

CALL TO ARTISTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS Public Artist Robert and Pearl Seymour Center Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Project Summary

DESCRIPTION: The Orange County Arts Commission announces a Request for Qualifications to create public artwork(s) for the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center (2551 Homestead Rd. – Southern Human Services Center Campus) in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all artists or artist teams currently living in North Carolina, working in any media. **Artists living in Orange County, NC are encouraged to apply.**

PROJECT BUDGET: \$10,000 (public/private).

POSTMARK DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: April 1, 2008

Overview

The Orange County Arts Commission (OCAC) will commission an artwork or artworks for the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Housed in this public building are the offices of the Orange County Department on Aging. This center offers a variety of programs including classes, wellness programs, trips and lunches.

The freestanding, outdoor artwork(s) should be senior-friendly. The artwork(s) should be functional and inviting year-round. The artwork(s) should be multi-sensory, possibly including light, sound, movement or color. A sustainable artwork(s) using water, or the qualities of water, is of particular interest. The outdoor artwork(s) will be enjoyed up close in the courtyard area and also from above and on three sides from inside the glass-sided building. The artwork(s) will also be visible from Homestead Road.

Works in a variety of media and forms will be considered.

Budget

The public art budget for this project is \$10,000 in public and private money. This budget includes all costs associated with, but not limited to: artist design fees; travel; project materials; fabrication; installation costs (if not constructed on site); and documentation of the work(s).

Eligibility

The project is open to all artists currently living in North Carolina, working in any media. Artist teams are eligible to apply, including teams of artists from multiple disciplines. **Artists living in Orange County, North Carolina are encouraged to apply.**

Schedule

April 1, 2008

Postmark Deadline for Application Materials

By April 18, 2008

Artist Selection Committee meets to review materials and select finalists to be interviewed

By May 15, 2008	Finalists interviewed in Chapel Hill, NC
Mid-late May, 2008	Finalists exhibit conceptual proposals
By June 30, 2008	Project awarded

How to Apply:

Artists and artist teams interested in the project should submit ONE copy of each of the following:

1. LETTER OF INTEREST, no more than two pages in length, which explains the artist's or artist team's interest in the project. If the Letter of Interest is on behalf of a team, please identify the lead artist and indicate if the individuals and/or organizations have previously collaborated and the nature of the association. If the artist or artist team has worked with neighborhood organizations, local government, or other similar and relevant agencies, please describe the relationship among the community, the artwork, and the artist or artist team as well as the design process.
2. RELEVANT EXPERIENCE OR A CURRENT RESUME. If submitting as a team, a separate resume should be submitted for each team member.
3. Up to 15 SLIDES OR DIGITAL IMAGES of the artist's work or the work of the artist team. Slides must be in a clear plastic sheet. Each slide must be numbered, the top of the image indicated, and the artist's name included on the slide. Digital images must be sent on a CD and be a minimum 600x800 jpg or tif; each image's file name should include the artist's name and a reference number. If the proposed team has not previously collaborated, the lead artist may submit a maximum of 10 images and each team member may include a maximum of 5 images each. *PowerPoint presentations are not admissible.*

OR A 3-MINUTE VIDEOTAPE of the artist's work or the work of the artist team may be submitted in place of slides or digital images, if relevant experience is more accurately depicted in this manner. Videotapes must be VHS format, and only the first 3 minutes will be considered.

4. ANNOTATED IMAGE LIST or VIDEO DESCRIPTION with the artist's name and a brief description of each image including its title, date, medium, size, location, and cost.
5. REFERENCES of at least three professionals (commissioning agency or organization, design or arts professional, architect, landscape architect, engineer, etc.) who have an intimate knowledge of the artist's work and working methods. Include complete address, telephone numbers, and email for each individual. If an organization is serving as a professional reference, please identify a contact name.
6. SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE appropriately sized and sufficiently stamped for the return of application materials.
7. OPTIONAL. The artist or lead artist of a team may submit a maximum of three selections of supporting materials (reviews, news articles, essays, monographs, or other relevant information.) Each member of an artist team may include one supporting document.

The postmark deadline for submitting materials is April 1, 2008. Artists interested in being considered should submit the above information to:

**Orange County Arts Commission
Re: Seymour Center Public Art Project
P.O. Box 1177
Hillsborough, NC 27278**

Selection Process

An Artist Selection Committee will review all artists' submissions and select finalists to be interviewed. At a minimum, this selection committee may include at least two art professionals, four representatives of the Orange County Arts Commission Board, the Orange County Manager or a designee, four representatives from the Friends of the Seymour Center Board, and staff representation from the Orange County Arts Commission and the Orange County Department on Aging.

The finalists will be asked to develop a conceptual approach for artwork at this site. The finalists may be invited to Chapel Hill to make a presentation to the selection committee of their proposed work for the site, including concept, materials, size, weight, installation requirements, details of maintenance guidelines, and budget. The finalists' proposals will be exhibited in Chapel Hill and Orange County for approximately three weeks. The finalists will be compensated for their participation in this stage of the selection process.

The Artist Selection Committee will meet in May 2008 to recommend an artist or artist team for the project. Final approval rests with the Board of County Commissioners.

Additional Information

If you have questions or need any additional information, please visit **www.artsorange.org**, email arts@co.orange.nc.us or call **919/245-2335**.