Art-in-Architecture

Request for Qualifications

Governors State University
University Park, Illinois
Project Number: 816-010-036
CALL TO ARTISTS

The Art-in-Architecture Program of the Capital Development Board is pleased to announce a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to Illinois professional artists to create permanent original public art in the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at Governors State University in University Park, Illinois.

Final Deadline:  Friday, March 27, 2020
4:30 P.M.
APPLICATION BEFORE THE FINAL DEADLINE IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

ELIGIBILITY

These public art commissions and potential purchases are open to all professional artists, artisans, or artist-led teams that live and work in the state of Illinois.

- An artist/artisan is defined as a skilled practitioner that generates designs and concepts for creative works that reflect form, beauty, and aesthetic perception. All artists on a team must be from Illinois.

- Subcontractors may be used and are defined as those providing technical implementation such as construction, fabrication, and/or assembly for portions or all of a finished product under direct supervision and control of an artist.

- Staff and faculty of Governors State University are not eligible to apply for this commission.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park (the Nate) is a collection of 30 master works of large-scale sculpture situated within 100 acres of prairie landscape. This "museum-in-the-prairie" is open for public viewing 365 days a year and is free of charge. The views surrounding the sculptures change with the seasons.

The Nate provides programs for adults and children that integrate art and nature. It provides nearby residents, students, and visitors with opportunities for bird watching, biking, hiking, and education.

Although it is located on the campus of Governors State University, it was founded and is maintained through grants and donations from businesses and individuals. Over 6,000 guests visit the sculpture park each year.

Visit the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park website for information about the site and the entire collection.
**PROJECT SITE**

The area selected for the artwork by the Committee is an area encompassing approximately ten acres of prairie restoration known as the Butterfly Ranch. The area is a field that is being transformed through the planting of native plants into a canvas for butterfly propagation.

The area is bounded to the north by a line of Osage orange trees and to the east by a pond. It is located between the *Bodark Arc* by Martin Puryear, *Phoenix* by Edvins Strautmanis, and *Flying Saucer* by Jene Highstein. Walking paths crisscross the area.

Depending upon the final artwork design and location, the artwork may be visible from the main GSU entrance at University Drive.

See maps and images at the end of this RFQ for detailed location information.

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**ARTISTIC OBJECTIVES**

The Committee is interested in a sculpture, installation, and/or earthwork in the area that allows for interaction with visitors, hikers, bird watchers, and students. The piece should incorporate a shelter or seating element or allow for seating to be installed nearby without infringing upon the integrity of the artwork.

The artist's work must fit in with the site and the Nate collection; it must be both distinct from, and complementary to, the other works in the collection.
The Committee is eager to work with emerging artists; no previous public art experience required. Special consideration will be given to artist-led teams that match emerging artists with practitioners established in the field.

The piece must be durable, safe, and cost-effective to maintain and must be able to endure the rigors of the Illinois climate.

**BUDGET DETAILS**

The budget for the project is $54,000.00.

This budget covers all expenses associated with, but not limited to, the project design, labor, fabrication, project management, materials, tools, contracted services, operations and meetings. Other covered expenses include travel required to complete the artwork plus installation, related permits, licenses, taxes and insurance, and transportation and delivery of the work to the site, as well as documentation of the completed project. Any expense that exceeds the contracted amount will be the artist’s responsibility.

The artist is responsible for working with the Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program, the using agency, and other relevant partners to oversee all aspects of the art installation.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

At least three artists/teams will be selected from the pool of eligible artists/teams and paid a fee of $1,500.00 each to develop and present site-specific proposals.

Letters will be sent to the selected artists/teams with details of the proposal process and contracts.

*Do not send a proposal unless you have been contacted by the Art-in-Architecture Coordinator.*

**LEGAL AGREEMENT**

The Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program reserves the right to alter any aspect of the selection process or overall project in any way for its own convenience at any time. This Request for Qualifications does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract and these provisions are subject to change.
HOW TO APPLY

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY APPLIED TO THE ILLINOIS ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

You do not need to send your materials again if you applied after November 1, 2012. To apply for this project submit a Letter of Intent that includes

■ the project name and project number
■ your name and the name of your team members, if applying as a team
■ your most current contact information including address, telephone number, and e-mail address

IF YOU HAVE NEVER APPLIED TO THE ILLINOIS ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

Please e-mail or post a full package including ONE copy of each of the following labeled with the artist’s name as well as the project name and number:

■ Résumé (if a team, one for each member) with current contact information, including:
  - Name
  - Address
  - Phone
  - Fax
  - E-mail
  - Website

■ Artist Statement/Letter of Intent (1 page maximum, double-spaced)
  - If the submission is on behalf of a team, please identify the lead artist and indicate if the individuals have previously collaborated, and if so, the nature of the collaboration.
  - If the artist or artist team has worked with not-for-profit organizations, local governments, state agencies, or other similar and relevant groups, please describe the project.

■ Up to 15 JPEG images of relevant past work. Please provide the images in the following format:
  - One image per JPEG
  - Pixel dimensions per image: approximately 600 x 800
  - Image resolution: 72-300 pixels per inch
  - Maximum file size per image: 1MB
  - Name each image: lastnamefirstnameimagednumber.jpg, for example: mirojoan01, mirojoan02, mirojoan03, etc.
  - A corresponding, numbered, annotated image list with title, media, dimensions, location, brief description, date of the work, project budget, and project partners, if applicable.
  - If submitting by e-mail, please send images as attachments and not in the body of the e-mail.
References of at least three professionals (commissioning agency or organization, design or arts professional, architect, landscape architect, engineer, etc.) who have a detailed knowledge of the artist’s work and working methods. Include contact name, complete address, telephone number, and e-mail for each reference.

Optional: One PDF file of additional support material, including press clippings or other relevant information on past projects (maximum 1MB file.)

Digital Submittals: If the information is provided on a CD, include the documents (résumé, artist statement, image list, references, etc.) as well as the images, and label it clearly with artist or team name and date.

PowerPoint presentations are not accepted.

Please Note:
- Send art as JPEG files ONLY. Slides will not be accepted nor returned.
- Do not send design proposals.
- All submittals become property of the Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program and will not be returned. Submissions can be made available for public viewing. The artist retains copyright.

How and Where to Submit
Interested artists must send application materials no later than Friday, March 27, 2020 at 4:30 P.M. Submissions received after this date will be kept for review for other Art-in-Architecture projects.

Application materials may be delivered by:

E-mail to CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov
Hand delivery to address below
USPS or other mailing service to address below

Art-in-Architecture Program
Capital Development Board
Wm. G. Stratton Building, 3rd Floor
401 South Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62706
**Questions?**
Contact the Art-in-Architecture Program at CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov

The Art-in-Architecture Procedure Manual, commission opportunities, and other information is posted at www.illinois.gov/cdb/services/art

**About the Art-in-Architecture Program**
The Illinois Art-in-Architecture Program promotes and preserves Illinois art and enriches communities by commissioning original artwork for public buildings constructed with State funds.

The enabling legislation for the Program requires that the Capital Development Board “shall set aside 1/2 of 1 percent of the amount authorized and appropriated for construction or reconstruction of each public building financed in whole or in part by State funds and generally accessible to and used by the public for purchase and placement of suitable works of art in such public buildings.” A committee including art professionals and the project architect, and oversees each project and selects the artwork.

Since its inception in 1977, the Art-in-Architecture Program has purchased or commissioned works of art by Illinois artists for public display throughout Illinois. For more information visit www.illinois.gov/cdb/services/art.
Above: Butterfly Ranch map. NOTE: The map is not to scale.
Below: View from the artwork area to the south. *Flying Saucer* and GSU buildings in the distance.
View from the artwork area to the east. Path on the left leads to *Bodark Arc* along the north edge of the Butterfly Ranch.