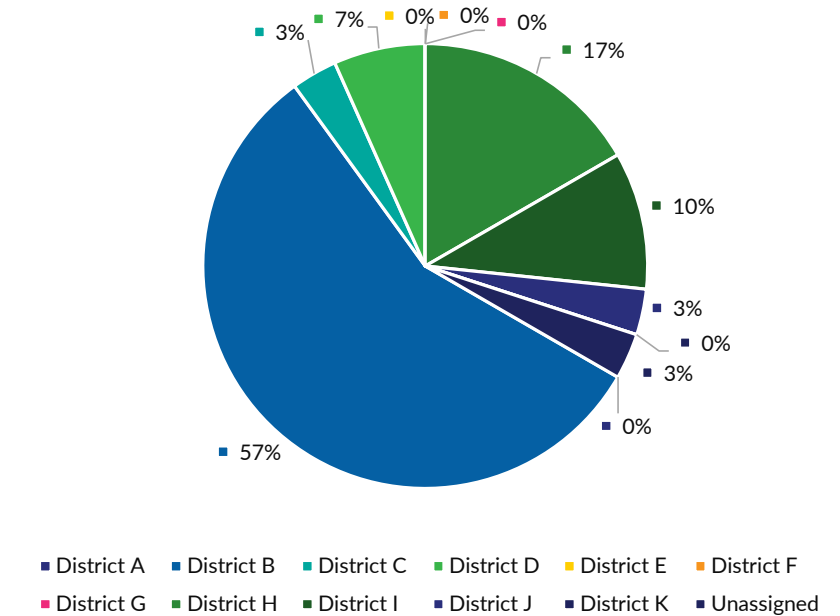
The evaluation of the geographic placement of artworks across Council Districts demonstrates that the Civic Art Program's cultural investment is far from equitable. Of the 678 unique artworks in the collection, only 1 artwork, representing 2 artist(s) has been installed in District F, while no artworks have been installed in District E.

Civic Art Collection Artworks in City Council Districts



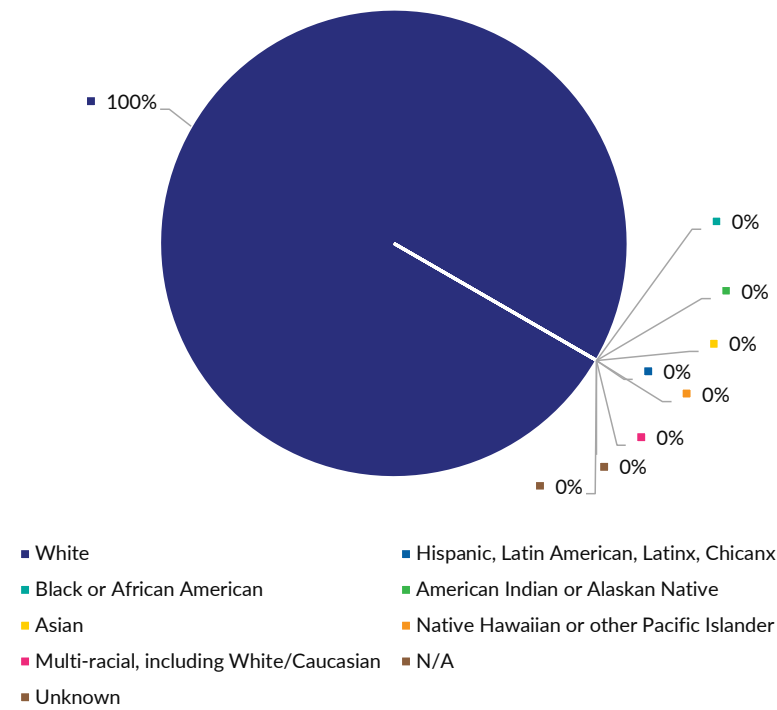
DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC ART ASSETS BY COUNCIL DISTRICT

BIPOC Female Artist Works in City Council Districts



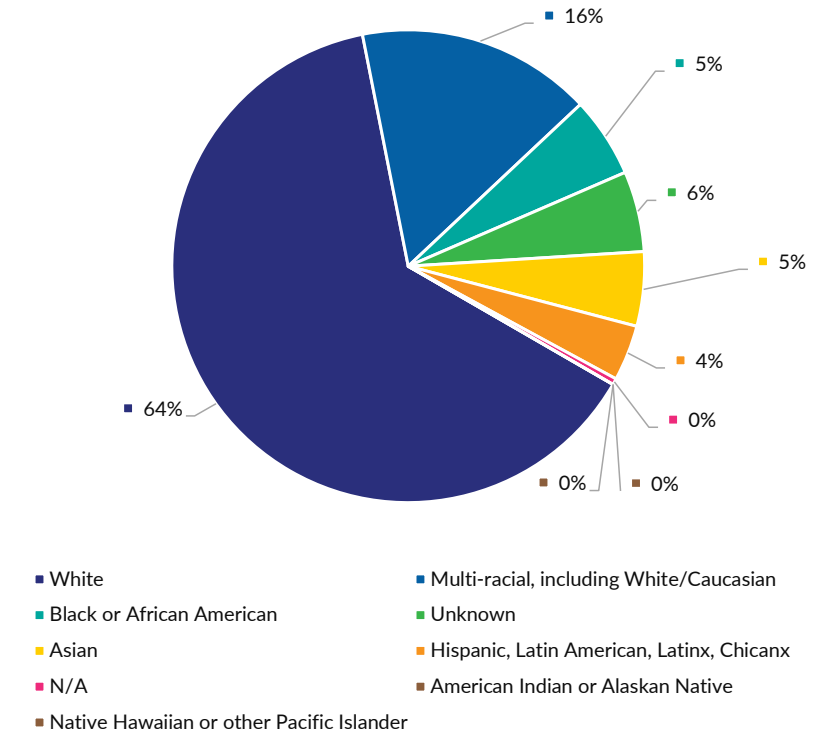
COUNCIL DISTRICT A

Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District A

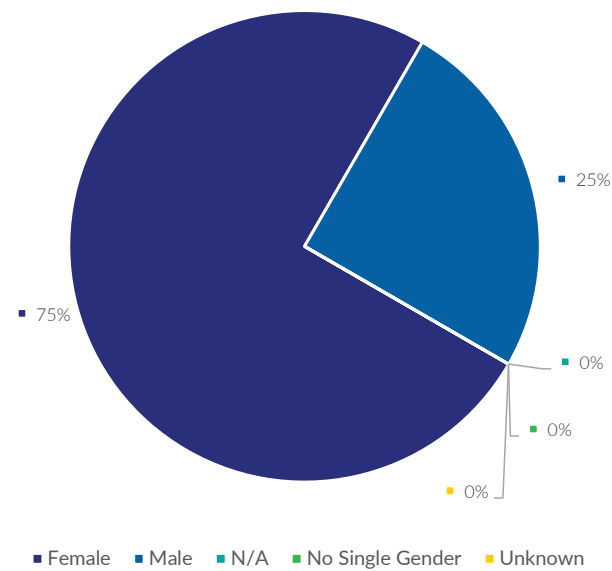


COUNCIL DISTRICT B

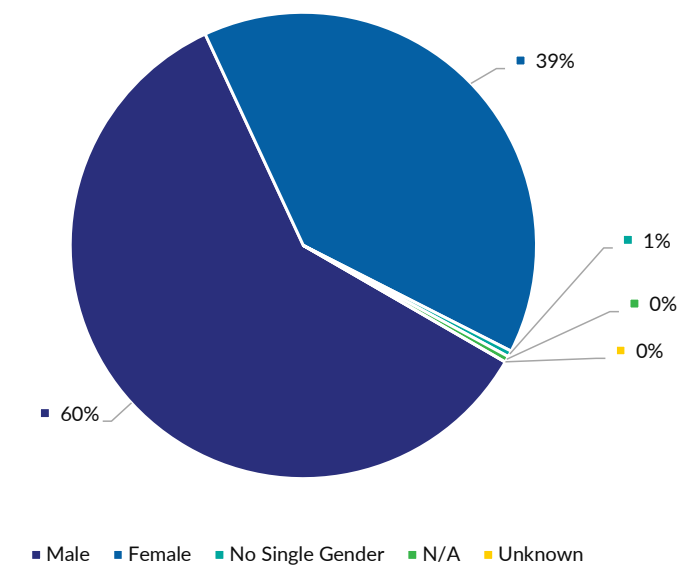
Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District B



Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District A

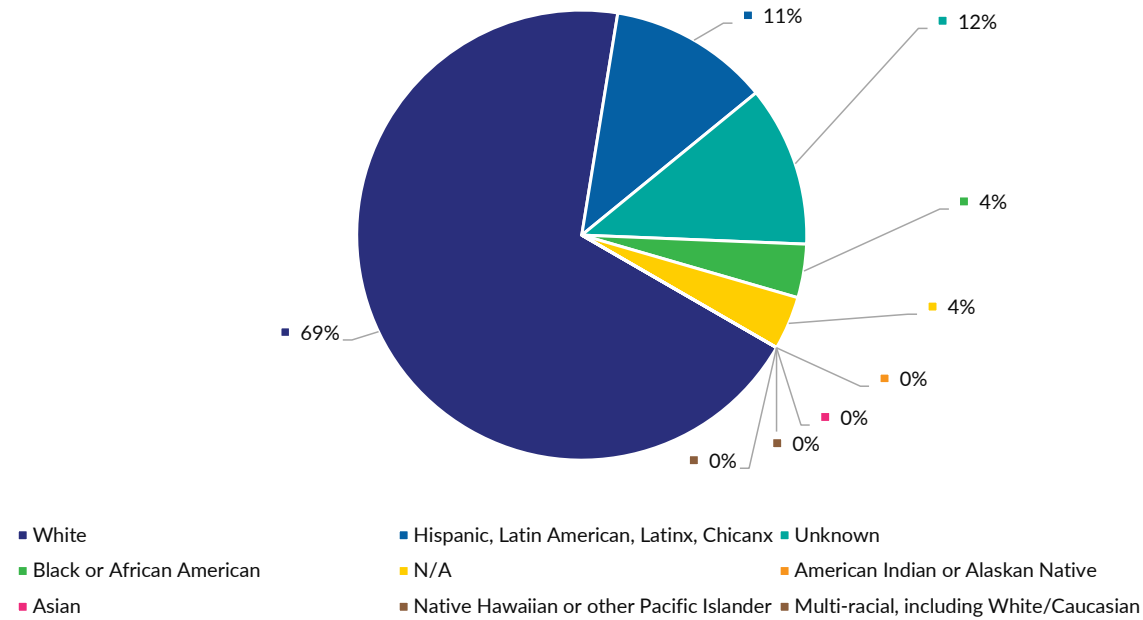


Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District B



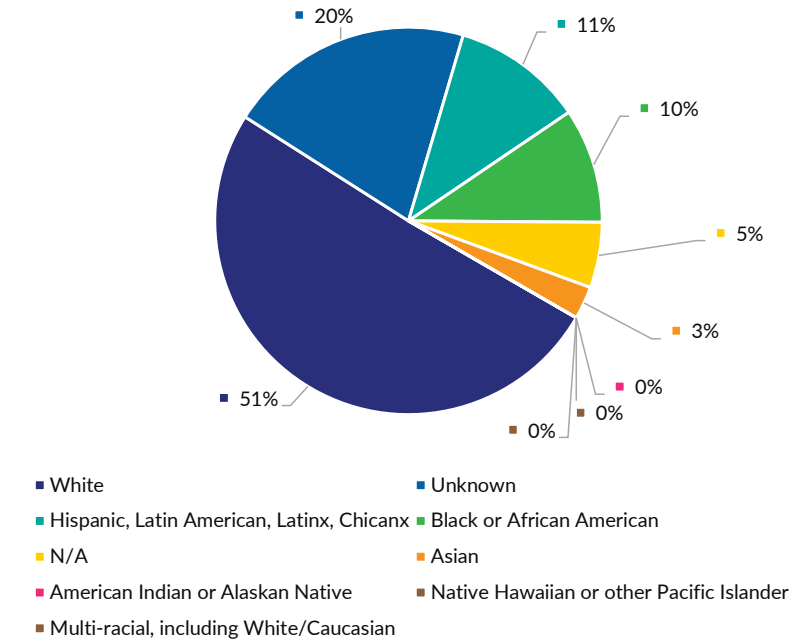
COUNCIL DISTRICT C

Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District C

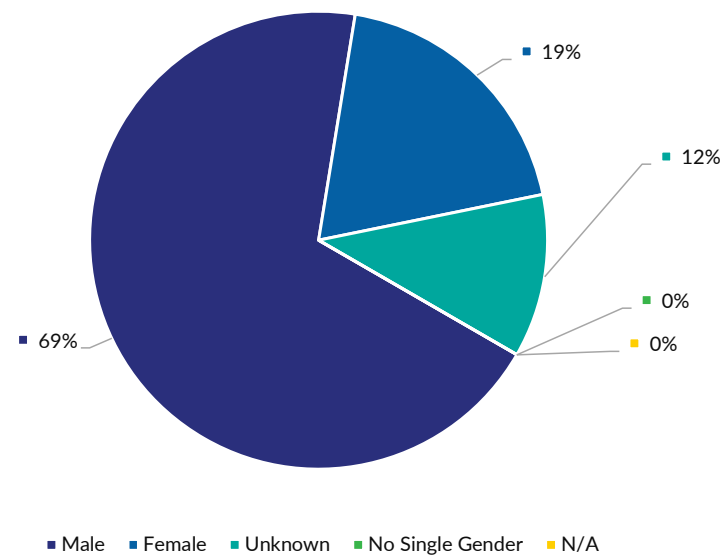


COUNCIL DISTRICT D

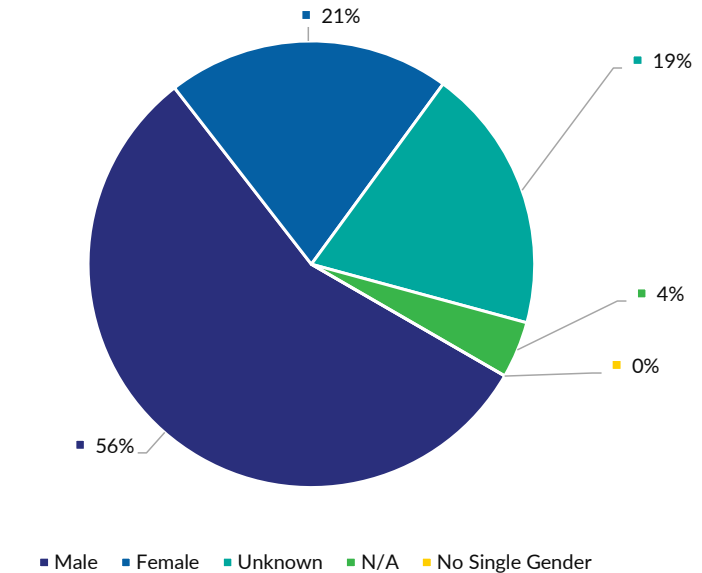
Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District D



Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District C

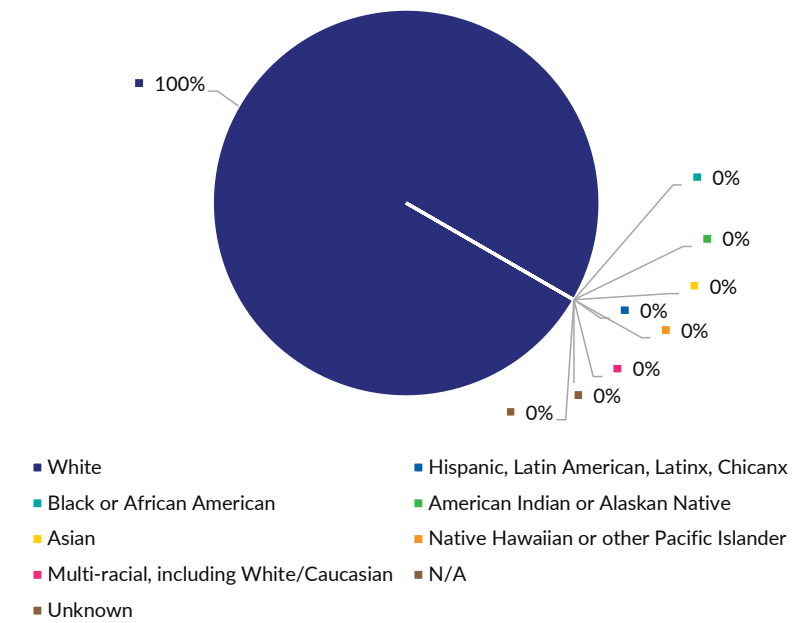


Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District D

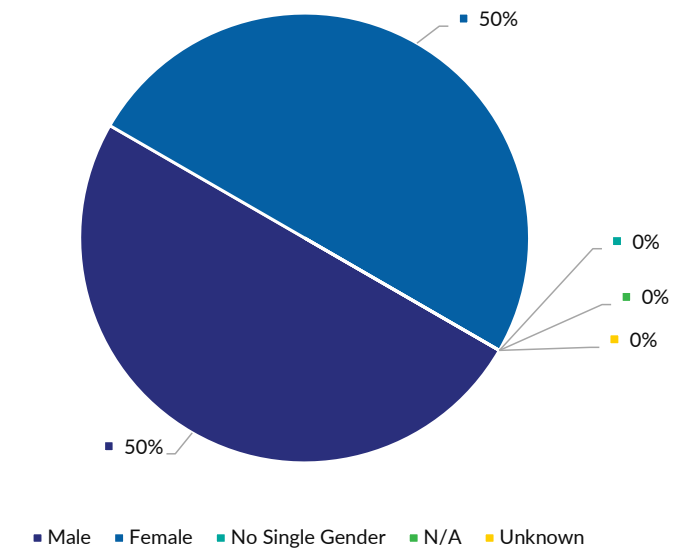


District E hosts 0 artworks from the City's Civic Art Collection

Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District F

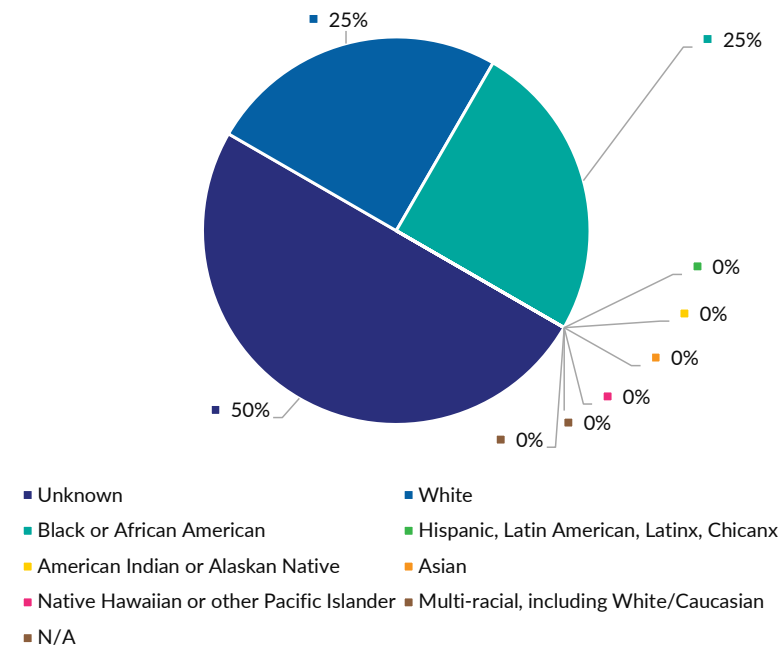


Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District F

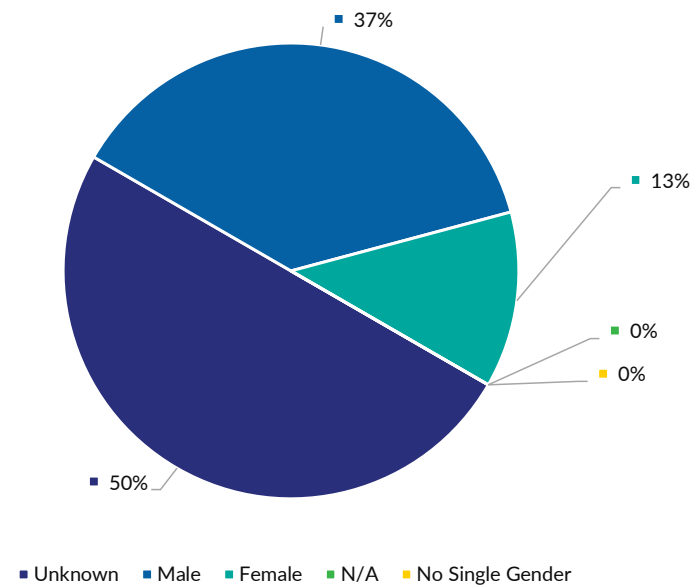


COUNCIL DISTRICT G

Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District G

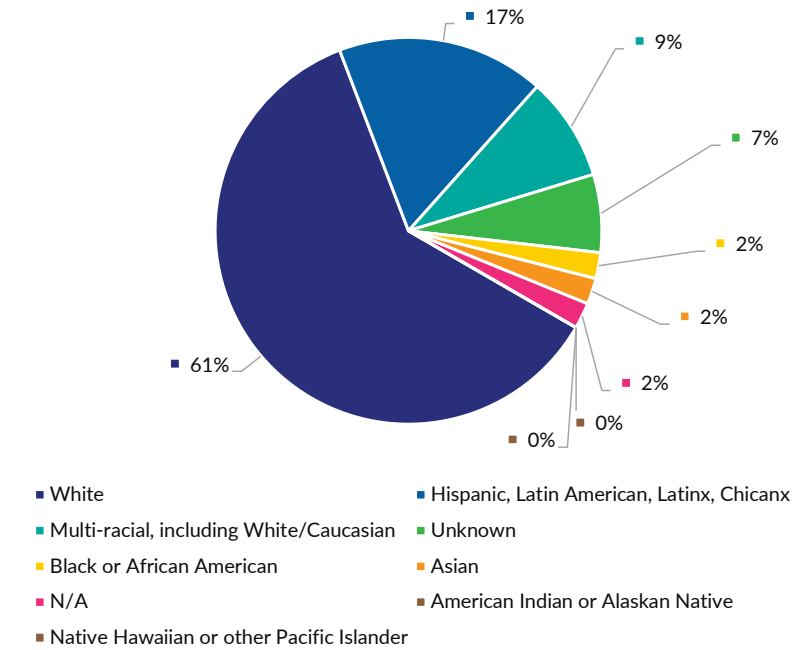


Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District G

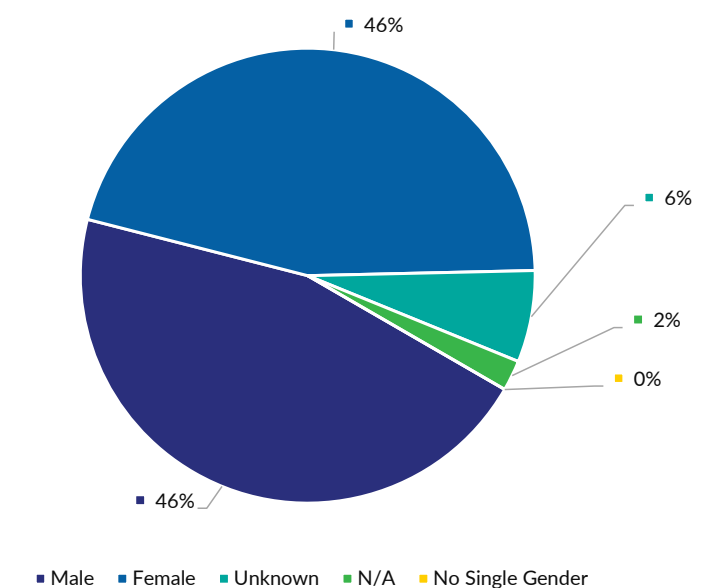


COUNCIL DISTRICT H

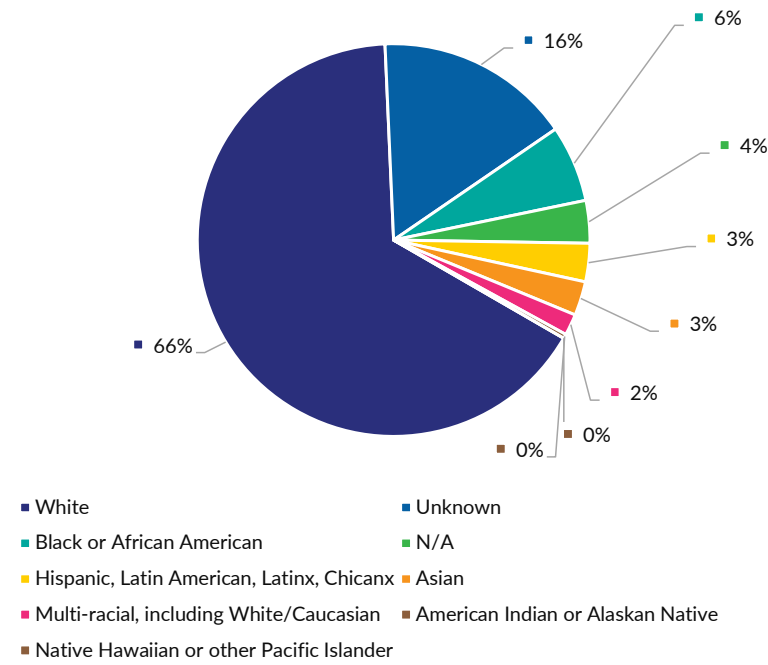
Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District H



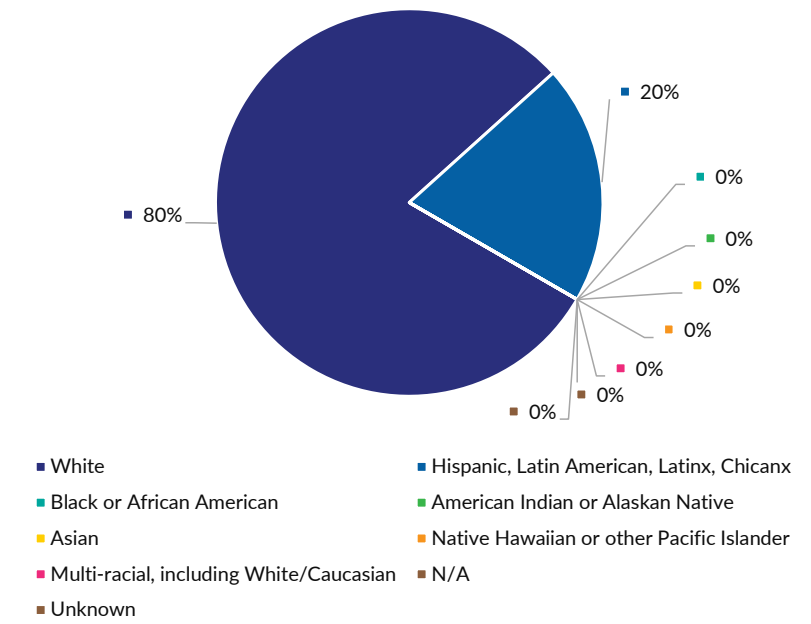
Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District H



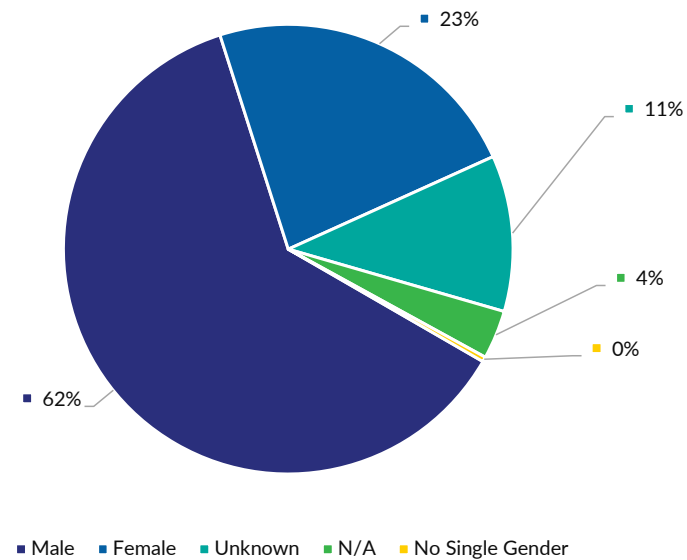
Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District I



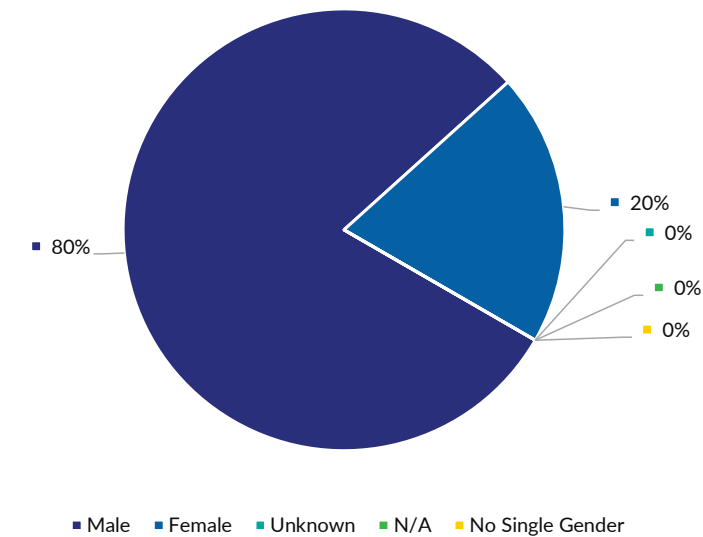
Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District J



Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District I



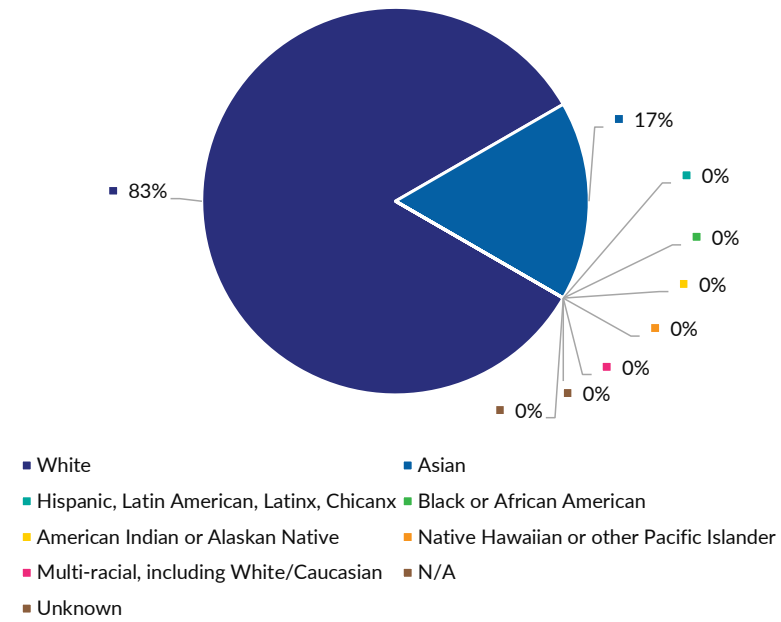
Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District J



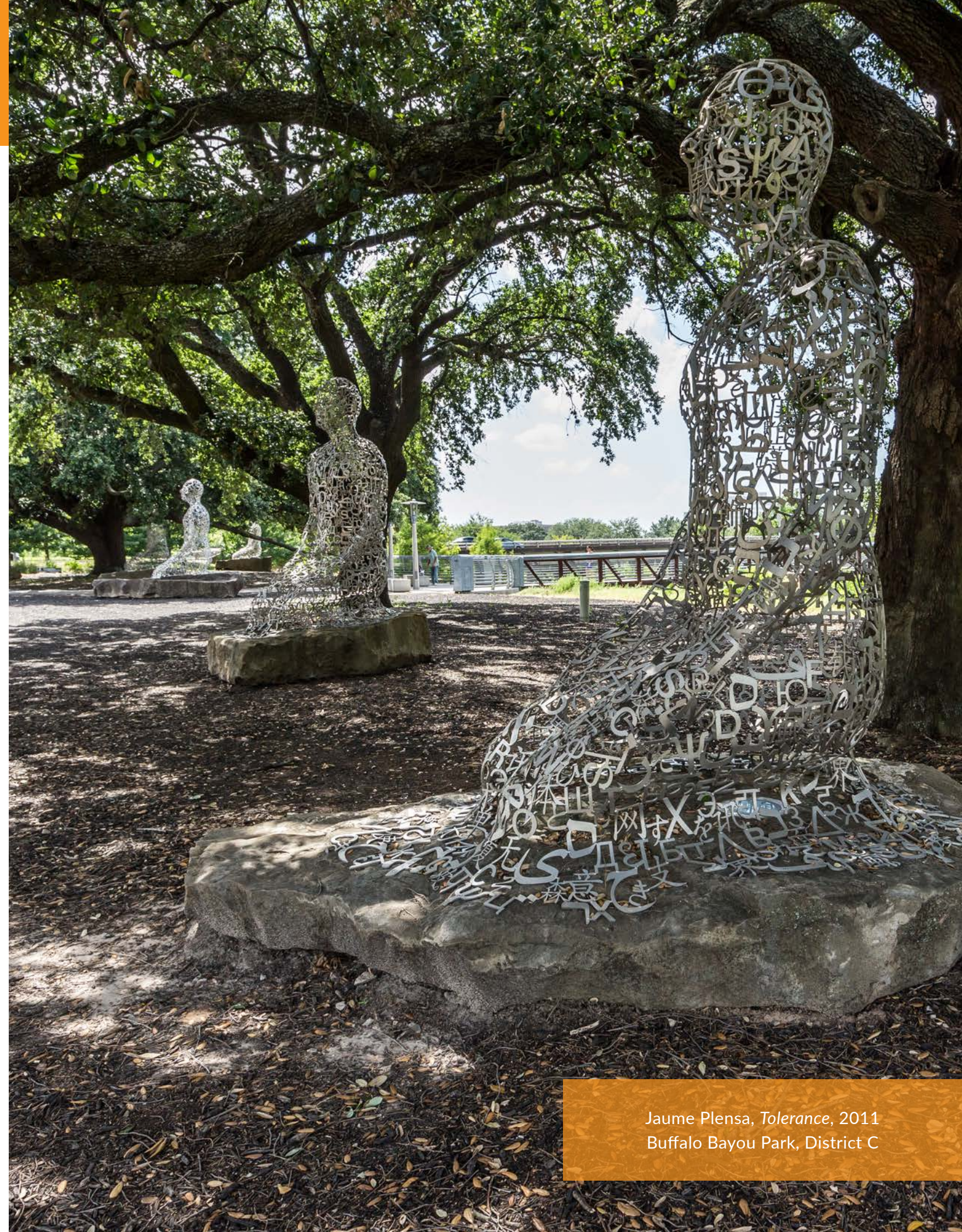
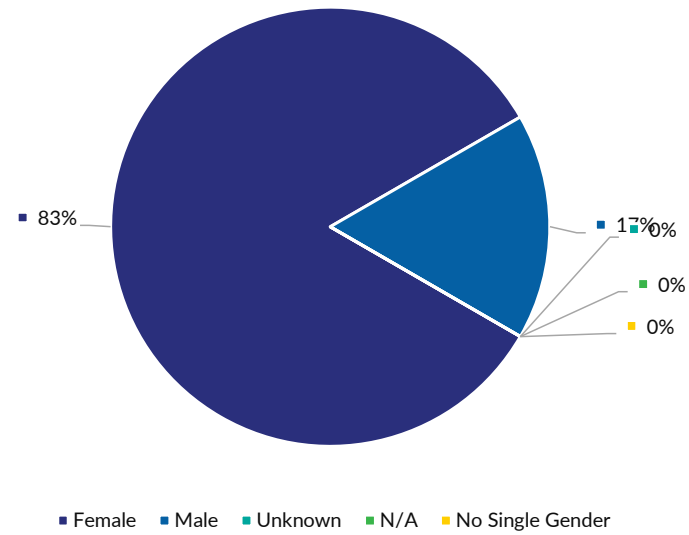
EQUITY REVIEW 2021

COUNCIL DISTRICT K

Ethnicities Represented by Artworks in Council District K



Genders Represented by Artworks in Council District K



Jaume Plensa, *Tolerance*, 2011
Buffalo Bayou Park, District C

CONCLUSION

CHANGES IN PRACTICE

The Equity Review released in October of 2020 indicated that over the course of its history, Houston's Civic Art program has vastly over-represented White and male artists and, through artwork acquisitions and conservation efforts, has predominantly invested in White male artists, despite the remarkable ethnic diversity of Houston's population. The 2020 Equity Review also demonstrated the stark under-representation of artworks created by female BIPOC artists in the Civic Art Collection. Additionally, while the Hispanic/Latino demographic group is the most populous in Houston, very few artists from this group are represented.

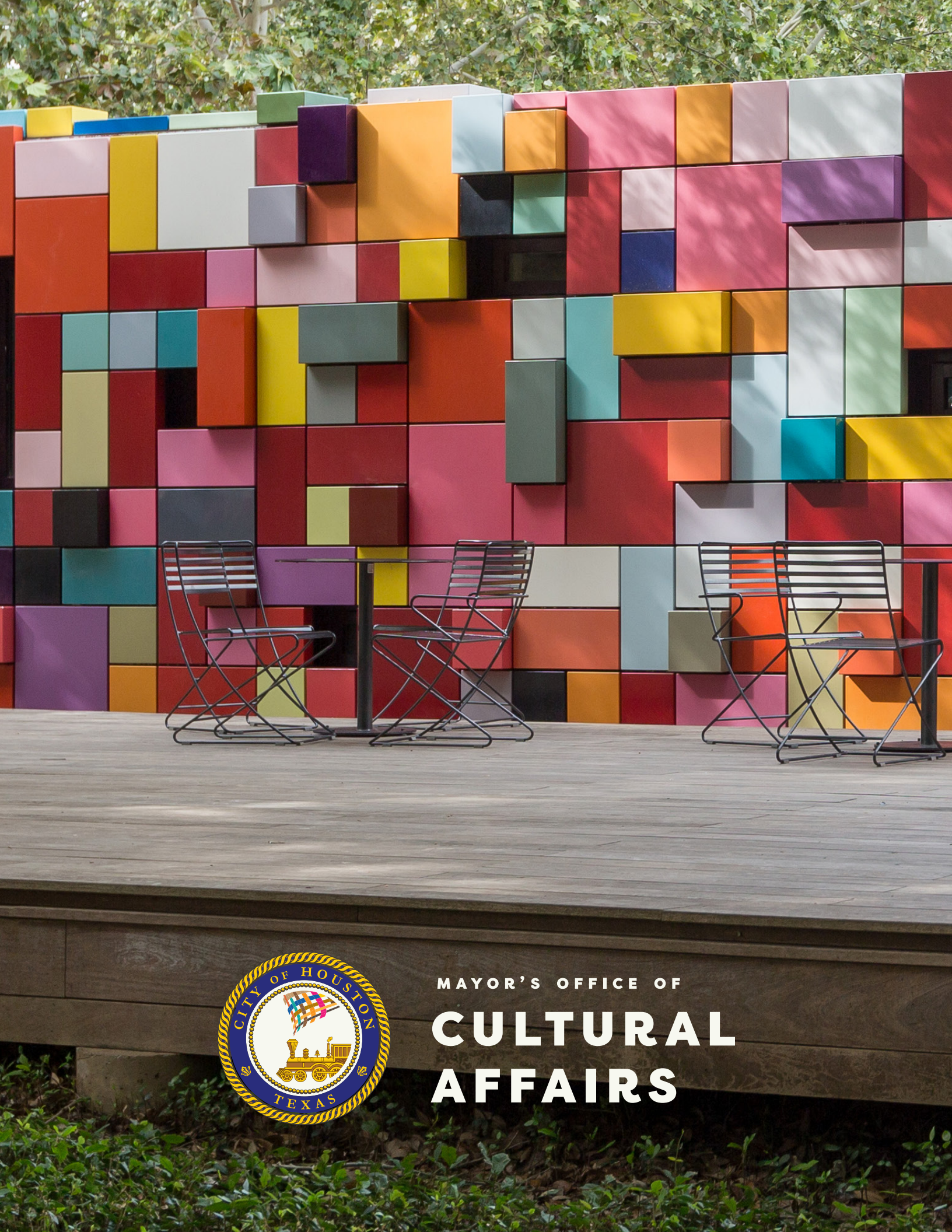
The 2020 data signaled the need for new processes around acquisition and artist selection for new commissions and prompted immediate adjustments to the Civic Art Program's collecting practices to mitigate barriers that impact underrepresented artists.

Among the changes proposed in the 2020 Equity Review, these have been implemented with favorable results to the Civic Art Program:

- MOCA publicly released the 2020 Equity Review report and made presentations of its findings to arts and cultural organizations locally and nationally, emphasizing the need for more program-related transparency and implementation of best practices around BIPOC artist inclusion in public art collections.
- MOCA provided the 2020 Equity Review findings and collection demographic information to all selection panelists for new commissions as part of panelist orientation, emphasizing the City's desire to diversify the Civic Art Collection.
- Civic Art Program staff increased their involvement in the early stages of design processes to better determine eligibility, size, location, budget, and scope for projects, and to encourage and emphasize the value of community engagement at every phase of commissioning.
- MOCA engaged HAA's Civic Art Committee to encourage increased oversight of HAA's Civic Art and Design project management and recommended adopting best practices from HAA's redesigned Grants program where appropriate and applicable.
- While MOCA is committed to improving our commissioning and artwork acquisition processes through short-term adjustments, long-term changes to current practices are also needed to address and eliminate barriers to underrepresented artists and to build trust from Houston's artist community.

MOCA's effort to implement new engagement strategies via Houston's Civic Art Program remains central to our goals, program vision, and to our continued efforts to enhance Houston communities through public art.





MAYOR'S OFFICE OF
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