



Art Imperative at The Bend

Art as Convener

The Bend, Watershed's ambitious live-work development, reflects the unique intersection of art, industry and ecology in Seattle's Georgetown neighborhood.

From a distance, Watershed is constructing buildings and spaces. Up close, our work is building relationships. Our connections with people, the neighborhood, businesses, city, and environment compel everything we do.

One of the project's five primary commitments, *Art as Convener*, manifests the belief that art is foundational to placemaking and place-keeping. We want artists to be deeply involved in the visioning, program creation, artwork commissions, outreach and communication, and implementation of The Bend.

The art imperative is producing a diverse range of cultural experiences: permanent and temporary public artworks, events and performances as public space activations, cultural facilities, artisan live-work studios, and artist residencies. Different ways of working, different ways of making an impact, different ways of city-building with art at the center.

We created a series of art planning documents and visioning tools that will guide the early stages of the development process, with more opportunities for engagement over the next 5 years as The Bend takes its form and welcomes its residents.

The Bend District Plan identifies the commitments, guiding principles and overarching themes that will be used as a creative prompt for artists to activate and participate in this unique district, and what positive impacts can be realized through the changes to this 5-block zone in Georgetown.

The Elements Art Plan outlines the permanent public art commissions that will be offered to Equinox Studio artists as part of the first building at The Bend.

The Cookbook of the Street offers a recipe and menu of ingredients to ensure that art, design, and environmental interventions can work together to deliver public spaces that feed the soul and nourish community connections. The Cookbook will be available to the public in the summer of 2025.

To find the above documents, [visit our website](#).

To find out more and stay informed about calls-for-artists and proposal submittal deadlines, opportunities to volunteer, convenings of focus groups and IdeaFests, [sign up here](#).