

CALL TO ARTISTS

from WINNIPEG'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Public Art Opportunity LIVING PRAIRIE MUSEUM ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

For artists working in the disciplines of
Visual, Media, Film, Video and Literary

OPEN CALL TO ARTISTS:

Deadline:

Budget:

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

May 1, 2006

\$ 50,000

ART OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

The Winnipeg Arts Council invites artists to submit expressions of interest for an artist-in-residence project at the Living Prairie Museum. The selected artist will be in residence at the Museum over a one year period, between June 2006 and June 2007, and will receive a \$25,000 salary/artist fee plus a total of up to \$25,000 for a permanent artwork commission.



The Winnipeg Arts Council is an arm's-length agency of the City of Winnipeg.



LIVING PRAIRIE MUSEUM

Artist-In-Residence

BACKGROUND of Living Prairie Museum

The Living Prairie Museum (LPM) is a 12 hectare (30 acre) tall grass prairie preserve located inside the City of Winnipeg. Set aside in 1968, this preserve is home to over 160 species of prairie plants and a great array of prairie wildlife. Prior to European settlement, tall grass prairie covered one million square kilometres in central North America, stretching from Texas to southern Manitoba. Today, tall grass prairie is all but gone. In Manitoba only 1/20th of 1% of the original tall grass prairie remains. The Living Prairie Museum is one of the few remaining fragments of this once vast ecosystem.



The Mandate of the museum is to promote awareness and conservation of the endangered tall grass prairie through environmental education and programming. Over the past 29 years, the interpretive centre has assisted thousands of visitors in discovering the beauty of the tall grass prairie, its cultures and all its gifts.

LPM'S COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

The LPM has a record of collaborative research projects and exhibits. The rationale for this approach is to create an opportunity to share resources and complementary research objectives. The LPM's research products are composed of a variety of mediums and scales. Generally the projects consist of an exhibit which by nature of our programming agenda is designed as a "Mobile Exhibit" - and is intended to travel beyond the walls of the Interpretive Centre. These exhibits help to educate a larger audience. Digital video, website design, audio records, programming, costume design and scripts complement these exhibits.

Today the LPM is committed to using media tools to continue to build research projects on-line. The Canadian Heritage Virtual Museum's Investment project which constituted three years of collaborative work and managed by the Living Prairie Museum with a

budget of \$250,000 has been completed as scheduled and was launched on the Canadian Heritage Server in May 2005. The exhibit is presently up for nomination for a National Award of Excellence for 2006. Specific projects within that site which involved a collaboration with Manitoba artists are found in:

www.livingprairie.ca/readingroom/projects/index.html



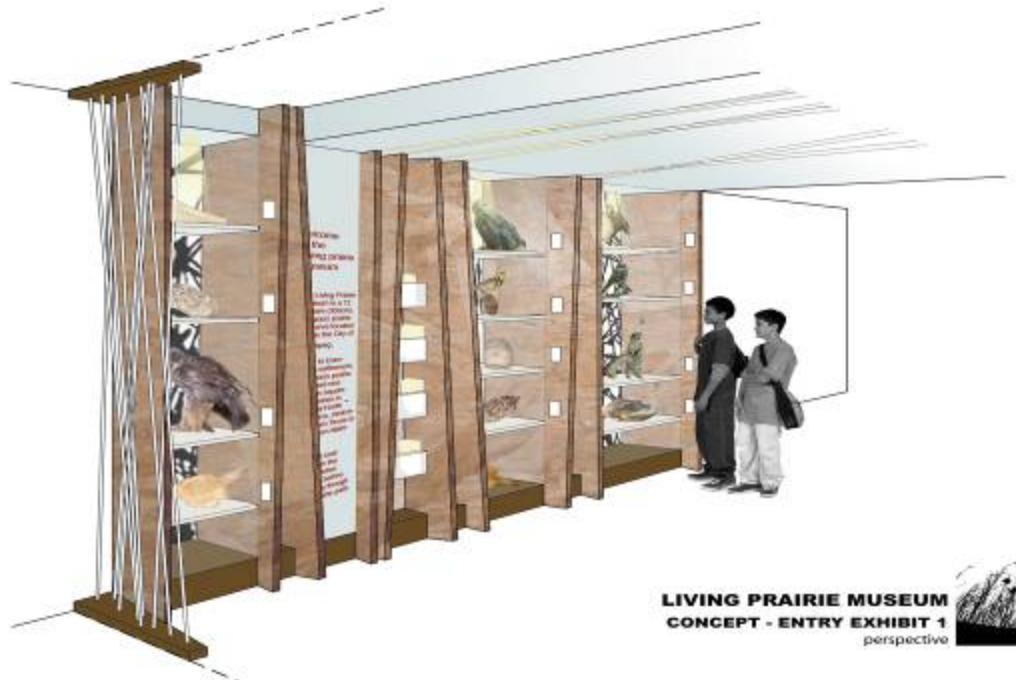
The Museum is part of the Parks and Open Space Division of the Public Works Department of the City of Winnipeg.

LPM'S 2006 EXHIBIT DESIGN PROJECT

The future plans for the museum include the upgrading of exhibits including new exhibit design. Although the 2006 Exhibit Design Project is not meant to "prescribe" the intent of the Artist in Residence Program, it may be relevant to, and may be incorporated into their work.

This project which may proceed based on grant funds already applied for can be described as following:

To date, conceptual drawings and an interpretive plan for these spaces have been developed. These 'entry exhibits' at Living Prairie Museum will be designed to provide visitors with a basic understanding of the tall grass prairie ecosystem and to let people know what they can expect from their visit to the museum. While some of these exhibits will be static (information boards, maps, etc.) there is also the opportunity to produce multi-media based exhibits that include sound, video, interactive computer maps and flash-based exploration of the landscape. Other possibilities include the incorporation of RFID (radio frequency identification) tags for experiential interpretation of static artifacts, the creation of an interactive database where visitors can explore other people's experiences of the prairie, and the formation of experiential zones constructed by the visitor of his/her understanding of the prairie.



ARTIST IN RESIDENCY DETAILS

This is not a live-in residency. The selected artist will be required to work with the public through workshops and events and participate in the educational programs of the LPM. Participation by the artist in these events will be collaboratively organized between the artist, WAC and LPM. The artist-in-residence will spend up to 15 hours per week on site at the LPM working with the public and will be expected to research, design and fabricate a permanent artwork for the LPM. The proposed artwork developed by the artist during the residency will be approved by representatives from the LPM and WAC, and when completed will become the property of the City of Winnipeg.

THE TALL GRASS PRAIRIE IS PROTECTED: Therefore, the permanent artwork cannot in anyway alter, be placed in, or otherwise impact the tall grass prairie preserve or the soil.

ARTWORK GOALS

The artist's work and the resulting permanent artwork should address aspects of the LPM's mandate, such as: welcoming visitors to learn more about the culture and heritage of the endangered tall grass ecosystem; showing people what they can expect to see and different ways of seeing it; and helping people to interpret what the prairie means to themselves.

Artists working in public environments present a unique opportunity for community interaction. Some of the goals of this program include:

- The integration of an artist's perspective on ecology and Manitoba history
- Opening the artistic process to the community through public events and/or engagement with the public
- Creating a permanent work of art that addresses the ecology of the LPM and that evolves from the research and insight gleaned from the artist's engagement in the work of the LPM

ON-SITE INFORMATION MEETING

Tuesday, April 11, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Artists are invited to attend this on-site meeting to tour the Living Prairie Museum and engage in conversation about the residency opportunity.

SITE LOCATION and PARAMETERS

The Living Prairie Museum is located at 2795 Ness Avenue, between the major cross streets of Sturgeon Road and Moray Blvd, adjacent to Sturgeon Creek Collegiate.



Programming and Events and Hours of Operation can be reviewed at the Museum's city website: www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/naturalist/livingprairie/

The actual Museum is not the interpretive centre but the 17 hectares of tall grass prairie which surrounds it. The artifacts are composed of over 150 species of native plants, and includes the flora and fauna in the seed bed and soil in which they are found. These artifacts which constitute a part of this endangered prairie habitat must not be altered or tampered with as it must be "preserved" for tall grass prairie.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE for the selected ARTIST

- Working space is available in the new Rotary Prairie Classroom and in the Interpretive Services Offices.
- Internet access is available, and access to digital media equipment, computers and software will be considered.
- LPM has a digital library of photographic records, audio files and video. The resource library at LPM is complemented by additional resources and personnel at Naturalist Services Offices at 5006 Roblin.
- Naturalist Services Branch is responsible for the operation and services at Living Prairie Museum under the supervision of the City Naturalist C. Heming.

BUDGET for ARTIST RESIDENCY PROJECT

The total budget for this project is \$50,000: \$25,000 salary/artist fee for a one-year period, in the form of a grant and up to \$25,000 for the commission of a permanent artwork for the LPM. The commission fee must include all costs relating to the artwork including, but not limited to, materials, technical consultation, fabrication, insurance, installation, permit fees, documentation, all applicable taxes, etc.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

Open to professional artists* working in the following disciplines: Visual, Media, Film, Video and Literary. Artists outside Winnipeg may apply but no additional travel funding or living expense funding is available.

**The Public Art Policy defines a professional artist as a person who is critically recognized as an artist; possesses skill, training and/or experience in his or her artistic discipline; is active in and committed to his or her art practice; and has a history of public presentation.*

SELECTION CRITERIA

Artists' expressions of interest will be reviewed on the basis of:

- Artistic excellence, quality of artwork and professional experience of the artist
- Sensitivity to the site and context of the LPM
- Evidence of broad thinking and conceptual clarity
- Ability and willingness of the artist to work with the community through workshops and other public events
- Ability to work well with a wide range of people including community members, City staff, arts professionals, and professionals in other fields
- An expressed desire to create artwork in and for a public realm.

SELECTION PROCESS

A selection panel of qualified individuals will review the applications based on the project goals and selection criteria, and recommend up to five artists for interviews. A final recommendation would then be made from the short-listed artists, if appropriate.

The artist selected for the residency and commission will be required to enter into an agreement with the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Arts Council which will contain provisions including but not limited to right of ownership and use, warranty and insurance.

Please note that the Winnipeg Arts Council is not compelled to award the project based on the submissions.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Artists wishing to be considered must submit a complete package. Please submit six copies of all application documents typed or written in black ink on white, **letter-sized paper (8½" X 11")** suitable for photocopying as outlined below. Please **DO NOT staple applications or bind them in any way** in folders, binders or plastic covers. Only one copy of support material is required. Applications must include the following, collated into packets:

1. Six copies of the completed application form (included at the end of this document).
2. Six copies of a written description detailing:
 - Why the context of the LPM is important to the artist, what impact it would have on the artist's work, and how the artist could contribute to the LPM
 - The artist's experience working in the public realm
 - The importance of the residency to the artist's career.**Please limit the written description to two pages.**
3. Six copies of a curriculum vitae that includes a brief statement of artistic activities for the past twelve to eighteen months. Please limit the CV to a maximum length of three pages.
4. Support materials – depending on your artistic discipline, you may choose to submit **one** of the following as documentation of your artwork (if your support material is photocopied written material, please submit **six** copies):
 - CD-ROMs, DVDs, VHS tapes, and audio tapes, appropriately cued. Please select a five-minute section most representative of the work you wish to present. (**maximum of two five-minute selections**),
 - up to **10 slides**, numbered and identified with artist's name, accompanied by a corresponding slide-list giving the date, title, medium and dimensions of the work(s),
 - a pc compatible CD-ROM with up to **10 jpeg image files**, accompanied by a corresponding list giving the date, title, medium and dimensions of the work(s),
 - photographic reproductions or other visual documentation, accompanied by a corresponding list giving the date, title, medium and dimensions of the work(s),
 - samples of written works in progress (**maximum 10 pages**),
 - books (maximum of 2), articles, or other published materials.and you also may include:
 - recent reviews and news clippings (*please submit on **letter-sized white bond paper (8½" X 11")***) (six copies)
 - programs, catalogues and other publications that include examples of your work (*please highlight information specifically related to your work*).
5. Documentation list - All audio visual support materials must be accompanied by six copies of a typewritten documentation list with artist's name, title of work, medium, dimensions (if applicable), location and date.
6. References: names, addresses, phone and e-mail for two references who can speak to your art practice and interest and/or experience in community-based projects.
7. An addressed and stamped envelope for return of support materials. **Please ensure that the envelope is appropriate to the support material and contains sufficient packing material as well as sufficient postage.**

DEADLINE

Complete proposal packages must be received on or before **Monday, May 1, 2006**, by 4:00 pm. (This is not a postmark deadline). All supporting materials must accompany the application. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted. Faxed or e-mailed applications will not be accepted. The Winnipeg Arts Council will not be responsible for applications lost in transit. While all reasonable care will be taken in the handling of materials, the Winnipeg Arts Council cannot take responsibility for lost or damaged materials.

Please send complete proposal packages to:

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
Re: LPM Residency Project
Winnipeg Arts Council
102-555 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1C3

ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE

April 11:	On-site meeting for artists
May 1:	Deadline for receipt of expressions of interest
May 5 – 12:	Selection Committee review
May 15 – 19:	Interviews with short listed artists
June 5:	Residency begins
June 9, 2007:	Artwork opening (or sooner by agreement).

For additional information or questions please call:

Tricia Wasney, Winnipeg Arts Council, (204)943-7668 or e-mail at twasney@winnipegarts.ca

Art Selection Committee:

The selection committee is still being finalized but will be composed of five people including Jonina Ewart, Education Co-ordinator, Living Prairie Museum and artist Rob Kovitz. Please check the website for selection committee updates.

The Winnipeg Arts Council reserves the right to choose to not recommend any application, proposal or finalist and to terminate or re-advertise any project.

For any Call To Artists updates please check the web site at www.winnipegarts.ca.

**Public Art Opportunity:
Living Prairie Museum: Artist-In-Residence
Call to Artists APPLICATION FORM**

Attach one copy of this form to the top of each application copy.

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ E-mail _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____

Artistic discipline _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Checklist of materials included in each of the six packets in the following order:

- Application form (this page)
- Written description (limit two pages)
- Curriculum vitae and statement of artistic activities
- Names and contact information for two references (letters of reference not required)
- Support material documentation lists

And:

- Support material of representative work (slides, etc.) – one set
- One self-addressed stamped envelope for return of support materials.

Send submissions to: Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
Re: LPM Residency Project
Winnipeg Arts Council
102-555 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1C3

*Complete proposal packages must be received on or before 4:00 pm **Monday, May 1, 2006** (not a postmark deadline). Incomplete, late, faxed or e-mailed applications will not be accepted.*

Please let us know how you found out about this opportunity _____

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