

Dear Anna and The Urbana Public Arts Commission,

We've been asked by the City to prepare some discussion points that might help assist you in selecting an artist for the Boneyard Creek project. As you know, the Boneyard is a fabulous opportunity to showcase the arts in Urbana. We are thrilled to be a part of it and will assist you in any way that we can. In our past projects and experience working with artists, we believe best examples of art installations, are those that are done in a collaborative manner—where the artist is an integral part of the design process and the artwork supports the park's various functions. We believe the least successful examples are those where a space in the park is designated for "art" and the artist works autonomously from the rest of the design and engineering team.

There are a couple ways in which an artist could be selected:

1. An open process:

- Most common is through an RFQ or RFP process initiated by you and/or the City
- An artist competition can be held. This can be national (international) or local. This usually creates a "buzz" for the project, and could for the City as well, and yields extremely creative proposals. I have not been a part of a competition process. My guess is that it is not easy to manage a competition and it is less collaborative because the "idea" is created without the team, client or a great knowledge of the project.

2. A closed process:

- An artist or group of artists selected by you/ the City/ and or the design team to specifically address a particular area of the plan. We did this in Milwaukee where the artist used recycled glass from Miller Brewing, the City liked her work and wanted to get her involved in the project, and we worked with her to incorporate her glass work in railings for boardwalks.
- Donation—primarily where the financial donor selects, or is part of. selected the artist/ or type of art
- An artist or organization (like you) can be selected to work with area schools (or the University) to create artwork for the park. Example: the tile work project that Anna showed to me

I have attached an example of an RFP that the City of Denver Parks prepared for a park that we were the design lead. This is an unedited draft, so please disregard the internal notes and some of the incompleteness. Along with this RFP, we provided conceptual park plans and drawing images so that the artists had a feel for the park design. I would expect that we do the same for the Boneyard

Finally, there are many opportunities with the Boneyard for integrated art, here are just a few examples:

- The Race Street Bridge: Opportunities include the railings, lighting, columns, integrated mosaic/ tile into the façade
- The Bridge underpasses and culvert underpass: Under the Race street bridge and culvert crossing there will be two "blank" walls and a ceiling for each. Opportunities might include lighting, murals, mosaic/ tile work
- Park elements and structures: such as benches, walls, steps, paving
- There is a sewer interceptor that crosses the creek. However, any art that involves this structure should be considered temporary, as public utilities owns and will need to maintain the pipe
- Less traditional might include examples of environmental art that might explore solar/wind generated objects, highlight certain creek habitat, or may inform environmental occurrences like the dynamics of the creek.

I hope this helps. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions

Sincerely

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Parkfield Lake Park Public Art

Deadline for Entry: Friday, XXXX 2009

Project Description

The Denver Office of Cultural Affairs is seeking an artist, or artist team, for a site-specific public art commission for the third phase of improvements at Parkfield Lake Park. Estimated budget for artwork is \$88,000.00. The new construction is adjacent to the heavily used Montbello Recreation Center, and will provide lighted multipurpose soccer and football fields, baseball and softball fields, basketball courts, a regional playground, an urban skate plaza, and other facility improvements. The park is being designed to comply with the city's Executive Order 123, which mandates sustainable or "green" building practices in all public funded projects.

Montbello is one of Denver's largest neighborhoods located in northern Denver. Development began in 1966, and continues to grow to this day with new subdivisions including Parkfield and Deer Trail. (need more info on the neighborhood)

Art Opportunities and Locations

The Denver Office of Cultural Affairs is seeking artists working in any medium, for an original, site specific art installation. The selected artist will be working with the design team to incorporate artwork into the park, with possibilities for functional integration including play areas, gathering places, and other multifunctional areas throughout the entire park, including gardens, promenades, and Parkfield Lake (lake and shoreline). . (Suggest more locations)

Selection Process

Up to three artists will be short-listed as semi-finalists for the project. These semi-finalists will receive more specific information regarding the site and will have the opportunity to meet with city officials, and project design team members. The Selection Panel will review proposals from the semi-finalists. The final recommendation of the Selection Panel will be presented to the Public Art Subcommittee, the Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs, and to Mayor John Hickenlooper for final approval. All decisions of the City and County of Denver are final.

Applying for these Opportunities:

The Parkfield Park Project Selection Panel will review applicants through an open review process. Applicants will be asked to submit digital images, a résumé, and a letter of interest of **no more than 300 words**. (Please see *Materials to be Submitted* below.) The Selection Panel will select a short list of up to three semi-finalists. Upon selection of the short list, an honorarium of \$500.00 will be awarded for each semi-finalist to prepare

and present a final proposal (i.e. maquette, PowerPoint presentation or drawing/painting) in person.

Applicant(s) may apply as a single artist or multi-person collaboration.

Budget

The total contract to be awarded to an artist or team artists for this project is approximately \$88,000.00. This contract amount is inclusive of all costs associated with the project including, but not limited to, the artist's design fee, other consultation fees such as structural engineering, insurance, including Colorado Workers Compensation, small tools, materials, fabrication, transportation and installation including any building or site modification required, travel to and from the site, per diem expenses, project documentation, contingency to cover unexpected expenses and any other costs of any kind.

Maintenance and Durability

All applicants are requested to consider the issues of long-term preservation and maintenance of public art. Public art projects are in the public realm and may therefore be exposed to weather and subject to vandalism. Public art projects should be fabricated of highly durable, low-maintenance materials. Semi-finalists are encouraged to consult with a professional conservator prior to the submission of a final proposal. Artist's proposals awarded contracts will be reviewed by EOC's Public Art Subcommittee and the Department of Construction and Engineering to ensure conformity with City standards of maintenance and durability.

Materials to be Submitted

Please read this section carefully. Incomplete or late applications will NOT be considered. The applicant's name must appear on all materials submitted.

Digital Images

In order to be considered for this project, the applicant must submit eight digital images of previously completed artwork electronically through the CaFÉ website (www.callforentry.org). There is no application fee to use the CaFÉ online system. The quality of each applicant's artwork, as evidenced in the images submitted, is a significant factor in the selection of semi-finalists. We recommend you submit professionally produced images of your works.

Instructions on how to format images to CaFÉ specifications can be found at http://www.callforentry.org/imaging_tips.html. Assistance using the CaFÉ system is available during regular business hours by calling 303-629-1166 or 1-888-562-7232, or via e-mail cafe@westaf.org.

Letter of Interest

Submit a letter of interest of no more than 300 words that briefly outlines your interest in this project.

Résumé

Submit a current résumé that outlines your professional accomplishments as an artist. Your résumé should be no longer than two pages in length.

Deadline

The deadline for this project is Friday, January 30.

Tentative Time Frame

(Except for online application deadline, timeline is subject to adjustments)

Deadline for entry (via CAFÉ system)	Friday, January 30, 2009
Semi-Finalists Selection	Friday, February 2009
Finalist Selection	Friday, March, 2009

Equal Opportunity

The Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs (DCCA) and the Denver Office of Cultural Affairs (DOCA) are committed to supporting cultural and ethnic diversity in all programs. As part of its outreach program to artists of all racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, DOCA is developing an inventory of artists reflecting a variety of backgrounds.

Project Evaluation

Under Denver's Public Art Master Plan, the Project Selection Panel plays an active role in the acquisition of public art for Denver. This Selection Panel is comprised of ten voting members: one member of the Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs, one member of the Public Art Subcommittee, an artist, arts professional, community representatives, a project manager and an architect. A new Selection Panel is formed for each project and the panel is responsible for reviewing the site, establishing criteria for the Call for Entry, reviewing applications and short-listing and interviewing finalists. Please read each project description carefully because each Selection Panel may recommend different criteria and review procedures.