

LOCAL  
**CALL-TO-ARTISTS**  
from WINNIPEG'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

**Public Art Opportunity  
Literary-Themed Fence  
Millennium Library Park**

**CALL-TO-ARTISTS:**

**Deadline:**

**Budget:**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

\$ 90,000

**ART OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW**

The Winnipeg Arts Council seeks a professional artist to create a literary-themed fence for Millennium Library Park in downtown Winnipeg. The artist must reside in, or in close proximity to, Winnipeg. The Park is currently undergoing a major refurbishment and the fence will be one of several enhancements designed by artists.



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



## Literary Fence – Millennium Library Park

### **PROJECT SUMMARY and ARTWORK GOALS**

The Winnipeg Arts Council seeks an artist to create a literary-themed fence for Millennium Library Park in downtown Winnipeg. The Park is undergoing a significant renovation described below, and will also be the site of a major public art project to mark the designation of Winnipeg as the Cultural Capital of Canada for 2010.

The literary-themed fence artwork should focus on literature, literacy, the power of the written word and consider the role literature plays in Winnipeg's identity. The artwork will be developed in collaboration with Winnipeg Public Library staff and/or the Writer in Residence at the Millennium Library.

**An artwork proposal is not requested at this time.** Artist applications will be reviewed on the basis of artistic excellence and other professional qualification criteria listed below. The artist will collaborate with library staff on the conception of the artwork. Experience with community engagement and a desire to create artwork for and in the public realm is required.

### **MILLENNIUM LIBRARY PARK: History and Current Developments**

The Millennium Library Park is a 37-year-old green space in the heart of downtown Winnipeg, located on one city block bordered by Smith Street on the east, Donald Street on the west, St. Mary Avenue on the south and the Graham Avenue transit mall on the north.

The park is situated directly behind the Winnipeg Public Library's flagship Millennium branch—a destination for more than 1.5 million visitors annually—and serves as the building's "backyard," a relationship recently enhanced by the construction of a five-storey curtain wall terrace addition that now forms the entire north edge of the park. In 2005, the library was reopened to the public following an extensive, two-year renovation that included the installation of a towering wall of windows that overlooks the park. This signature building in the heart of downtown won numerous architectural awards including an Award of Excellence in 2004 from Canadian Architect Magazine, and the 2008 Governor General's Award for Architecture.

Situated in a high-density urban neighbourhood, the park serves as a green space for Winnipeg citizens and visitors. Adjacent facilities include the MTS Centre (a sports and performing arts complex), City Place Mall, Winnipeg Police Service Headquarters and Place Louis Riel Hotel and Conference Centre. The park is also part of the city's active transportation plan for downtown Winnipeg, and currently covers the roof of the Millennium Library Parkade (vehicle ramps for which are located on Donald and Smith Streets).

Central to many destinations, the park is a short walk to numerous cultural landmarks, including: The Forks National Historic Site; Portage and Main; Broadway Avenue and the Manitoba Legislature Building; The Winnipeg Art Gallery; the historic Exchange District; and The Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

### **MILLENNIUM LIBRARY PARK RENOVATIONS (see Figures 2A and 2B)**

The park is currently undergoing a major renovation funded by the municipal, provincial and federal governments. In consultation with a wide range of surrounding user groups, the park design was developed by Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram Landscape Architects and Planners, Crozier Kilgour & Partners Ltd Structural Engineers, and SMS Engineering Mechanical & Electrical Engineers.

The design principles, user zones, and individual elements are tied to year-round programming that will be delivered by The Downtown Winnipeg Biz in collaboration with Millennium Library. Please see the attached Appendix for detailed information on the park renovations including design themes and guiding principles.

### **ARTWORK LOCATION**

The artwork will be located along the south edge of the Learning Commons Zone, on top of the existing parkade wall as indicated in Figures 3 and 4. The exact location is noted on Figure 3. The existing solid wood panels will be removed, to be replaced with the artist-designed and built fence.

### **ARTWORK DESIGN PARAMETERS**

The artwork should act as an engaging edge to the park that can be explored at various times of day and in all seasons. The fence should function as a permeable screen that separates park users from the adjacent parking lot while allowing for increased visibility in and out of the park. The width of the fence must span the length of the fence line indicated in Figure 3 and should not exceed the height of the existing concrete pillars by more than one metre.

The following existing park elements will serve as the foundation for the artwork (see Figure 4):

- Concrete parkade wall
- Concrete fence panel pillars

The following elements will be constructed as part of Phase One of the park development in front of the artwork (see Figure 4):

- Shade garden planting beds and plantings
- Concrete walls and steps
- Bosc of elms

The artwork should be constructed of materials that are:

- Exterior grade and sensitive to weathering
- Durable and appropriate to Manitoba's climate extremes
- As vandal-proof as possible
- Locally manufactured or from renewable resources whenever possible

All framing, armatures or structures of the proposed artwork must be reviewed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Manitoba. Final shop drawings must bear the professional seal of the engineer.

The installed artwork must meet all provincial building and fire codes and City of Winnipeg safety standards. The artwork must not inhibit a clear path of travel and accessibility and it must not be an easily climbable structure.

### **SITE PLANS and INFORMATION**

Artists may download Figures 1 to 4 under the Public Art Program Calls-to-Artists Section of the Winnipeg Arts Council website: <http://www.winnipegarts.ca/index.php?/wac/article/3228/>

### **BUDGET**

\$ 90,000 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, fabrication, insurance, installation, permit fees, documentation, all applicable taxes, etc.

## **ARTIST ELIGIBILITY**

This is a local competition open to professional\* artists. The artist must reside in, or in close proximity to, Winnipeg.

*\*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 as well as Library staff and the Writer-in-Residence
- 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 will be invited to visit the site and develop an artwork proposal consisting of drawings and documents outlining a timeline and budget. An honorarium of \$1,000 for proposal development (drawings, budget and timeline) will be extended to the finalists. Short-listed artists will have approximately six weeks to complete the proposal and will then be invited to present the 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 selected artists will also be required to create a maintenance manual for the final artwork.

*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 artists and representatives from the design team and Millennium Library.

## **ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE (2010/11)**

July 29, 2010:	Project Announcement
September 8, 4 pm:	Deadline for receipt of applications
September 28 - 29:	Selection Committee review of applications and selection of short-list for proposal development.

October 15:	Short-listed artists visit site
October 18 – December 8:	Artists develop proposals
December 8:	Shortlisted artists present proposals to Selection Committee; final recommendation is made.
January – 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 artist’s suitability to this project, especially experience working with construction and design professionals
  - The artist’s experience and expressed desire to create artwork for and in the public realm and to work collaboratively with community members
  - 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. Photocopies of recent reviews and news clippings (please submit on **letter-sized** paper suitable for photocopying). **Optional to a maximum of 3.**
6. 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 illustrating the artist’s previous work:
  - a pc compatible CD-ROM with up to **15 jpeg image files** (*\*please see digital support materials specifications below*)
  - programs, catalogues and other publications that include examples of your work **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 by 1024 pixels in length and width
  - 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.
  - 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 Winnipeg Arts Council 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 Winnipeg Arts Council office.

**DEADLINE**

Complete proposal packages must be received on or before **Wednesday, September 8, 2010 by 4:00 pm.** (This is not a postmark deadline).

**Please send complete application packages to:**

Tricia Wasney, Manager-Public Art  
Literary Fence 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](http://www.winnipegarts.ca).

**For additional information or questions please contact:**

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



CONSEIL DES ARTS DE  
WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL

**Public Art Opportunity:**  
**Literary-Themed Fence: Millennium Library Park**  
**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: Literary Fence Project  
Winnipeg Arts Council  
103-110 Princess Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B1K7

*Complete application packages must be received on or before **4:00 pm on Wednesday, September 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.*



# 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					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					

## Appendix

The public consultation process undertaken for the design of the Millennium Library Park produced the following design themes, guiding principles and design zones. The proposed artwork should be mindful of these ideas and appropriate to the design context.

### **PARK RENOVATIONS**

#### **Main Design Themes**

The renovated Millennium Library Park will be:

#### **A Neverland**

- Fueling imaginations and telling great stories
- Celebrating Manitoba's land & people
- Reinforcing Canadian identity and pride

#### **An Outdoor Classroom**

- Conducive to learning, debating and testing
- A living laboratory where all park elements support exploration
- Promoting literacy and multimedia communications

#### **An Urban Oasis**

- Green, lush and comfortable
- Embracing nature, Manitoba landscapes and all our seasons
- Environmentally conscious

#### **A Community Hub**

- A multipurpose gathering place
- Promoting multicultural interaction and expression
- Encouraging intergenerational activities

## Guiding Principles

The design of the park and all its elements will:

### **Open Up & Connect**

Make the park more visible and inviting from the street  
Synchronize park activities with those in surrounding buildings  
Allow for easy access for those passing through or lingering

### **Go Green**

Integrate vegetation and human use into an intensive green roof  
Capture and manage stormwater runoff  
Use indigenous vegetation or hardy Manitoba cultivars

### **Be Flexible**

Create a space that can be many things to many people  
Ensure the space can evolve over time  
Provide for physical, multimedia and online interaction

### **Take Ownership & Be a Centre of Activity**

Support Downtown BIZ and Library programming plans  
Design a space that is fun and safe during all times of the day  
Design a space that celebrates all the seasons

### **Educate and Amuse**

Provide active spaces to perform and celebrate in large groups  
Provide spaces to enjoy vibrant street life in smaller groups  
Provide quiet spaces to watch and contemplate individually

## Design Zones

The park design is organized into five interconnected zones. While the guiding principles are integrated into every zone, each area encourages a different experience by varying the scale, materials, site furnishings, lighting, and special features to be found there. Plans for each zone are as follows:

### **Zone 1: Millennium Plaza - a place for the community to come together**

gathering bowl:            central open space  
                                  summer sun catch, performance seating  
                                  winter skating, ice sculptures, snow mazes  
                                  seasonal multimedia projection scrim

covered stage canopy:    elevated performance stage  
                                  shade shelter for games tournaments  
                                  sound, light and projection source

events kiosk:                winter change facility  
                                  summer beverage vendor/café  
                                  events equipment and furnishing storage

**Zone 2: Crossroads Plaza - south gateway to the park**

- multipurpose kiosk: Downtown Biz patrol office  
park programming office  
tourism information centre  
public washroom  
parkade stairwell
- terraces: multilevel busking and food vending stations  
entrance sign digital art column  
accessible route into the heart of the park
- shade garden: maintain existing mature trees  
riverbottom forest shrubs and perennials
- sidewalk extensions: extend sidewalk around the corner

**Zone 3: The Learning Commons - a place to explore the power of idea**

**\* Public Art Call Location**

- Donald Street edge: cut down entrance ramp walls  
extend public sidewalk  
patio seating next to public art screen
- entrances: widen entrance walkways  
entrance sign/sculpture
- commons: paved plaza under bosque of elms  
small group seating zones and seatwalls
- south edge: remove existing solid wood fence panels  
replace with semitransparent literary screen  
**\*Public art location**
- shade garden: riverbottom forest shrubs and perennials

**Zone 4: The Urban Wetland - a place to get closer to and learn from nature**

- Smith Street edge: cut down entrance ramp walls  
remove fence  
extend public sidewalk  
public art wall viewable from Smith Street
- entrances: widen northeast entrance walkway
- water garden: indigenous Manitoba water species plantings  
wood boardwalk and windmill aeration  
Tony Tascona sculpture relocation  
privacy screen and gates

grove:                   lawn and seat wall  
                              birch tree grove

grassland garden:     aspen tree bluff  
                              indigenous perennial grasses and wildflowers

**Zone 5: Pattison Reading Terrace - a place for semi-private functions & library gatherings**

terrace:                install new roof membrane  
                              reconstruct existing terrace

Phase one construction is currently underway and consists of:

- roof membrane replacement
- Millennium Plaza installation
- Learning Commons installation
- Urban Wetland installation
- Pattison Reading Terrace reconstruction

Construction for this phase will be complete by March 15, 2011.