Art Heals.
Dear Friends,

UT Health San Antonio is committed to doing everything it takes to improve the health of South Texas.

Our new Multispecialty & Research Hospital at UT Health San Antonio, opening December 2024, is a place where the most advanced healthcare will be available to all our communities. Besides the most advanced technology and treatment, it has been designed to take advantage of elements critical for healing including light, texture, and open spaces.

We now have an opportunity to further enrich this healing environment through the introduction of a signature Healing Arts Collection, where works of art will promote the well-being of our patients and our families, as well as our caregivers.

The collection’s prioritization of local art and artists showcases UTHSA’s unwavering commitment to human-centered care and community service. Our selection of regional art highlights our embrace of the culture of San Antonio and South Texas, mirroring the aesthetic of those who live and work here.

Imagine walking through these halls, greeted by stories of hope and resilience, finding moments of quiet contemplation and strength. Envision families, patients, physicians, and staff gathered around interactive works, sharing laughter and forging connections that help them think beyond their circumstances. The power of the Healing Arts Program Signature Collection will shine as a permanent, 34-piece art collection, representing our community and our state, our legacy etched in every brushstroke, elevating the hospital experience because of your philanthropic spirit.

Please consider joining us to make UT Health’s Multispecialty & Research Hospital a canvas of hope, where art and medicine combine to create a center for healing. Your sponsorship of a signature piece will leave a legacy for generations to come.

With heartfelt gratitude,

William L. Henrich, MD, MACP
President
The future of healthcare

Opening in December 2024, the Multispecialty and Research hospital will be among the most technologically advanced hospitals in the nation, providing the highest quality care for patients with the most complex conditions. The facility will translate research and discovery in laboratories on campus to effective new precision therapies for disease. We will also further expand our unique education mission in San Antonio as we train the next generation of healthcare providers for South Texas and beyond.

The future of care at this $450 million facility will feature the latest designs, equipment and capabilities in treatment including:

- A 144-bed specialty care hospital on eight floors—in addition to 16 beds for 23-hour observation;
- 70% of care dedicated to advanced cancer care;
- 12 highest-level operating rooms;
- Increased medical residency training opportunities;
- A state-of-the-art unit to administer national clinical trials (a feature unique to this region).

- Multiple state-of-the-art Da Vinci robots for specialized operating rooms to assist with complex oncology and specialty cases;
- Modern Interventional Radiology suites for diagnostic procedures necessary to treat the most difficult conditions;
- Sophisticated MRI and CT equipment for the highest resolution imaging;
- A stem cell transplant unit for patients with complex bone marrow and other disorders.

- New program developments in cellular and stem cell therapies;
- The ability to conduct complex inpatient cancer clinical trials in the local community (this is not possible now);
- Novel therapies and treatments that redefine medicine by focusing on predicting, preventing, and curing disease precisely.
The Healing Arts program at UT Health’s Multispecialty & Research Hospital will promote a sense of hope and healing. Featuring artwork by local and regional artists, the program will be a creative reflection of the hospital’s human-centered approach and commitment to excellence in serving the San Antonio community.

A variety of art media and story-telling themes will provide patients, families, and staff a reprieve from the day-to-day challenges that brought them here.
We invite you to join us in making this program a reality through your sponsorship of one of the 34 pieces in the Signature Collection.

There are many ways to get involved! Sponsorship begins at $25,000 and can be contributed as an individual or group, as a one-time gift or pledged in increments over 5 years. Join the campaign for the healing power of art! The Healing Arts Campaign will ensure our legacy of healing by providing funds for the capital efforts for the hospital as well as ensuring that our Healing Art can be placed throughout. By sponsoring a signature piece in our Healing Arts Collection, the hospital will add a beautiful piece of art to its permanent collection along with the sponsorship funds to support our capital efforts.

To learn more, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at UT Health San Antonio at 210-567-0242 or wallacer1@uthscsa.edu

To view the collection online, please go to makelivesbetter.uthscsa.edu/healingarts
Signature Collection
Major Interior & Exterior Activations
Level 1: Activation 1:
Main Concourse | Large Interior Installation

Concept for Activation 1

Real wood veneer mounted on GatorFoam

30’ x 12’ x 4”

Scale and color to be developed; palette to be designed to complement other artworks in proximity

Lead Time | 7 months

Funding Opportunity
$500,000

Ansé Seale
As one of the larger giving opportunities within the hospital, the artworks in the main atrium will set the tone for the rest of the collection. The artworks in this expansive thoroughfare will be inviting to the public and tell a unique story.

Ansen Seale is a multi-disciplinary artist exploring life, time, and diversity through the use of photography, light, and large-scale installations. Seale has been exhibiting his work for over 40 years, has won many awards including San Antonio Art League's 2020 Artist of the Year, and has work in collections from San Antonio, Texas all the way to China and Argentina.

About the Design

Celebrating the vast array of plant and animal species on our planet, Seale’s goal is to emphasize the profound connection between the well-being of the natural world and our own destiny. The inclusion of 23 different wood species symbolizes our 23 chromosomes and underscores the DNA similarities we share with the rest of creation. Recognizing this vital interdependence serves as a reminder that preserving a wide range of species is fundamental for survival. Indeed, a multitude of life-saving medicines and breakthroughs have been derived from the remarkable array of plant species found on our planet. Just as various species are stronger together in nature, our own collective strength and growth as humans is magnified when we embrace and celebrate our differences.

The wood veneer circles will be attached to a substrate (or several substrates) to raise them all into place. The very largest (an 8-foot diameter circle) is only 40 lbs. Altogether, the sculpture should only weigh about 225 lbs.

Previous Work
Level 1: Activation 2:
Interior Dining | Suspended Sculpture

Concept for Activation 2

Silk organza, clear epoxy resin, stainless steel wire
25' x 10' x 15'

Example imagery of past work; scale and color to be developed

Beili Liu

Potential colorway

Lead Time | 9-12 months
Funding Opportunity
$1,000,000

Seen from below
This monumental suspended sculpture will be one of the most prominent artworks in the hospital. Visible from the exterior, entry, first and second stories, this work will elevate the space through its suspension, dynamism, dazzling scale, and calming color. While incorporating transparency and intermittent use of the space, the work optimizes sight lines at all vantage points.

Beili Liu creates site-responsive installations, performances and public art that address themes of migration, cultural memory, social and environmental concerns. She received her MFA from the University of Michigan and is the Leslie Waggner Endowed Professor in the College of Fine Arts and a Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin.

About the Design

Rain / San Antonio consists of hundreds of organic translucent pebble-like forms suspended in a cascading formation from the ceiling. The natural colors and organic quality of the installation allude to water and its transformations from rivers and lakes to rain—what we treasure the most in the heat of Texas. The calm, rhythmic suspended artwork serves as a visual anchor, offering a sense of shelter and serenity, reminiscent of the gentle coolness brought about by summer rain. As visitors, patients, and researchers gather, Rain / San Antonio encourages each person to take a moment to slow down—to observe and contemplate, to connect and share.

Each element is handcrafted from silk organza embedded in clear epoxy resin (ArtResin®) with varied shades of blue and green achieved through a Cyanotype studio process. The organic elements hold playful details: various-sized air bubbles, folds of the silk—all to capture, transmit, and reflect natural light as the gentle sway and rotating movements encouraged by ambient air amplify the light-space interaction.

Previous Work
Level 1: Activation 3:
Main Concourse | Small Interior Installation

Concept for Activation 3

Watercolor, gouache, India ink, and cyanotype on Arches watercolor paper (quadriptych)
12’ x 5’ overall; four 60” x 36” x 2” panels

Example imagery of past work; specific San Antonio region floral species to be determined during design development

Funding Opportunity
$250,000

Lead Time | 3-4 months
This waiting area in the main concourse is an exciting, eye-level opportunity for a wall-mounted artwork to offer positive direction and wayfinding support. This work will be visible close up as families wait, and from afar as people transcend the staircase.

Julia Whitney Barnes is an artist living in Poughkeepsie, NY who works in a variety of media from cyanotypes, watercolor, oil paintings, ceramic sculptures, murals, and site-specific installations. She has exhibited widely both in the United States and internationally and holds her MFA from Hunter College.

About the Design

In these works on paper, Julia approaches each growing thing with equal importance regardless of whether it is a weed, rare species, wildflower, or cultivated flower. Most works have several species fused into one composition, often to the point where the exact plants depicted are open to interpretation. For this quadriptych, Julia will be sourcing plants that are native to the San Antonio region.

Cyanotype is a cameraless photographic printing process invented in 1842 by scientist and astronomer, Sir John Herschel, which produces a cyan-blue print when a non-toxic chemistry-coated surface is exposed to sunlight. Julia manipulates preserved and pressed flora along with intricately cutout photographic negatives. Given that sunlight starts the exposure process with cyanotype chemistry, she carefully arranges elaborate compositions at night and utilizes long exposures under natural or UV light to create the final prints. Once the unique cyan imagery is fused, she meticulously paints the exposed watercolor paper with multiple layers of watercolor, ink and gouache. Each cyanotype is created by the power of light, inspiring viewers to look at these very recognizable images in new and different ways.

Previous Work
Exterior: Activation 4: Exterior Dining | Sculpture

Example imagery of past work; custom design to be developed

Powder-coated steel
Series of varying heights: 4', 6', 7'

Likely to expand across multiple landscaping plots; Final placement subject to change

Potential purple blossom detail

Laura Walters

Concept for Activation 4

Funding Opportunity
$250,000

Lead Time | 4 months
The healing attributes of the exterior dining and garden space will be enhanced with a life-sized sculpture. Approachable, memorable, and soothing, this artwork will become an iconic landmark of the hospital campus for staff, patients, and their families complementing the meditative ambiance of the garden while also providing a focal point distinct from its natural landscaping elements. Centralized in a planting bed at a main axis, the sculpture will be a prominent feature to be enjoyed in-the-round.

Originally double majoring in psychology and business management, Laura Walters went on to study sculpture and design in NYC and Dallas, eventually opening her own studio in 2000. Her work channels the underlying energy and rhythms of the natural world, transforming metal into elegant sculptures that celebrate the beauty and complexities of our universe. She has created sculptural installations for both public and private collections across the country and is well-versed in executing works that complement and enhance their environment.

About the Design

Inspired by nature’s infinite forms and fascinated by the inherent motion and universal patterns found in both natural and man-made objects, Laura Walters strives to capture this rhythm in her work. By hand-working each individual component with a grinder, Walters softens and shapes the edges of her sculptures. These precisely crafted elements are then welded together to complete the finished artwork.

This installation will consist of three soaring sage stalks of various heights. These monumental blossoms add a spritely yet peaceful ambiance to the garden experience, inspired by an air of human resilience through durable steel and standing tall all year round.

Previous Work
Exterior: Activation 5:
Parking Garage Exterior | Mural

Concept for Activation 5

Exterior-grade paint on polytab

Lead Time | 5-7 months
Funding Opportunity
$250,000
Manola & Maria Ramirez with Adriana Garcia
San Antonio, Texas

A monumental hand-painted mural on the facade of the parking garage will often be the first artwork activation that visitors to the hospital will interact with. This work will ease arrivals of staff, patients, and their loved ones, setting the tone for a welcoming environment centered on hope & healing. Through a vibrant, joyful design, this artwork will create an encouraging and hopeful spirit through bright, warm colors and forms inspired by science, the natural landscape, and the local region.

Manola and Maria are sisters and multi-disciplinary artists. Their goal is to share their art and teach what they’ve learned to others. They are part of an all female collaborative space known as Lavaca Studios in San Antonio, Texas. There they create, teach, and provide artistic resources to the community, and make work inspired by their surroundings, personal experiences, and love of color. Adriana M. Garcia is an award-winning, home-grown San Antonio, Texas based visual artist. Throughout the years Adriana has worked with area nonprofits to create large community murals and has also illustrated five picture books. Most recently, Garcia has been collaborating with the World Heritage Center (WHC) on the design enhancement of the veranda that will enclose the new WHC building.

About the Design

This proposed concept, A Season of Healing, centers around the motif of a sun surrounded by clouds. What can be interpreted as either the setting or rising sun represents another day, reminding us that healing takes time. The viewer sees a kaleidoscope of imagery inspired by nature, both micro and macro, DNA, mitosis and lace weaved together to echo the complexity of the human experience. The goal with the color palette would be to integrate the relevant surrounding artworks and any graphics implemented nearby. For fabrication, polytab would be used to avoid the Texas heat and durability in installation.

Previous Work
Level 2: Activation 6:
Sky Bridge | Window Graphics

Carlos Rosales-Silva

Concept for Activation 6

Printed perforated window vinyl

Design + color samples

Lead Time | 3-4 months
Funding Opportunity
$250,000
Transparent vinyl graphics create an immersive experience in the sky bridge that links the Mays Cancer Center to the new hospital. Centralized and located on both sides, transparent graphics allow light in and will be seen from cars and passersby outside, and as such, will be impactful from up close and afar.

Carlos Rosales-Silva was born in El Paso, Texas. His studio practice considers the vernacular culture in the American Southwest, the western canon of art history, and the political and cultural connections and disparities between them. He has exhibited locally, nationally, and internationally, and worked as an artist in residence with different institutions in Texas and New York after earning his MFA in 2020 at the School for Visual Art UT San Antonio.

About the Design

The translucent vinyl on the sky bridge will represent an abstracted cactus garden. Cacti are important sources of food and shelter and are the foundation of ecosystems. Cacti are resilient, withstanding extreme conditions to thrive, produce, and maintain life. Amazingly, cacti are able to regenerate after burns and lacerations, they heal. Cacti are also important sources of medicine, and are used for anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial purposes. In the sky bridge, visitors and staff will pass through an illuminated and abstracted cactus garden, the aim of which is to create a moment of reflection and beauty in the transitional space. Cactus Garden will consist of original drawings that will be vectorized and printed or cut into translucent vinyl. The drawings will be 28 original compositions, or can repeat, depending on what is needed and/or wanted. Colors can also be variable, and can repeat and/or be related to any branding colors.

Previous Work
Signature Collection
Public Corridor Gallery | Original 2D Artwork
Level 2: Activation 7:  
Public Corridor Gallery | Original 2D Artwork

As a focal point and destination for the healing arts program, the Public Corridor Gallery will include an eclectic mix of nearly 20 original works of art by local artists that serve as grounding moments of visual intrigue. These immersive activations will be a continuation of the sky bridge, and the artwork will tell an engaging narrative as viewers transition down the entire corridor. Patients and families can seek out this experience during their stays.

Approximate Artwork Footprint (each):
Width: 30” + | Height: 50” max | Depth: 3” max
*final placement, number, & size of each work subject to change
Naomi Wanjiku Gakunga
San Antonio, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Naomi Wanjiku Gakunga has roots in Gacherage Village, Kenya. Drawing on her Gikuyu heritage, her work combines the traditions of African craftsmanship, classical art history and contemporary approaches of experimentation, exploring a wide spectrum of non-traditional art materials. Her mastery of technique and material allows her to focus on intention, evolving her work into a liminal space between sculpture, painting, and installation.

The Artwork:
This fiber work is a fusion of visual storytelling and abstracted emotive landscapes, intending to create moments of visual intrigue that engage the viewer. This work is an intentional one-of-a-kind creation, crafted to echo transformative journeys through the timeless art of storytelling. The title of this piece is also a departure from convention, serving as a poetic counterpart to the visual narrative.

The variations in this work provide impactful contrast. The fibers are stitched together, weaving left and right, in a way that carries the viewer’s eyes around the composition. The work’s dynamic color, texture, and patterning saturate the work with visual intrigue.

Funding Opportunity
$50,000

Hand-painted machine-stitched fabric, knitted swatches
Gini Garcia
San Antonio, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Gini Garcia has spent the past 25 years working at her namesake glass studio (Garcia Art Glass, Inc.) creating site-specific artworks commissioned by public institutions and private corporations alike. In addition to glass, she explores metals such as bronze, iron, and stainless steel, as well as more delicate artworks like her vibrant paintings on silk. She is the first artist to ever be chosen as a woman of influence in the arts by the San Antonio Business Journal and has also received a Citation of honor for her contributions to the built environment in the State of Texas by the American Institute of Architects.

The Artwork:
In 2011-12 Gini was left hospitalized with a life-threatening illness. Away from her usual art practice, her enduring drive to create spawned a new avenue of artwork: paintings on silk. This work was created at that time, telling the story of a woman’s desire to live. The work is inspired by a medical and science theme, but made optimistic and beautiful with fluid mark making and vibrant colors.

French dyes on natural silk

Lead Time | 4 months

Funding Opportunity
$25,000
Kimberly Mufferi
Austin, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Kimberly Mufferi followed in her mother’s footsteps to become a photographer. With her client base continuing to expand, her business has grown far beyond just one genre of work. Her photography specialties span travel, brand/commercial content creation, events, food, lifestyle, and naturescapes. Her goal is always to reflect creativity, originality, and authenticity in her photography.

The Artwork:
The selected work was photographed in Texas. When Kimberly moved to Texas her understanding of the rugged and sometimes harsh landscape shifted to a realization of nature’s strength and endurance. This led to curating a deeper look into the details and landscapes of the land she now calls home. Her goal with pieces like this is to bring forward a calming, dream-like element of surrealism in the simplest forms of nature.

Existing Artwork: Protect

Photographic print (Fuji Crystal Archive DP II)

Funding Opportunity
$25,000
Vy Ngo
Austin, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Vy Ngo draws influences from her life as a Vietnamese-American, an osteopathic physician, mother, and observer of the human condition. Born to refugee parents in rural Pennsylvania, her passion for the arts was overshadowed by cultural expectations, an interest in the sciences, and the desire to serve others. After establishing a career in medicine, Vy finally came back to her creative self and began painting in 2015. Her prolific and dedicated studio practice has led to solo exhibitions and group shows in various public art spaces and galleries across the country.

The Artwork:
Vy’s abstract paintings are full of color, movement, and energy oscillating between flow and order, emotion and logic, reflection and discovery. Narratives and inspiration for her work range from processing her own memories, witnessing complex human experiences, and the human connection with the natural landscapes. This work’s dynamic composition blends together soft and flowing brushstrokes with clear geometric partitions.
Allison Gregory  
San Antonio, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Allison Gregory was born in San Antonio, Texas, and picked up her first paintbrush at the age of 5. Her creative drive and inspiration led her to California, where she earned two degrees in Studio Art and Design. Shortly thereafter she began exhibiting her work across the country and soon the globe. She has participated in over 100 exhibitions to date, has had her work reviewed in a myriad of publications, and has worked with prestigious galleries around the world including San Antonio’s own McNay Art Museum. “Persistence is key,” the motto Allison adheres to most, has proven to be integral in her success, and her work has evolved and matured into sophisticated “eye candy.”

The Artwork:
Allison utilizes a blend of media to capture the joyous atmosphere and vibrant landscape of her beloved hometown. The rich colors in her illustration-style cityscapes transport the viewer into a playful atmosphere. Delicate mark-making and the repetition of patterns converge into a unified composition, inviting your eyes to wander about the canvas. This work is a celebration of the city and the spirited energy it contains: a love letter to San Antonio.
The Artist:
Liz Ward is an American artist who works across a range of media and processes including painting, drawing, printmaking, cyanotype, and collage. She produces large-scale mixed-media works on paper, as well as intimate silverpoint drawings, wall-sized installations, and public art projects for architectural settings. Her work explores the meaning of landscape through layers of human, natural, and environmental history, memory, and experience. Her combined interests in art and the environment have led to interdisciplinary collaborative teaching and research experiences with biologists, poets, and social scientists in Texas, Colorado and Costa Rica.

The Artwork:
Ward’s work explores the meaning of landscape and the natural world through layers of history, memory, and metaphor. As a resident of both South Texas and the remote Upper Peninsula of Michigan she is influenced by the wildly different ecosystems of these places on opposite edges of the United States, and their similar histories of environmental degradation and settler colonialism. This work is part her Increments series, which explore incremental growth and change in living things. Poza (pool) is a translation of the intaglio process of an idea that began in watercolor: the layering of transparent washes to create a dense, dark center.
Hailey Marmolejo
San Antonio, Texas

Commission Proposal

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Hailey Marmolejo found her passion for art at an early age. Pursuing her creative ambitions, she went on to major in Fine Arts and minor in Spanish at St. Edward’s University in Austin, TX. Through her dedication to the craft, Hailey has produced murals all over the city of San Antonio, and her artworks have been exhibited at various galleries, museums and businesses in NYC, Texas and New Mexico.

The Artwork:
Hailey’s work is a testament to the spirit of the Tejano people, and the beauty and strength of the landscape that they embody. While the native flora—such as the agave and the nopal—are enchanting and elegant, they are also incredibly tough and resilient, able to survive in harsh environments. Similarly, Hailey’s art captures the duality of these plants through her use of bright and vibrant colors mixing with bold, contrasting lines, resulting in artworks that are both delicate and fierce. Through her work, Hailey showcases the complexities and contradictions of her own identity, and the South Texas landscape and culture that has shaped it.

Funded
Dace Kidd
Tyler, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Dace is a Latvian-born American visual artist working primarily in the media of oil and acrylic on canvas. She attended the Art Academy in Latvia and received two years of additional training in Palermo, Italy. Shortly after her move to the United States in 2011 she found success as a muralist and custom portrait artist. In 2017 she established the Mural Artist Tx brand. When she’s not in her studio painting, she spends time traveling all over Texas to create site-specific murals.

The Artwork:
Dace utilizes loose brushstrokes and gestural mark making in this quadriptych. These long-format abstracted works bring a colorful energy that is reminiscent of foliage, snowfall, flower petals flowing through the air, rain, and a myriad of other natural elements.

On Hold
Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Katie Pace Halleran has a BA in Studio Art with a minor in Art History from Pitzer College, as well as a certificate in Non-Profit Management from UTSA. In her practice, Halleran utilizes watercolor and repetitive ink patterns to create visual mantras informed by both order and chaos. She works within the realm of the subliminal, leaning into a Jungian perspective of archetypal symbolism.

The Artwork:
Halleran's paintings often feature the circle as a spiritual tool for reflection; it has become an expression of the sacred for the artist. Circles are a powerful symbol inherently contradictory in nature, as they represent both singularity and the infinite. As an instrument of meditation, Katie uses this shape and the active meditation of inked visual repetition to connect with the divine and create a sense of beautiful control out of chaos. In this work there is a play between positive and negative space that demonstrates restraint and the power of absence.
Ricky Armendariz
San Antonio, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Ricky Armendariz was raised on the U.S.-Mexico border, a region that heavily influenced his artistic, aesthetic, and conceptual ideas. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from The University of Texas at San Antonio (1995), and his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Colorado at Boulder (1999). Armendariz is currently a Professor at UT San Antonio where he teaches painting and drawing.

The Artwork:
This work is inspired by Joseph Campbell’s *The Hero’s Journey* and features the Carriqui bird, a species native to northern Mexico.

Romanticism for the American landscape and the hybridization of Mexican, American, and Indigenous cultures have always informed the content of Armendariz’s work. Images that have cultural, biographical and art historical references are carved and burned into the surfaces of his artwork. He uses traditional painting and printmaking techniques in combination with non-traditional methods of drawing to achieve his aesthetic.
Dixie Friend Gay
Houston, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Dixie Friend Gay is a nationally acclaimed artist whose prolific career spans more than three decades. The remarkable breadth of her artistic production encompasses public art, sculpture, painting and drawing. She is perhaps best known for her numerous public art commissions, including those at George Bush Intercontinental Airport, the Port of Miami, Indianapolis International Airport, Sam Houston State University and Texas A&M Galveston.

The Artwork:
Swirls of paint evoke movement and give subtle indication of the life that exists beneath the water’s surface. This work provides viewers with a meditative awareness of nature. Depicting the organic world in urban settings creates moments of visual pause, reflection and mindfulness. The interplay of colors, textures, and forms creates striking installations that transform, heal and elevate the human experience.

Existing Artwork: Lily Pad 8

Acrylic on wood panel

Funding Opportunity
$35,000
Brandy González
San Antonio, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Brandy González holds three degrees in art: a BFA, a Master’s of Art Education, and her MFA in Printmaking and Painting. Recognized for her impactful work and invaluable service to the community, she was awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition presented by the United States Congress. González’s creations transcend borders, gracing international exhibitions like “Art in the Time of Corona.” Now back in San Antonio, her art adorns public spaces, and she continues to inspire as an advanced art teacher at Clark High School and Adjunct Professor at Northwest Vista College – a storyteller of the soul weaving resilience and ancestral ties into her visual masterpieces.

The Artwork:
This piece has been meticulously crafted to evoke a distinct emotional response while also contributing to the cultural richness of the environment. Inspired by Día de los Muertos and traditional papel-picado, González’s work symbolizes a path of marigolds to follow home. There are calaveras embedded within the flower petals, reinforcing the connection to the local heritage and serving as a call for loved ones to come home again.

Hand-colored stencil cut screen print

Funding Opportunity
$25,000
Alisa Banks
Dallas, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Alisa Banks is a visual artist who investigates connections to contemporary culture by drawing from her Creole heritage. Alisa uses Southern Louisiana as a point of entry to explore the African Diaspora through the lenses of home, terrain, and the body. She incorporates fibers and found materials with needlework techniques to create works that reference traditional craft forms.

The Artwork:
This improvisational stitched paper quilt will feature both patterned and solid papers. Plant life, either imagery or preserved, will be intertwined within the collage, creating a dynamic composition. The work will act as an interactive search for passersby as well, as they can look for the plants interspersed within the piece. The color palette is to be revised during the design phase and will ensure cohesion with surrounding works.
Carlos Betancourt
Miami, Florida

**Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)**

**The Artist:**
Carlos Betancourt (born in San Juan, Puerto Rico 1966) is an American artist, generally described as a multi-disciplinary artist. His artworks explore issues of memory, and his own experiences, while also dwelling on issues of nature, the environment and matters of beauty, identity and communication. By means of re-examination, he recycles and reinterprets the past by delivering it in a fresh and new relevant context. Influenced by personal memories, he believes that art can be informed by one’s own experiences, not necessarily the other way around.

**The Artwork:**
This piece belongs to Betancourt’s Re-Collections series, a body of work where he utilized photo collage to piece together hundreds of clip art elements. These come together to form a kaleidoscope-like shape—a running visual throughout his work. The vivid color palette and concentric patterning produce a bold composition in this very contemporary art print. The resulting work is an opulent image that ponders identity and memory through the juxtaposition of existing objects.
Melissa Borrell
Austin, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Melissa Borrell earned her MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and has been creating site specific installations for public and private institutions for over 10 years. As an artist who loves math and science, Melissa uses a blend of modern industrial processes, digital fabrication, and traditional craft techniques to build artwork that challenge our expectations and highlights the beauty that surrounds us.

The Artwork:
Referencing forms in our physical landscape, this structure speaks about the geographies of our interior world. Her sculptures change with every passing moment, from different viewpoints and as the light shifts over the course of the day, capturing the ineffable in physical form. Connecting the external to the internal, her work maps the transformations that happen as we move through our lives: the wonder that we feel as we notice the intricate pattern of petals on a flower, the calm that comes from listening to the rhythm of the waves hitting the sand, or the way we can feel embraced by the immensity of the universe as we look up at that stars.
Susannah Mira
Houston, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Susannah Mira earned her master’s degree in Environmental Art from Aalto University in 2008. All of her artwork comes from the desire to transform ordinary things. Though source materials vary—originating from industry, retail, or the home—her work is always the result of tactile experimentation. She has exhibited her work across the globe, and has been awarded nearly two dozen artist residencies throughout North America. Born in San Francisco and raised in a nondescript Philadelphia suburb, she has lived in Houston since 2013.

The Artwork:
This artwork adds color, texture, and warmth to a space. Inspired by the curves found in nature, like flowers and waves, this piece brings the rhythm and logic of the organic world indoors in an abstract format. Driven by her passion to manipulate the mundane, applying the simplest connections, like stuffing, stacking, and folding, she generates clusters, piles, and blobs, showing that spectacular results can come from the humblest of origins.

Existing Artwork: Jungle Moon

Felt on panel

Funding Opportunity
$25,000
Shawn Camp
Austin, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
Shawn Camp grew up in Idaho, completed his MFA in Virginia, and eventually settled in Austin where he now works as an artist, is a member of the ICOSA artist collective, and is Professor of Painting at Austin Community College. Shawn’s paintings, videos and sound pieces exploit the effects of context and light on our perception – contrasting the ephemeral nature of awareness with the illusion of constancy.

The Artwork:
This expansive painting suggests air and space, nearly devoid of solid forms. The cloud like motif is a calming reference to the slow and peaceful movement within our natural world. There is a sense of absence, framed through subtle geometric divisions and contradictory hints of color. Through translucence and refraction, the shimmering surfaces convey a sense of atmosphere and explore the mystery of light, matter, and space.

Funded
RF. Alvarez
Austin, Texas

Activation 7: Art Gallery (Level 2)

The Artist:
RF. Alvarez is an artist based in Austin, Texas. His figurative paintings are characterized by nocturnal color pallets and evocative scenes that blend personal memory with romantic allegory. Using a process of dry-brushing paint onto raw linen – and borrowing stylistic techniques from Old Masters – Alvarez creates luminous images of joy, revelry and contemplation; countering a historical narrative of alienation and erasure in the American West. With family roots in both Texas and Mexico, Alvarez uses visions of friendship, indulgence and tenderness to juxtapose with Southern machismo – illuminating the vulnerability that can hide beneath the steely façade of masculinity and the societies it creates.

The Artwork:
Wildflowers II :: A commissioned acrylic on linen celebrating local San Antonio Wildflowers. These species grow east to west north to south and serve as a testament to strength, resilience, and beauty.

Past work examples:

| 36” | 48” | 36” |

Acrylic on raw linen

On Hold
Signature Collection

Surgery Waiting Area | Original 2D Artwork
Level 2: Activation 8A-C: Surgery Waiting | Original 2D Artwork

Approximate Artwork Footprints:
8A & 8B... Width: 60” | Height: 30”
8C... Width: 144” | Height: 48”

These three original artworks will play a crucial role in fostering a peaceful and calming environment for families waiting long periods of time for their loved ones to come out of surgery.

This area will also feature a prominent graphic print behind the reception area, which artworks should be considerate of, allowing this graphic to complement their presence.
Erika Huddleston
Dallas, Texas

Concept for Activation 8

Example imagery of past works; compositions to be designed later

Funding Opportunity
$125,000
Lead Time | 5-7 months

Oil on Canvas
30” x 60” (2) & 48” x 144”
Erika Huddleston holds a BA in Fine Art and a Masters degree in Landscape Architecture. She lives and works in Dallas, working primarily as a painter, focusing on depicting the natural world in a new light: recording the ephemera that cannot be seen in a brisk site walk or digital mapping. Particularly, she is interested in better understanding how perceiving changing natural processes in an urban park setting can affect human psychology.

About the Design

Erika creates these life-size paintings on canvas en plein air as seen from a sitting position in the landscape. Painting for long hours in park “urban wilderness” settings in cities around the world provides her the means to stay onsite for longer periods of time for analysis and observation. Painting outdoors without an image or photograph is a welcome face-to-face interaction amidst the day-to-day human habits of texting and utilizing other digital interfaces.

Huddleston’s oil paintings will transport weary relatives and friends waiting in this area to a restful emotional state through organic subject matter that reveals the sublime aspects of nature. With the paintings’ thick impasto paint strokes and alternating shiny and matte paint surfaces throughout the paintings catching the light, these works will provide a rich hand-crafted texture to the waiting room. Her works act as a tactic for recording temporal change with natural phenomena such as sticks, branches, and leaves.

This series of three paintings will complement each other, unifying and bringing visual respite to the surgery waiting area.

Previous Work
Approximate Artwork Footprint (each):
Width: 36” | Height: 48”

Elevator banks will feature inspiring and mesmerizing original artworks that are crucial to the healing journey. These pieces will allow for moments of calmness and reflectivity while transitioning between levels of the hospital.

The selected artwork will complement the elevator graphics, together creating a distinct and uplifting feel on each floor.
Erika Huddleston
Dallas, Texas

Activation 10: Elevator Lobbies | Level 2: Surgery

The Artist:
Please reference page 40 for a brief biographical overview of this artist.

The Artwork:
This commissioned work will take inspiration from the color scheme present in the elevator wall graphic, incorporating warm hues of yellow and orange.

Erika creates these life-size paintings on canvas en plein air as seen from a sitting position in the Texas landscape. Painting for long hours in park “urban wilderness” settings in cities around the world provides her the means to stay onsite for longer periods of time for analysis and observation. Her works act as a tactic for recording temporal change with natural phenomena such as sticks, branches, and leaves. Occasionally, leaves and tiny grasses will stick to the oil paint during the process. Thus, being with the work is akin to sitting outside and promotes a calming and restorative environment.
The Artist:

Please reference page 24 for a brief biographical overview of this artist.

The Artwork:

Ward’s work explores the meaning of landscape and the natural world through layers of history, memory, and metaphor. As a resident of both South Texas and the remote Upper Peninsula of Michigan she is influenced by the wildly different ecosystems of these places on opposite edges of the United States, and their similar histories of environmental degradation and settler colonialism.

This etching is part of her Deep Time suite and it is a reference of the sublime yet fragile beauty of glaciers and ice cores. The work was created with printmaking techniques that mirrored the gradual growth, fossilization, and incremental layering evident in the formation of ice cores and glaciers.
Meredith Pardue
Austin, Texas

Activation 10: Elevator Lobbies | Level 4: BMT & Long Term Care

The Artist:
Meredith Pardue is an acclaimed contemporary artist whose work is widely recognized for its abstract botanical forms and scenes derived from nature. She received her BFA from Savannah College of Art & Design in Georgia as well as an MFA at Parsons School of Design in NYC. She is most interested in extracting singular experiences – snapshots – from life’s endless cycles of growth and decay, and in transforming the public, universal worlds of nature and human dynamics into sites of private knowledge. Pardue’s work continues to gain critical acclaim and are prominently displayed in several private and notable corporate collections.

The Artwork:
She combines the random actions of painting with controlled, deliberate mark-making to describe each form in her work, which often appears floral or plantlike in structure. The marks and forms create a visual language that reads as something unique to each viewer. The forms are positioned against a pale ground that, upon first glance, appears as an expanse of negative space, but upon closer inspection reveals the history of layers of paint. The space is pushed and pulled through the tension of these positive and negative spaces.
Heidi Lowell
Austin, Texas

Activation 10: Elevator Lobbies | Level 5: Hematology & Oncology

The Artist:
Heidi Lowell is a multi-disciplinary artist whose work focuses on environmental issues using sustainable studio practices. She sources site specific soils and other natural materials from different areas around Texas and the country to produce her own paint. Lowell’s focus as an artist is to explore the balance between predictable systems and chaos that exist in natural systems. The flow of water is a central theme in her work: the mixture of water and paint is left to flow freely within the boundaries of the lines that she has planned, letting nature take part in the creation of each piece of work.

The Artwork:
Working with water and soil, this work is tied to the natural world through composition and material. Her art mirrors nature while imbuing a human sensitivity within it to evoke a sense of calm and wonder.

As a recent survivor of breast cancer, Lowell’s presence on the oncology floor is deliberate. She notes that, during her own treatment, the artwork around her acted as a catalyst for connection with the staff in the hospital as well as a source of peace during a tumultuous time.

Funding Opportunity
$25,000
Daniela Pasqualini  
*Dallas, Texas*

**Activation 10: Elevator Lobbies | Level 6: Medical-Surgical**

**The Artist:**
Daniela Pasqualini is an innovative Italian painter whose abstract works have been exhibited internationally and are held in private collections worldwide. Through a sculptural and experimental approach, Daniela transforms her observations of nature onto the canvas, bringing rhythm to splashes of vibrant color and creating texture through form. Her works are a vibrant fusion of nature, locations, people, and sounds all intertwined in a vivid dance of colors, textures, and lines.

**The Artwork:**
Inspired by the beauty of sea glass, the color palette utilized in this painting is a delicate symphony of oceanic hues. Soft blues, greens, and hints of frosted whites dominate the composition, evoking a sense of tranquility and the peaceful embrace of the sea transporting the viewer to a serene coastal setting. Through a combination of various mediums, textures, and techniques, she creates a multi-dimensional experience. The juxtaposition of smooth curves and jagged edges evokes the contrast between the relentless forces of nature and its simultaneous delicate beauty.
The Artist:

Please reference page 19 for a brief biographical overview of this artist.

The Artwork:

This fiber work is a fusion of visual storytelling and abstracted emotive landscapes, intending to create moments of visual intrigue that ground and engage the viewer. This work is an intentional one-of-a-kind creation, crafted for immersive experiences, to echo transformative journeys through the timeless art of storytelling. The title of this piece is also a departure from convention, serving as a poetic counterpart to the visual narrative.

The different layers woven together appear simultaneously like ocean waves, mountain ranges, variations in grass, and a myriad of other elements that evoke the sense of journeying through the natural world. The work’s form and color complements the level seven wall graphic beautifully. The work carries this wayfinding element and then extends its visual intrigue to engage the viewer while they await their elevator.
Ricky Armendariz
San Antonio, Texas

Activation 10: Elevator Lobbies | Level 8: Medical-Surgery

The Artist:

Please reference page 28 for a brief biographical overview of this artist.

The Artwork:

Inspired by the indigenous folklore of the coyote, the raven, and the rabbit, this work depicts the three animals on a unified journey.

Romanticism for the American landscape and the hybridization of Mexican, American, and Indigenous cultures have always informed the content of Armendariz’s work. Images that have cultural, biographical and art historical references are carved and burned into the surfaces of his artwork. He uses traditional painting and printmaking techniques in combination with non-traditional methods of drawing to achieve his aesthetic.

Funding Opportunity
$50,000

Existing Artwork: The Long Journey

Oil on carved birch plywood
48” x 48”
Our artists

Adriana Garcia
Alisa Banks
Allison Greeogry
Ansen Seale
Beili Liu
Brandy González
Carlos Betancourt
Carlos Rosales-Silva
Dace Kidd
Daniela Pasqualini
Dixie Friend Gay
Erika Huddleston
Gini Garcia
Hailey Marmolejo
Heidi Lowell
Julia Whitney Barnes
Katie Pace Halleran
Kimberly Mufferi
Laura Walters
Liz Ward
Manola Ramirez
Maria Ramirez
Melissa Borrell
Meredith Pardue
Naomi Gakunga
Ricky Armendariz
Susannah Mira
Vy Ngo

Collection at a glance

28 Artists
43% San Antonio
93% Texas
Special thanks

With special gratitude to the Healing Arts Committee for their commitment and dedication to making this vision a reality for our community.

Mrs. Graciela Cigarroa
Mrs. Alice Carrington Foults
Mrs. Lacie Gorder
Mrs. Emory Hamilton
Mrs. Mary Henrich

Mrs. Candace Humphreys
Mrs. Sara Jessop
Dr. Annie Labatt
Ms. Kimberly Lewis
Mrs. Marie Mays

Mrs. Cynthia Miller
Mrs. Debbie Montford
Dr. Dacia Napier
Ms. Kate Sheerin
Dr. Zarmeena Vendal
Ms. Lora Watts
Thank you for your time and consideration.

To learn more, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at UT Health San Antonio at 210-567-0242 or wallacer1@uthscsa.edu

To view the collection online, please go to makelivesbetter.uthscsa.edu/healingarts
Thank you!