

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

ENGAGEMENT | AGENCY | PRESENCE | RESONANCE

OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS' PROJECTS | GUIDELINES

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 16, 2025 at 11:59 PM PST

The City of West Hollywood presents *Art in Odd Places (AiOP) 2025: VOICE,* scheduled for July 25, 26, and 27, 2025, curated by Deborah Oliver. We invite proposals for *AiOP*'s twentieth annual outdoor public visual and performance art festival taking place in the City of West Hollywood at Plummer Park, West Hollywood Park, and Sunset Plaza.

Our hearts go out to everyone impacted by the 2025 wildfires in Los Angeles. Even amid these hardships, the *AiOP 2025: VOICE / WEHO* team believes in the unifying and healing power of art, and made the collective decision to move forward with our open call for artists - as an offering to support resilience, build community, and create opportunities for recovery during this precarious time.

We invite individual and collaborative artists to propose projects for *AiOP 2025: VOICE* an outdoor public visual and performance art festival in West Hollywood. We welcome projects that use installations, actions, gestures, and sound to reflect on the power of *VOICE*. We encourage artists to create spaces where audiences can listen, participate, and reflect — spaces that make complexity visible and foster dialogue. Whether through solo actions or collaborative projects, we seek to consider how art can amplify unheard voices, bridge divides, and reimagine community.

What is voice? Is it spoken or heard? Visible or subliminal? Is it seen in the way we dress, move, or create? Is it silent yet present in our choices, the communities we form, and the ways we engage with the world? How do we find our voice in times of division? What happens when we amplify it? What happens when we don't? As we commemorate the 20th anniversary of the *Art in Odd Places* festival and the 40th anniversary of the City of West Hollywood, we honor the voices that have shaped these milestones — voices of creativity, resilience, and advocacy. West Hollywood, a city born from collective action, reminds us that when people make their voices heard, extraordinary change is possible.

This year's festival, *VOICE*, asks artists to consider and explore the many ways voices resonate in public spaces. Inspired by West Hollywood's legacy as a hub for activism and culture, the festival asks: How can art express the complexity of our times? Can art help us find resonance and connection amidst disconnection?



Let us celebrate *VOICE* together — an expression of identity, agency, and the shared humanity that connects us all.

AiOP 2025: VOICE / WEHO is dedicated to Jacki Apple (1941-2022) – an artist, writer, composer, producer, and educator based in New York and Los Angeles. A champion of performance and conceptual art, she was dedicated to increasing the cultural power of fellow artists.

Art in Odd Places is a project of GOH Productions.

For guidelines and the application form please visit the <u>Art in Odd Places website</u>.

Projects should:

- Be self-produced and self-sufficient. Low to no tech.
- Be prepared to move to the three respective locations on each day of the festival.
- Encourage interaction with public space while engaging with pedestrians/passersby and the festival's focus of *VOICE*.
- Be able to move or be static within public spaces, while being self-contained without impeding the flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic by blocking the sidewalk and/or street.
- Engage with West Hollywood's cultural and architectural landmarks, neighborhoods, multifaceted industries, and communities as a resource for creative consideration.
- Commit to maintaining a presence at the festival location for the duration of all three days.

AiOP offers participants:

- Promotion to AiOP's network of press and art world contacts.
- AiOP website presence with project info, bios, and links to personal websites.
- Project consultation.
- Advice for artists with a studio practice wanting to work in the public realm.
- Access to a growing community of like-minded artists, curators, and makers working in the public realm.

NOTE: *AiOP* is realized by a small staff. We can provide advice and suggestions but participants are responsible for all aspects of production, including installation, de-installation, and maintenance.

All participating artists will receive a modest stipend acknowledging their invaluable contributions to the event. This gesture underscores our commitment to supporting artists and fostering an inclusive creative community.



Deborah Oliver is an educator, independent curator, producer, and interdisciplinary artist. She received her BFA + MFA from the California Institute of the Arts. Her research as an artist is focused on performance art and its history, practice, curatorial applications, community exchange, and dialogue. She is the founder and curator of Irrational Exhibits, a durational performance, installation, and media exhibition established in 2001, and the 13th edition took place in 2024.

Selected proposals will be notified in early April 2025.

Questions?

Refer to the FAQ section of the application or email aiopnyc@gmail.com.