community+public arts: DETROIT New Urban Places

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Information at a Glance

Scope: RFQ for artists to be included in the community+public arts: DETROIT (CPAD) New Urban Places Artist Roster. Roster artists will be eligible to be selected to create community-based public art projects that transform vacant or underused spaces in Detroit neighborhoods into New Urban Places that included green infrastructure (with support from The Greening of Detroit) and urban planning (with support from the Detroit Future City Implementation Office).

Location: One project will take place in each of the four Detroit targeted neighborhoods:
- Brightmoor
- Cody-Rouge
- Jefferson/Chalmers
- North End

Budget for Visual Arts Projects: up to $40,000.00

Request for Qualifications Application Deadline: Friday, July 18 at 5:00 p.m. EST.

Submission: All applications must be submitted in electronic format (no hard-copy or slides). Submitted materials will not be returned.

Full RFQ is available for download at: http://www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu/cpad

For more information contact: CPAD Assistant Director Kalia Keith
(313) 664-1549 or e-mail KKeith@collegeforcreativestudies.edu

Information Sessions

Learn more about CPAD and the Request for Qualifications

Virgil H. Carr Center, Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 6-8 p.m.
311 East Grand River, Detroit, MI 48226

Patton Rec. Center, Tuesday, June 24, 2014, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
2301 Woodmere, Detroit, MI 48209
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**community+public arts: DETROIT** (CPAD) brings Detroit communities and artists together to produce high-quality public art projects and events that support neighborhoods in developing and expressing their unique character and potential through the arts. CPAD projects reach beyond the typical arts audience; involve neighborhoods in unique ways; and engage with their sites, taking into account specific communities, the environment, and their political and social histories. Founded out of the Community Arts Partnerships office of the College for Creative Studies, CPAD is uniquely structured to produce work that is artistically authentic and significant, while being truly community-driven and addressing specific community needs and opportunities.

NEW URBAN PLACES

CPAD will collaborate with The Greening of Detroit, the Detroit Future City Implementation Office, artists and community residents to transform vacant and underused spaces in four Detroit neighborhoods into New Urban Places where the arts, culture, and green space combine to express unique community visions as part of creative open space solutions for Detroit. Four large community-based public art projects combining vibrant visual art, expressive and sustainable green space, and linking with engaging public performance will be created as model interventions for activating and reimagining the city – one in each neighborhood. CPAD is looking for artists who understand that the most effective solutions to vacancy in our neighborhoods should be community-based, that our open spaces are opportunities for innovation and community expression, and that all of Detroit’s neighborhoods are rich in the art, culture, history, and connections that Detroiter have spent lifetimes creating, and should be central to Detroit’s re-vitalization.

ELIGIBILITY

The opportunity is open to Michigan visual artists, who have the capacity to complete large-scale, community-based, artistically authentic public art projects with some connection to green infrastructure (the natural environment and systems: providing water; conserving ecosystem values and functions; and providing benefits to people and wildlife), a documented connection to Detroit neighborhoods (preferably one of the four target neighborhoods), and a history of community-based artwork.

Artists are expected to be involved at every stage of the public art project’s development including making themselves available for regular community meetings and public dedications.

*Note: If you have been on the CPAD Roster in the past, you must re-apply for the current project roster. The previous CPAD Roster will be retired.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY-BASED PUBLIC ART?

Community-based public art, as defined by CPAD builds upon community opportunities and challenges, is highly visible, long lasting, and utilizes community resources. For New Urban Places projects, CPAD is seeking artists whose work creatively addresses open or under-used urban spaces and resources with some connection to green infrastructure. Artists will be asked
to create projects that bring people together, provide places and ways for neighbors to gather, and activate vacant or under-used urban places.

TARGET NEIGHBORHOODS:
Brightmoor and Cody-Rouge on the city’s northwest side, Jefferson/Chalmers on Detroit’s near eastside, and North End near Highland Park.

BUDGET
Up to $40,000 will be available for projects in each of the four neighborhoods and shall cover all expenses for design fees, travel, participation in meetings and presentations, technical consultant’s fees (as necessary), the production, delivery and installation of the artwork, photographic documentation of project, an identification plaque, and participation in a public dedication. Additional resources will be available for green infrastructure components through The Greening of Detroit.

SELECTION PROCESS
Phase I (July 2014): A city-wide Community and Public Art Advisory Council made up of both arts and community organizations will pre-screen artists for inclusion in an Artists’ Roster. Only artists from this roster may be selected for projects.

Phase II (August 2014 – Winter 2015): Residents and stakeholder-based Community Art Committees in each neighborhood make the crucial decisions about projects including project theme, type of project (media), potential sites, selection of artist(s), and approval of final project design, project celebration, dedication, and events. Community Art Committees from each neighborhood will select artists from the Roster to make formal proposals for projects.

LOCATIONS FOR ARTWORKS
Each of the four neighborhood Community Art Committees will work with their selected artist or artist-team to identify a specific location for their artwork. New Urban Places specifically looks to transform underused spaces into places where the arts, culture, and green space combine to express unique community visions.

TIMELINE/SELECTION PROCESS
Application opens: June 2, 2014
Deadline for receipt of submissions: Friday, July 18 at 5 p.m. EST
Advisory Council juries artists for inclusion in the Public Art Roster: July 2014
Artists will be notified: August 2014

The New Urban Places Artist Roster will be made available to the Metro Detroit community through CPAD’s web-site August/September 2014.

Community Art Committees will select prospective artists from the Artist Roster and invite their participation in developing specific projects September 2014 – Winter 2015.
Artists selected by the Community Art Committees will plan and develop projects September 2014 – Fall 2015.
SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Artists may apply for the project as individuals or as an artist-team.

Applicants are required to provide the following:

1. **Work Samples.** No more than 10 examples of past work in digital format. Past work should demonstrate your ability to generate artwork in response to the New Urban Places project.
   - Digital file information: JPGs submitted on a CD ROM readable by a PC/MAC; 72 dpi minimum 300 dpi recommended but no more than 8” x 11”; save image as .jpg with a compression/quality setting of 9 (90%) or medium; and total file size should be around 500 KB.
   - All work must be numbered and labeled to match the Work Sample Narrative. Artists applying as a team may submit up to 8 slides or digital files of each artist’s work but no more than 16 images total. Images can include youth artwork.

2. **Work Sample Narrative.** Include title of project, location of installation, and client(s), dimensions, materials, construction techniques, contractors, and total budget for the project.

3. **Artist’s Statement** (no more than one page in length) must identify the following:
   - The type of neighborhood or environment for which you would like your artwork to be considered
   - The process that you will use to gather inspiration for the work from the neighborhood, and how, as part of your working method, you will interact with the community

The Artist’s Statement is an opportunity to share with CPAD and the Community Art Committees your vision and the conceptual approach you would take to this project in order to give us a sense of the quality of your thinking and level of expertise. **Please note that specific project proposals are not requested at this time and will not be accepted.** Neighborhood committees will select artists from among those included in the Public Art Roster who will be paid to prepare proposals during the next phase of the project.

If applying as an artist-team, in your statement please demonstrate a track record of working together and talk about the structure of your team including identification of your team’s contact person. Statement should be no more than one page in length

5. **Professional Resumes** for all individuals, not to exceed two pages in length each.

6. **List of References.**
   - Must include references from communities that you have worked in or are currently working in.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION/PROJECT/INFORMATION MEETINGS
Questions about the RFQ and the project should be addressed to:
Kalia Keith, CPAD Assistant Director
313.664.1549  kkeith@collegeforcreativestudies.edu
A COMPLETE APPLICATION INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING

Work Samples: 10 (individual artists) - 16 (artist teams) digital files of recent artwork

Work Sample Narrative page

Artist’s Statement about your approach to the project and your team structure, as necessary

Professional resume(s) for each artist

Community references

Materials will not be returned.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Artists will be selected for inclusion in the Public Art Roster by CPAD and our citywide Community and Public Arts Advisory Council based on the following:

- Professional qualifications and experience
- Proven ability to take on a project of this scope.
- Artistic quality as shown in the submitted materials
- Proven connection to the city of Detroit and targeted neighborhoods
- Durability of past work and appropriateness to its location
- Demonstrated ability to work with government agencies, designers, committees and community groups in the creation of a project
- Conceptual approach to the project as indicated in the Artist’s Statement

The decisions of the judges will be final.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Submit materials no later than 5:00 P.M. EST on Friday, July 11, 2014.

Applications must be received by this deadline; this is not a postmark deadline. Applications received after the deadline will be ineligible.

Submission packet may be mailed to:
Kalia Keith, Assistant Director, CPAD
College for Creative Studies, 201 E. Kirby, Detroit, MI, 48202

Submission Packet may be dropped off at:
Community Arts Partnerships office
6th floor, A. Alfred Taubman Center for Design Education, 485 W. Milwaukee, Detroit

Submission packet may be emailed to:
Kalial Keith: kkeith@collegeforcreativestudies.edu