

CALL FOR PUBLIC ART

DeKalb Arts 12 + 1 Initiative: "The Cows are Coming!"

Pine Lake, Georgia

Pine Lake, Georgia invites professional and emerging artists to submit proposals to design and decorate a life-size fiberglass cow sculpture to be installed in a **pocket park in Pine Lake, Georgia**, as part of the county-wide public art initiative, *12 + 1 Initiative: "The Cows are Coming!"*

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

The 12 + 1 Initiative is a public art program bringing a herd of uniquely decorated, life-size fiberglass cow sculptures to communities throughout DeKalb County. Each cow will be transformed by a local or regional artist into a one-of-a-kind work of public art, celebrating the creativity, culture, and character of the community in which it is placed. The Pine Lake cow will join a countywide "herd" on public display, celebrating local artists, supporting local economies, and sparking community pride.

You might be thinking: *Hmm, it's kinda weird to put a cow sculpture in a micro city in the Atlanta metro area.* However, this is exactly why a cow sculpture in a pocket park is very much aligned with the quirky nature of the city. Pine Lake, as Arts' Natural Habitat, is the perfect place to put a cow sculpture in a pocket park!

The cow is a nod to DeKalb's history of dairy operations, and the sculpture is a blank canvas to be inspired by the nature, innovation, education, history, local traditions, or the vibrantly eclectic culture of today. There are numerous design possibilities, such as paint, textile, or mosaic. The only restriction is that the sculpture will be outside, so the art needs to be weatherproof.

Pine Lake, "Arts' Natural Habitat," has long championed artists and the power of public art. The city is excited for this partnership, as an opportunity for public art, as well supporting independent artists.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- **Location:** Pine Lake, Georgia
- **Sculpture:** Life-size, blank fiberglass cow form (provided by DeKalb County)
- **Artist's Task:** Design and apply a decorative treatment to the sculpture's surface, transforming it into an original public artwork

- **Display:** The completed sculpture will be permanently or semi-permanently installed in a publicly accessible location in DeKalb County
- Sculpture will be installed a pocket park; artist will work on sculpture in situ
- Selected artist(s) will receive \$3,000 as an all-inclusive payment. This means including, but not limited to, design, materials, fabrication, travel, and artist's fees.

ELIGIBILITY

- Open to professional and emerging artists 18 years of age or older
- Artists, artist teams, and collectives may apply
- Applicants need not reside in DeKalb County, though local and regional artists are strongly encouraged to apply
- Applicants must be authorized to work in the U.S.
- Prior public art experience is welcomed but not required
- Applicants must not be currently employed by DeKalb County Georgia Government (including full-time, part-time, seasonal and contract employment).

DESIGN GUIDELINES

Proposed designs should:

- Reflect themes relevant to the City of Pine Lake — such as local history, nature, community identity, or civic pride
- Be family-friendly and appropriate for an accessible, all-ages public setting
- Be original and not reproduce copyrighted characters, logos, or brands
- Use weather-resistant materials and techniques suitable for permanent outdoor display (e.g., exterior-grade paints, sealants, or approved mixed media)
- Account for the three-dimensional form of the sculpture in the overall composition
- After installation, will not require water or electricity.
- Not present a tripping hazard or have sharp edges or points

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Interested artists must submit the following as a single application package:

1. **Design Proposal** — A written description (300 words or fewer) of the concept and its relevance to Pine Lake
2. **Visual Renderings** — Color sketches, mock-ups, or digital renderings showing the design applied to the cow form (multiple angles encouraged)
3. **Artist Statement/Bio** — A brief statement of the artist's background and relevant experience
4. **Portfolio** — Images of 3–5 examples of previous work
5. **Website & Social Media Handles**
6. **Materials & Process Summary** — A short description of proposed materials and application methods, including tentative timeline
7. **Contact Information** — Name, mailing address, phone number, and email address

TIMELINE

Milestone	Date
Call for Art Opens	Monday August 3, 2026
Submission Deadline	Saturday, August 22, 2026, 5:00 PM
Artist Notification	Friday, September 4, 2026
Sculpture Pickup / Work Begins	September 14 – October 23, 2026
Completed Sculpture Due	Friday October 23, 2026
Installation in DeKalb County	To be announced

All submissions must be received by Saturday, August 22, 2026, at 5:00 PM. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals will be reviewed by a selection committee based on:

- Artistic quality and originality
- Relevance to Pine Lake
- Feasibility of execution given the sculpture's form and outdoor display requirements
- Durability and appropriateness of proposed materials
- Overall visual impact and community appeal

HOW TO APPLY

Complete application package is due by **5:00 PM on Saturday, August 22, 2026.**

Submissions can be emailed with PDF attachments to: stephaniekohler@pinelakega.net

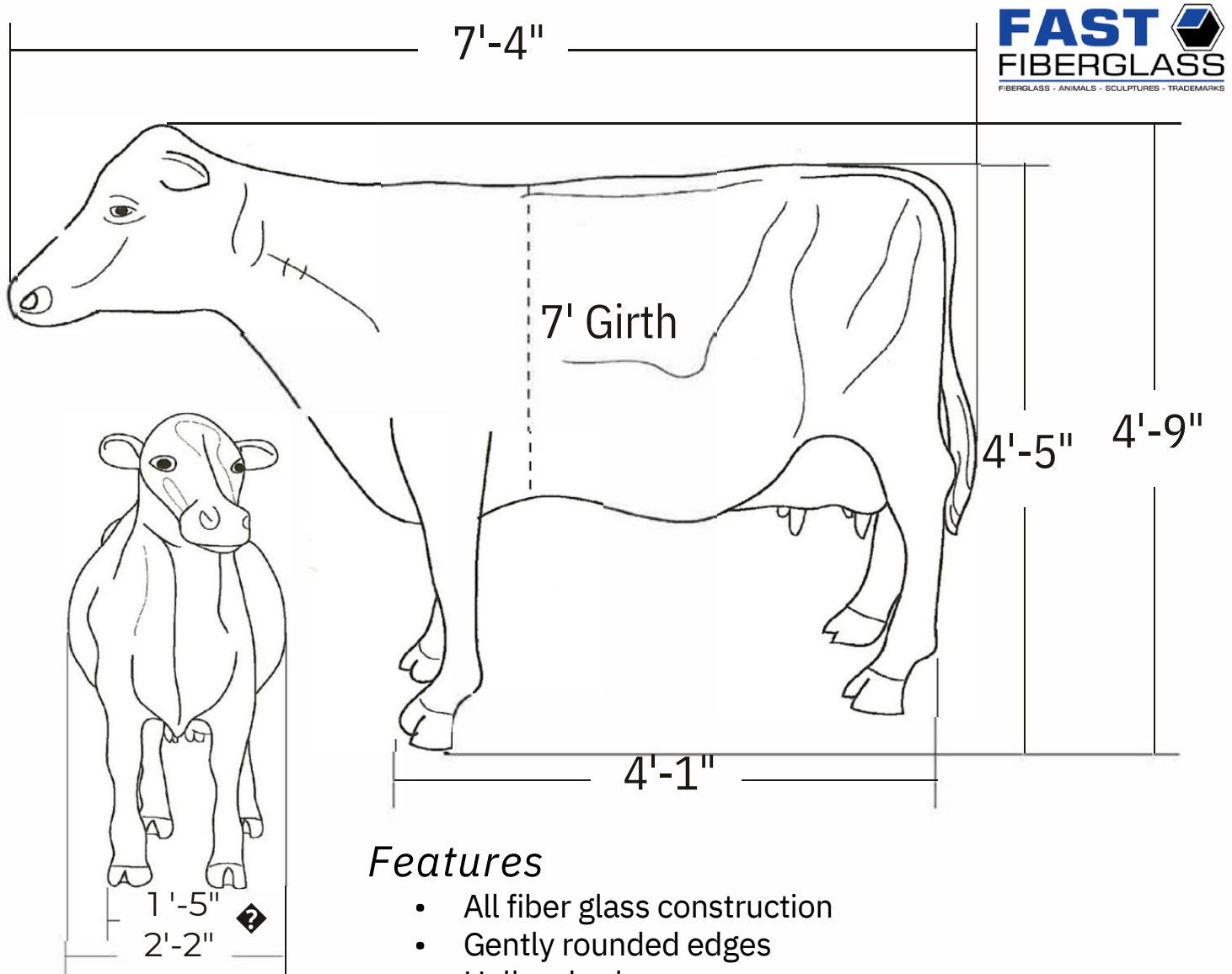
For questions about the initiative, eligibility, or submission process, please contact:

Stephanie Kohler, Council Member, City of Pine Lake

stephaniekohler@pinelakega.net

Life Size Cow

Approximate Weight 125 lbs.



Features

- All fiber glass construction
- Gently rounded edges
- Hollow body
- Permanent mounting points for easy installation
- Any color and paint scheme available

