

BACKGROUND

In 1997, the County of Santa Cruz Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services was gifted a 79.5-acre parcel known as the Pace property. The deed requires that the land be held as natural parkland to be used by the public for their enjoyment. The Pace property encompasses rare ecological features including a nearly 32-acre area of sandhills, protected by the County’s Sensitive Habitat Ordinance. Special-status species that call the area home include the Ben Lomond Spineflower, Ben Lomond Wallflower, Mount Hermon June Beetle, and the Zayante Band-Winged Grasshopper.



No formal trails exist from the Quail Hollow Ranch to the Pace property, or within the Pace property itself. The Pace Trail Construction Project will expand the existing 4.5-mile Quail Hollow Ranch trail network by connecting to the Pace property with a half-mile Access Trail, finally opening public access to the property. The project will also create a two-mile Loop Trail, rewarding hikers with amazing viewpoints, majestic oak trees, sandhills habitat, and a stunted redwood grove.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All proposals must be submitted via email in one combined PDF not-to-exceed 10 MB. All pages of your application should be presented in the order listed below. Proposals are subject to the Public Records Act and will be provided upon request; identifying information about the artist will be redacted.

Present your materials in the following order:

- A cover page with artist’s name, project title, address, phone, and email address.
- A written proposal, not to exceed two pages, which addresses the artist’s specific approach and design concept for this project, and references installation location(s).
- Visual support, including conceptual drawings which reflect the overall design concept.
- Fabrication and installation Explain your proposed schedule, process, and medium. Describe the anticipated fabrication and installation needs, special equipment or other needs which would require approval.
- A current resume of no more than two typed pages detailing professional artistic accomplishments and at least two references who can speak to your work and qualifications. Teams must submit a short resume for each member.
- Up to ten images of recent relevant work, each annotated with the artist’s name, title (if applicable) location of work, medium, date of work, and dimensions. Indicate budget where applicable.

Email proposals to
kathy.dewild@santacruzcoutyca.gov

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
Dept. of Parks, Open Space & Cultural Services
979 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062



CALL TO ARTISTS

Public Art Project

Pace Trails Construction Project



An artist will be selected to create a site-specific public art piece for the Pace Trails Project in Felton, California

ARTWORK LOCATIONS

Artists’ proposals must address the new Pace Trail, shown in green below. Artists are encouraged to review the information provided on the County Parks website, including potential installation locations, plans, images, and an example of the artist contract which show required insurance types and limits. <https://www.secparks.com/Home/AboutUs/WorkWithUs/CalltoArtists.aspx>



Photo: the view from the Pace Trail trailhead.

BUDGET - \$4,900

The budget includes all costs associated with, but not limited to design, materials, travel, insurance, fabrication, installation, and documentation of the artwork.

ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE

Although every effort will be made to follow the timeline, the schedule is contingent upon meetings with the selection panel and the County Board of Supervisors.

- **December 12, 2025**
Proposals must be received by midnight on the due date. Proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted.
- **January 2026** - Public Art Selection Panel (Panel) meets to review proposals, select finalists.
- **February 2026** - Panel interviews finalists and selects artist to continue in the process.
- **March 2026** - Arts Commission considers panel’s recommendation of public artist.
- **May 2026** - Board of Supervisors consider artist proposal and agreement.
- **Fall 2026** - Installation

QUESTIONS?

Email kathy.dewild@santacruzcountycalifornia.gov.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The proposed site-specific artwork should enhance the experience of Pace Trail hikers with imagery that reflects the area’s unique habitat, plants, and animals. While artwork may be sited anywhere along the trail (green line), it is preferred at the trailhead where the Pace Access Trail joins the Quail Hollow Sunset Trail (red arrow). See plan at left for details. Please note: The trail surface will be native soil with no paved sections. As specified in the Pace property deed, all work must be done with hand tools to minimize impact to sensitive habitat.

Artwork must satisfy reasonable standards of permanence and safety, meet all relevant codes required for public places, and offer reasonable proof of soundness against theft, vandalism or excessive maintenance and repair. Artists materials and construction must be of permanent quality.

In making their decision, the Selection Panel will consider the artistic merit of concept proposal and sketch, artist’s professional qualifications; proven ability to undertake projects of a similar scope; artistic merit as evidenced by the submitted materials; and demonstrated ability to work with a team.

ELIGIBILITY

The project is open to all experienced professional artists. The selected artist must provide proof of general liability insurance coverage, and others types if applicable. Please review the contract example on the parks website for details.