

For Immediate Release
May 2014

Media Contact:
Heather Wagner Reed
heather@juiceconsulting.com
713 208 3891



ART ALLIANCE AUSTIN ANNOUNCES A SERIES OF SPECIAL RECEPTIONS DURING WEST AUSTIN STUDIO TOUR

Art lovers and general public are invited to attend a special reception for Melissa Borrell's GloWave sculpture taking place Saturday, May 10 from 7 to 9 p.m., as well as reception celebrating the Ink Tank Vending Machine project to take place Saturday, May 17 from 3 to 5 p.m.

(AUSTIN, TEXAS – May 2014; source: Juice Consulting) – **Art Alliance Austin** is delighted to invite the public to two free events taking place during the **West Austin Studio Tour** this year. Art lovers are invited for a special reception for the **GloWave Sculpture**, an art installation by Austin-based artist **Melissa Borrell**. The event will take place the first weekend of WEST on **Saturday, May 10** from **7 to 9 p.m.** at **Little Stacey Park** at the GloWave sculpture, which is located near **Eastside Drive** and **Annie Street**. The second event, taking place the second weekend of WEST, will be a reception celebrating the **Ink Tank Vending Machine** project and will take place **Saturday, May 17** from **3 to 5 p.m.** at **Republic Square** located at **422 Guadalupe St.** Acoustic flute and guitar duo, **Sarah Jane Hargis** and **Steven Paul Haskin**, will be playing the GloWave event and both events will feature complimentary drinks and bites.

“We’re thrilled be working with Melissa Borrell and Ink Tank, both for a second time,” said **Asa Hursh, Deputy Director of Art Alliance Austin**. “They are really presenting some wonderful and unique works. Projects like these are important for Austin because they place us in a larger dialogue about art and they help to activate and enhance our public spaces.”

GloWave, which will be on view until June 2, is an undulating form that references the water that flows in Blunn Creek and will be illuminated in the dark with blue light. GloWave is part of the TEMPO projects commissioned by the City of Austin Art in Public Places.

“Building the GloWave was an amazing experience,” said artist **Melissa Borrell**. “It was my first public art project and I’ve had great response from the community. So many people have told me that they’ve seen it while in the neighborhood. It’s really magical to imagine something in my head and then see it become a reality.”

Ink Tank’s installation involves a repurposed soda vending machine that will be rigged up to play audio clips recorded around and indicative of Austin’s current and rapidly changing cultural landscape. The vending machine will be free to operate but any money incidentally collected will be donated to local non-profits. In addition to the encapsulating and dispensing the many sounds of Austin, the vending machine will also function as a community bulletin board with cork panels installed on the sides to allow for flyers/posters. The vending machine will also function as a community bulletin board with cork panels installed on the sides to allow for flyers/posters. This project is presented by Art Alliance Austin and made possible in part by a grant from the Downtown Austin Alliance.

For more information about the participating artists, please see www.melissaborrell.com and www.inktankwebsite.com. For more information about the West Austin Studio Tour, please see www.west.bigmedium.org.

About Art Alliance Austin:

For 64 years, **Art Alliance Austin** has been dedicated to engaging people with art to create community benefit ensuring art and creativity have a place at the core of Austin’s identity. Ranging from festivals and events to commissioning site-specific public art projects, Art Alliance Austin’s mission of engaging people with great art enlists artists at the forefront of regeneration and community development. This directive has evolved since the organization’s founders boldly accepted responsibility for the stewardship of Laguna Gloria in 1956. Today, the organization honors this commitment with a focus on the activation of Austin’s urban core. Art Alliance Austin programs and partnerships now engage more than 100,000 people annually and produce an estimated \$2.5 million in annual economic impact. For more information, please see www.artallianceaustin.org.

MEDIA NOTE:

For media requests and general press inquiries, please contact the team at Juice Consulting:

Heather Wagner Reed
713 208 3891
heather@juiceconsulting.com

Amber LaFrance
469 877 1533
amber@juiceconsulting.com



