

CALL-TO-ARTISTS

from WINNIPEG'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Public Art Opportunity

University of Winnipeg Gateway and Transit
Project

(in collaboration with The University of
Winnipeg/Spence Street Redevelopment plan)

CALL-TO-ARTISTS:

Deadline:

Budget:

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

26 October 2007

\$ 150,000 all-inclusive

ART OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

The Winnipeg Arts Council invites artists to submit Expressions of Interest to create a permanent Gateway and Transit-related public art project developed in conjunction with The University of Winnipeg/Spence Street Redevelopment. The selected artist will develop a proposal in consultation with City of Winnipeg, University of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Arts Council staff that will include a transit shelter for a new Ellice Avenue transit stop and associated public art elements at the Ellice Avenue and at the Portage Avenue stops. This is a regional call for artists residing in close proximity to Winnipeg.



The Winnipeg Arts Council is an arm's-length, not for profit corporation charged with funding, supporting and advocating for the arts on behalf of the City of Winnipeg.



University of Winnipeg Gateway and Transit Project

PROJECT INTENT and SUMMARY

The selected artist will create permanent artworks that create gateways to the University's southern and northern entrances in the vicinity of two transit stops. The artworks will be integrated with and complementary to improvements to these bus stops being made by Winnipeg Transit and will complement the University's redevelopment plan in downtown Winnipeg, Manitoba. The final artwork will be located at two transit stops that flank the University, at westbound Portage and Spence and at eastbound Ellice and Balmoral. The artworks will consist of:

- An artist-designed transit shelter and plaza at the Ellice and Balmoral Avenue transit stop.
- Associated public art elements at the Ellice Avenue and at the Portage Avenue stops.

A proposal is not requested at this time. Artist applications will be reviewed on the basis of professional qualifications and experience and other criteria listed below.

BACKGROUND

The University of Winnipeg is taking a leadership role in the physical, economic and social renewal of the west end of the downtown, to make it a stronger and more viable community. Following extensive community consultation the concept of an *educational precinct* evolved, anchoring the west end of Portage Avenue and providing a network of related University, community and business initiatives. Many projects will contribute to this goal, including a plan unanimously approved by Winnipeg City Council to restrict vehicular traffic on Spence Street between Portage and Ellice Avenues. The creation of much needed recreational and public green space will be programmed to engage the public in the life of the campus as both civic and university space. Proposed programming might include pedestrian-oriented local markets and kiosks, public festival and sport facilities, retail and commercial venues as well as flexible housing options. The renewal will be developed in phases; the first phase, completed in the Fall of 2007, includes the creation of a commons area on Portage Avenue which integrates increased green space, a new activity plaza, and a seating garden. Design elements integral to the campus redevelopment plan include:

- Aboriginal visual culture
- community engagement (particularly related to the immigrant communities in the area)
- sustainability
- ecology
- University heritage
- meaningful way-finding
- celebration of Winnipeg as a winter city.

The Winnipeg Arts Council is delighted to participate in this wider urban renewal project by integrating a public art element. In order to address the student population while still reaching out to the broader community, the public art projects will be located on civic space and will act as markers of arrival at these two busy transit stops in the City that see over 1500 passengers per day.

ARTWORK GOALS

Located at the public transit stops, the final artworks should address the areas as zones of transition between campus and public life that signal arrival at a unique destination. The artworks, located at related but discrete sites, should contain a consistent visual language to provide a link from one to the other.

ARTWORK DESIGN PARAMETERS

The installed artwork must not inhibit movement or pose any dangers to pedestrians or to the environment and must generally meet the safety standards of the City of Winnipeg. Especially important is sight visibility. The selected artist will receive specific requirements as part of the Phase One project development. The transit shelter must contain some elements of existing shelter forms for maintenance purposes.

MATERIALS AVAILABLE TO ARTISTS

Materials from former historic campus buildings must be incorporated into the artwork. These materials include sandstone from Wesley Hall and foundation stone from Manitoba College. The sandstone is in miscellaneous sizes. The foundation stones are very dense limestone and are typically about 2' wide, various widths and 7" to 8" high. These materials will be made available to the artist at no cost. Images of the stone, "Manitoba College limestone" and "Wesley sandstone", can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.winnipegarts.ca/public.html>.

SITE LOCATION PLANS and INFORMATION

Please refer to the downloadable maps, drawings and photographs for further details on the site.

BUDGET

\$ 150,000 is the total amount available for all related expenses of this Public Art project, including (but not limited to) artist fees, site preparation and restoration, technical consultation, fabrication, insurance, installation, permit fees, documentation, all applicable taxes, etc.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This is a regional competition open to professional Canadian artists*. Artist and/or artist-led teams are encouraged to apply. Artists must reside in close proximity to Winnipeg as frequent consultation with City staff, engineers and designers will be required and no additional travel fees are available. For any questions related to eligibility and proximity to Winnipeg, please contact the public art manager (204-943-7668 ext. 204).

**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(s)
- Demonstrated ability of the artist(s) to work collaboratively with design and construction professionals

- Expressed sensitivity to the site and context
- 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.

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 project will be required to enter into a two-phase agreement with the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Arts Council. Phase One will be a design and development phase and will include frequent consultation with a committee of technical experts. At the end of Phase One the selected artist will be required to submit a detailed proposal including an implementation plan, budget, design drawings and maquettes. Once approved, the project will move to Phase Two: Final Artwork Creation and Installation.

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

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Will include:

Jeffrey Frank, Landscape Architect

J.J. Kegan McFadden, Independent Curator and current Director of PLATFORM: centre for photographic + digital arts, Winnipeg

Jennifer Rattray, Director of Strategic Initiatives, The University of Winnipeg

ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE (2007-08)

October 26, 4 pm:	Deadline for receipt of completed proposals
November 1-9:	Selection Committee review of applications; selection of short-list for interviews
November 19-23:	Interviews with short-listed artists
November 26-30:	Artist Selected
November-June:	Detailed design, fabrication and installation period
July 2008:	Artwork opening (or sooner by agreement).

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, **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 (included at the end of this document).
2. One copy of a written expression of interest (**please note that a proposal is not requested at this time**) detailing:

- A summary of qualifications and professional experience that outlines the artist's suitability to this project, especially experience working with construction and design professionals
- Why the context of the site is interesting or important to the artist
- 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.
5. Documentation list - All visual support materials must be accompanied by a typewritten documentation list with artist's name, title of work, medium, dimensions (if applicable), location and date.
6. Support materials :
 - a pc compatible CD-ROM with up to **20 jpeg image files** (** please see below*) and you also may include:
 - recent reviews and news clippings (*please submit copies 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*).

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...TW20).
 - 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.
 - Don't embed photographs in documents such as Word or Powerpoint.
7. 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, please contact the WAC office.

DEADLINE

Complete proposal packages must be received on or before **26 October 2007 by 4:00 pm**. (This is not a postmark deadline).

Please send complete application packages to:

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art
Re: University of Winnipeg 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, Winnipeg Arts Council, (204)943-7668 or e-mail at twasney@winnipegarts.ca



CONSEIL DES ARTS DE
WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL

Public Art Opportunity:
University of Winnipeg Gateway and Transit Project
Call-To-Artists APPLICATION FORM

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

E-mail _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Checklist of materials included in application in the following order:

- Application form (this page)
- Written Expression of Interest (maximum 2 pages)
- Curriculum vitae and statement of artistic activities (maximum 2 pages)
- References: names, addresses, phone and e-mail for two references
- Support material documentation list

And:

- 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: University of Winnipeg Project
Winnipeg Arts Council
103-110 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B1K7

*Complete application packages must be received on or before 4:00 pm **26 October 2007** (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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