

The City of West Hollywood presents Art in Odd Places (AiOP) 2025: VOICE

ENGAGEMENT | AGENCY | PRESENCE | RESONANCE



1. Who is Art in Odd Places (AiOP)?

AiOP is an artist-run project. We have worked horizontally and collaboratively with a small staff, artists, and artist assistants to realize each festival since 2005. This is a passion project for everyone, and most of the organizing happens around busy work/life schedules.

Art in Odd Places (AiOP) 2025: VOICE / West Hollywood festival is July 25, 26, and 27, in West Hollywood at Plummer Park, West Hollywood Park, and Sunset Boulevard near the Sunset Spectacular.

The core group of organizers changes from year to year. For *AiOP 2025: VOICE / WEHO* the organizers working with the City of West Hollywood Arts Division are: **Deborah Oliver**, Curator; **Robin Schatell**, Producer; **Katya Usvitsky**, Associate Producer; **Kaia King-Hall**, Curatorial Assistant; **Laurie Waxman**, Designer; **Ross Mabbett**, Web Developer; and **Ed Woodham**, Founder & Director.

2. What are the criteria for project selection?

We invite individual and collaborative artists to propose projects for this West Hollywood outdoor public visual and performance art festival. We welcome projects that use installations, actions, gestures, and sound to reflect on the power of *VOICE*. Selection of projects will be based on feasibility, the originality of the concept in relation to the theme of *VOICE*, creative inventiveness, and scope of interaction with both the public and the legacy of West Hollywood. Projects should be topical, easily accessible to the public, portable, weather-proof for the outdoors, low/no tech, and be feasibly realized with a limited budget (DIY). *AiOP* can assist with finding locations for your work, but we cannot create your project for you.

3. How will the Open Call work?

The Open Call for Proposals deadline is **March 16, 11:59pm PST**. The open call is free. Students are not eligible to apply. *AiOP* asks each artist or collective to provide a project description of their proposed piece, how it relates to the theme of *VOICE*, and how the artist/artists intend to create a connection with people and community in West Hollywood. Artists are asked to provide short and long project descriptions, artist and/or group bios, up to 3 images of the proposed piece, 3 examples of previous work, and artist/group website links if available.



4. What does AiOP provide to selected artists?

AiOP provides artists with curatorial direction, promotion to a wide network of press and art world contacts, and a website presence (with project info, bio, and personal web link). We can also help in the following ways: introductions to local business owners and other community partners, letters of support for artists who need visas, and letters of support for artists applying for individual grants.

AiOP does provide a modest honorarium. *AiOP* does not provide individual artist's insurance or security. Artists are responsible for securing any necessary permissions and all logistics for their projects.

5. Can I propose two separate projects for the festival?

We prefer a singular project proposal concept for AiOP 2025: VOICE / WEHO.

6. Will AiOP find and clear a location for the project?

Selected artists will work with the curator to determine project locations in each of the three locations.

7. What if my project changes during development? Can I pursue an altered concept once being accepted into the festival?

There is room to discuss project alterations, though they would have to be feasible to realize within the production schedule. Deadline for any project changes is April 21, 2025.

8. Will AiOP document my project?

AiOP works with several photographers who aim to document as many projects as possible. However, photographic documentation is not guaranteed. Artists wanting specific photographic and video documentation of their work should also plan to arrange their own photographers and videographers for their projects.

9. How often should I plan to be present during the festival?

The festival takes place over three days at three different locations. Artists should plan to be present at each site during the festival hours; 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.

10. I live outside of Los Angeles, can I apply?

Yes! We welcome regional, national, and international applications. However, we are unable to provide travel or housing support. We can help with a letter of support for artists seeking visas and suggest affordable housing in Los Angeles.



11. Will AiOP assist international or artists outside of Los Angeles with travel expenses?

AiOP cannot assist international or outside Los Angeles artists with travel expenses. AiOP can provide a template letter to your Embassy or other possible funding sources for support. If you cannot afford to travel to LA for the festival, we encourage you to find an LA artist to either collaborate with or act as your project's representative. If accepted, the AiOP curatorial team can provide discussions and options for respective project presentations.

12. What is the COVID policy for AiOP 2025?

- You are responsible for taking protective measures to ensure minimizing the spread of COVID during your travels to and from LA and your stay in the city. *AiOP* is not responsible for arranging artists' travel and living accommodations.
- Guidelines are subject to adjustment as the festival approaches. *AiOP* will be following CDC guidelines to ensure a safe and healthy festival for all to enjoy.

13. Should I obtain a permit?

No. Do not apply for a permit. *AiOP* along with the City of West Hollywood Arts Division will assist with clearances for the three festival sites. Feasibility is key for this to be possible i.e., do not block egresses, crosswalks, or sidewalks, no large crowds, no painting or permanent fixtures. For any questions regarding your concept and permits please email us at aiopnyc@gmail.com.

14. Who can apply?

The open call is open to anyone who wishes to apply. Students are not eligible.