

NATIONAL
CALL-TO-ARTISTS
from WINNIPEG'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Public Art Opportunity
CENTRAL PARK PUBLIC ART PROJECT

OPEN CALL TO ARTISTS:

Deadline:

Budget:

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Thursday, July 8, 2010

\$113,000

ART OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

The Winnipeg Arts Council is seeking Canadian artists or artist-led teams to submit expressions of interest for a site-responsive light-based public art installation in the newly renovated Central Park in downtown Winnipeg.



The Winnipeg Arts Council funds, supports and fosters development of the arts on behalf of the people of Winnipeg.



Central Park Public Art Plan

PROJECT SUMMARY and ARTWORK GOALS

The Winnipeg Arts Council seeks an artist to create a permanent, contemporary light-based artwork for installation in Central Park, (currently under renovation), in downtown Winnipeg.

BACKGROUND on Central Park

The land acquired to create Central Park was purchased by the City of Winnipeg from the Hudson's Bay Company in 1893, with the southern-most part added in 1986; the park is currently bordered by Cumberland Avenue, Qu'Appelle Avenue, Carlton Street, Ellice Avenue and Edmonton Street in downtown Winnipeg. Central Park's creation was part of the City Beautiful plan, a Retrogressive reform movement in North American architecture and urban planning that flourished in the 1890s and 1900s and aspired to create beauty and monumental grandeur in cities. Originally most closely associated with Chicago, Detroit, and Washington, D.C., the movement did not seek beauty for its own sake, but rather to create moral and civic virtue among urban populations in the interest of the common good.^[1] Central Park was one of eight original "breathing spaces" designed for Winnipeg, located in a fashionable residential district and built when urban parks were seen as spaces offering respite from the noise and industry of the city. The original design of the park was created by J. Frank Peters and the area required many tonnes of fill to alleviate the then swampy gumbo.

Waddell Fountain was installed in the north side of the park in 1914 to commemorate neighbourhood resident Emily Margaret Waddell, who stipulated in her will that her husband donate \$10,000 from her estate to the construction of a fountain in her memory if he remarried following her death in 1908. The fountain was designed by local architect John Manuel, and is a rare local example of High Victorian style architecture. Over the years the fountain fell into a state of disrepair, though has recently been refurbished and will remain a focal point of the new Central Park Plan.

Central Park has a long history as a meeting place. Since the time of the park's inception, local residents have played tennis on the courts and watched bands at the bandstand (both established in 1905); played checkers on long rows of tables in the years following World War 1, (a pastor at nearby Knox Church thought it would be a good way to occupy returning soldiers); and gathered for sing-alongs by Waddell Fountain during the Great Depression.

The Central Park Neighbourhood is now one of the most densely populated areas in Winnipeg, with an average of 14,000 people per square kilometer. Traffic is primarily pedestrian, and the neighbourhood has the highest concentration of New Canadians and refugees in the city. It is truly a global community, culturally rich and diverse with many people of African, Arabic, Chinese, Filipino, First Nations, and Vietnamese descent. The park hosts a market throughout the summer, with live entertainment and dancing on Saturday nights. Soccer is a popular summer activity, and in winter residents—many of whom may have never before seen snow—learn to ice skate on the public rink.

Community members have taken renewed ownership of the park, leading to investment in its refurbishment. Building on the idea of confluence and congregation, the new plan for Central Park

includes features that will engage community members of all ages. There will be a focus on the idea of play. Billed as “The World’s Best Playground, The Best ‘World’ Playground,” the park’s new play-focused areas include: a Slide/Lookout Hill for use in both winter and summer; Sand and Water Play; The Field of Dreams (an open field for soccer and other sports), The Market, The Waterpark (including a spray park and wading pool), Toddler Play areas and Tables for checkers, chess and cards.

1. Daniel M. Bluestone, Columbia University, (September 1988). Detroit’s City Beautiful and the Problem of Commerce *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. XLVII, No. 3, pp. 245-62.

ARTWORK DESIGN PARAMETERS

The installed artwork must not inhibit movement and must generally meet the safety standards of the City of Winnipeg. The artwork should take a form that is suitable for integration into the architecture of the park. As the site is an intensively used inner city park, the artwork must be constructed of materials that are highly resistant to theft and vandalism as well as weathering.

SITE LOCATION PLANS and INFORMATION

Central Park is located in downtown Winnipeg bordered by Cumberland Avenue, Qu’Appelle Avenue, Carlton Street, Ellice Avenue and Edmonton Street. The artwork site is located at the southwest portion of the park (see site indicated on site plan).

BUDGET

\$113,000 is the total amount available for all expenses related to this Public Art project, including (but not limited to) artist fees, site preparation and restoration, technical consultation including engineering approval, travel to the site, fabrication, insurance, installation, permit fees, documentation, all applicable taxes, etc.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This is a national competition open to professional* Canadian artists. Experience with light-based artworks is required.

**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 PROCESS and CRITERIA

Expressions of Interest will be reviewed by a selection committee of qualified persons. The committee will review applications on the basis of:

- Qualifications and professional experience of the artist
- Expressed sensitivity to the site and context
- Ability to complete the project by June 2011
- Demonstrated ability of the artist to work collaboratively with design and construction professionals
- Demonstrated ability to successfully execute a project of this scale under the criteria developed and with the budget and timeline set out
- Experience with and expressed desire to create artwork for and in the public realm

The selection committee may recommend a short-list of artists who may be invited to visit the site and develop an artwork proposal consisting of drawings, documents outlining a timeline and

budget, and a maquette. An honorarium of \$2,000 for proposal development, plus costs associated with travel for one site visit will be extended to the finalists. Short-listed artists will have approximately three months to complete the proposal and will then be invited to present the conceptual proposal to the selection committee. A final recommendation will then be made from the short-listed artists, if appropriate.

The proposals may also be reviewed by a committee of technical experts who will advise the selection committee, when needed, on matters related to financial feasibility, durability, structural integrity, safety and maintenance.

The artist selected for the final 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 rights of ownership and use, warranty and insurance. The maquette of the selected work will become the property of the Winnipeg Arts Council.

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

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The five person Selection Committee will include two artists, the landscape architect overseeing the Park's refurbishment, a City of Winnipeg staff member involved with Park refurbishment, and a representative of the Central Park community.

ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE (2010/2011)

May 28, 2010:	Project Announcement
July 8, 4 pm:	Deadline for receipt of applications
July 28- August 4:	Selection Committee review of applications and selection of short-list for concept development
August 17 - 19:	Short-listed artists visit site
August – October:	Artists develop proposal
November 17:	Shortlisted artists present proposals to Selection Committee; final recommendation is made
December 2010 – May 2011:	Creation/Fabrication
June 2011:	Installation/Opening

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Artists wishing to be considered must submit a complete package. Please submit one copy of all application documents typed or written in black ink on white, single-sided, **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. Applications must include the following:

1. One copy of the completed application form (page 7 of this document).

2. One copy of a written expression of interest (**please note that a proposal is not requested at this time**) detailing:
 - Why the context of the site is interesting or important to the artist
 - A summary of qualifications and professional experience that outlines the suitability of the artist's practice to this project, especially experience working with light-based artwork and construction and design professionals
 - The artist's experience and expressed desire to create artwork for and in the public realm
 - Demonstrated ability to successfully execute a project of this scale under the criteria developed and with the budget and timeline set out.**Please limit the written description to two pages.**
3. One copy 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 four pages.
4. References: names, addresses, phone and e-mail for two references who can speak to your art practice and interest and/or experience in public art projects. A letter of reference is not required at this time.
5. Photocopies of recent reviews and news clippings (please submit on **letter-sized** paper suitable for photocopying). **Optional to a maximum of 3.**
6. Support Material Documentation List - All visual support materials must be accompanied by a documentation list with artist's name, date and title of work, medium, dimensions, location. A template for jpg images is included as page 8 of this document.
7. Support materials:
 - a pc compatible CD-ROM with up to **15 jpeg image files** (**please see digital support materials specifications below*). Among these, please include images related to light-based work where possible.
 - programs, catalogues and other publications that include examples of your artwork **Optional to a maximum of 3.** Indicate information specifically related to your work.

DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL ARTWORK. SLIDES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

*** Digital support materials specifications:**

- 72 DPI to a maximum of 768 pixels in height
 - Title each image with your initials and the number that corresponds to your documentation list (for example: TW01, TW02...TW15).
 - Do not submit compressed files (WinZip, Stuffit, etc).
 - Do not submit materials that require software, plug-ins, extensions or other executables that need to be downloaded or installed.
 - For video files, submit files that can be accessed with RealPlayer.
 - Do not embed photographs in documents such as Word or PowerPoint.
8. (Optional) An addressed and stamped envelope for return of support materials if you wish your materials returned. **Please ensure that the envelope is appropriate to the support**

material and contains sufficient packing material as well as sufficient postage. If you do not wish your materials returned, please check the appropriate box on the application form.

APPLICATION DELIVERY AND RECEIPT

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.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the application package reaches the WAC office by the deadline. All applicants will receive a notice by mail or e-mail that their application has been received. If you have submitted an application and do not receive notification within two weeks of the deadline date, please contact the WAC office.

DEADLINE

Complete proposal packages must be received on or before **July 8 by 4:00 pm.** (This is not a postmark deadline).

Please send complete application packages to:

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
Central Park Project
Winnipeg Arts Council
103-110 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1K7

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.

For additional information or questions please call:

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art, Winnipeg Arts Council, (204) 943-7668;
twasney@winnipegarts.ca.



CONSEIL DES ARTS DE
WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL

**Public Art Opportunity:
Central Park Project
Call-To-Artists APPLICATION FORM**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone: _____ Cell
 Work
 Home Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Checklist of materials included in application in the following order:

- 1. Application form (this page)
- 2. Written Expression of Interest (maximum 2 pages)
- 3. Curriculum vitae and statement of artistic activities (maximum length 4 pages)
- 4. References: names, addresses, phone and e-mail for two references
- 5. Photocopies of Recent Reviews and News Clippings (optional, to a maximum of 3)
- 6. Support Material Documentation List (page 8 of this document)
- 7. Support material of representative work (digital images, etc.)

And please check one:

- I have included a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of support materials.
- or
- I do not want my support materials returned.

Send submissions to: Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
Re: Central Park Project
Winnipeg Arts Council
103-110 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B1K7

*Complete application packages must be received on or before **4:00 pm Thursday, July 8, 2010** (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 _____

The Winnipeg Arts Council funds, supports and fosters development of the arts on behalf of the people of Winnipeg.



WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL: PUBLIC ART PROGRAM
SUPPORT MATERIAL DOCUMENTATION LIST TEMPLATE



Applicant's Name: _____

All support materials must be clearly marked with the applicant's name, the work's title, and any special instructions.

DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL ARTWORK.

CD-ROM with up to 15 jpeg image files

No	Date	Title	Medium	Dimensions	Description/Details – including location
1					
2					
3					
4					
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6					
7					
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