

LANDMARKS

PRESS RELEASE

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LANDMARKS ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF “PAWS FOR PUBLIC ART”

March 11 Event Pairs Petting Zoo Animals with Iconic Works from UT’s Public Art Collection



AUSTIN, Texas—February 12, 2026—[Landmarks](#), the public art program of The University of Texas at Austin, announces the return of *Paws for Public Art*, an annual wellness event that pairs works of art and animals to offer mental health breaks. On March 11 from 11 AM – 2 PM, petting zoos with miniature goats, hedgehogs, bunnies, chicks, and other animals will be stationed at four iconic sculptures from Landmarks’ collection: Mark di Suvero’s [Clock Knot](#), Nancy Rubins’ [Monochrome for Austin](#), Sol LeWitt’s [Circle with Towers](#), and Donald Lipski’s [The West](#). An accompanying mobile app will share information about the animals and works of art, and will guide visitors through wellness exercises. The event is free and open to all.

Presented in partnership with the [Longhorn Wellness Center](#), *Paws for Public Art* highlights the ways in which engagement with art and animals alleviate stress—especially helpful to students during mid-term exams. Local petting zoo companies Tiny Tails to You and Fannie’s Farm Animals will offer opportunities to engage with animals, while Landmarks staff and volunteers share insights about the works of art at each station. Representatives from the Longhorn Wellness Center will also be onsite, providing information on sleep hygiene, social connection, mindfulness, and self-care.

Paws for Public Art builds on Landmarks’ previous programs focused on wellbeing and mental health. In

2020, at the height of the pandemic, Landmarks developed an [online meditation](#) inside Turrell's Skyspace. In 2023, [Wellness Wednesdays](#) was launched, a month-long series of sound bath meditations led by Sonic Starchild. Mobile tours focused on fitness and mindfulness have been developed with [Recreational Sports](#) and the [Longhorn Wellness Center](#), respectively, and are available on Landmarks' [mobile app](#). Most recently, Landmarks launched [Sunset Reset](#), a series for students developed with [Humanitas](#) and the [College of Liberal Arts](#). Hosted on select Tuesday evenings inside the Skyspace, the program invites students to participate in stress-relieving activities such as mindful drawing and mediation. Learn more about Landmarks' wellness programs [here](#).

**Press images and B-Roll available [here](#).*

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ABOUT LANDMARKS

Landmarks is the award-winning public art program of The University of Texas at Austin and the College of Fine Arts. Its collection of modern and contemporary art celebrates varied perspectives, featuring commissioned projects alongside sculptures on long-term loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Landmarks inspires thought and growth by making great art free and accessible to all. For more information: landmarksut.org

Photo courtesy of Ben Porter.