

CALL FOR ARTISTS: DESIGN TEAM OPPORTUNITY PITTSBURGH, PA

I-579 CAP PROJECT

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2016 AT 5PM EST

ARTIST INFO SESSION: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016 6:30 PM, CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH - HILL DISTRICT

FEE FOR COMMUNITY ARTISTS: \$7,000 EACH

FEE FOR COORDINATING ARTIST: \$15,000

SUMMARY

The Sports and Exhibition Authority seeks to engage up to four artists to participate on the design team for the I-579 Cap Project (the Cap). The selected artists will collaborate with the project design team and be under the direction of the project's landscape architect, LaQuatra Bonci Associates (LBA) to develop design concepts that will be integrated into the final design documents and built as part of the overall construction of the Cap.

There are two different position types available:

COMMUNITY ARTIST: Visual artists or literary artists who have a personal or professional connection to the Hill District, including those who live, work, or have family connections to the neighborhood. There are three positions available on the design team.

COORDINATING ARTIST: One visual artist who has experience in the past ten years working with architects, landscape architects, or engineers on design teams for infrastructure, transportation, or park projects. The Coordinating Artist must have experience collaborating with other artists, serving on teams to produce and review construction documents, and shop drawing review. There is one position available on the design team.

A. ABOUT

The Sports and Exhibition Authority seeks to engage up to four artists to participate on the design team for the I-579 Cap Project (the Cap).

The Sports and Exhibition Authority (SEA) has hired HDR Engineers Inc. (HDR) to design the Cap. HDR's design team includes LaQuatra Bonci Associates (LBA) as the project's landscape architect. The Cap will provide a new structure over a portion of the below-grade I-579 Crosstown Boulevard highway, creating a new 3-acre park between Downtown and the Lower Hill. The project is intended to be transformative for the Hill District by removing a physical barrier and re-establishing connectivity to centers of employment, education, and services in Downtown. It will create convenient and accessible pedestrian and bicycle pathways, providing for the safe movement of residents and commuters, and supporting public and private development.

The design team held a series of public meetings in March and May of 2016 to gather ideas and then review design alternatives developed from those ideas. The concept plan identified art as a significant park element to be included in the final design. Participants in the planning process spoke about the idea of exploring the history and culture of the neighborhood and developing iconic features in the landscape. **The concept plan report can be found here** or by visiting visit tinyurl.com/capconceptplan. This opportunity is only related to artist designed integrated aspects of the landscape design.



Sports & Exhibition Authority

The Office of Public Art has been hired to identify artists to join the design team. The artists on the design team will be asked to participate in several sessions with the landscape architects and engineers to develop concepts that will be fully integrated into the construction documents. Artists will be expected to collaborate with each other and other members of the design team.

Artists will not be responsible for fabrication or installation of their design concepts. All elements of the design will be fabricated through the construction process.

The **Coordinating Artist** will be responsible for working with LBA to produce construction documents, review shop drawings, and ensure that the concepts developed by the team represent the work of all design team artists.

The **Coordinating Artist** will be responsible for reviewing the design and construction documents to ensure that the design team's intent is properly conveyed to the fabrication team.

The **Coordinating Artist** and **Community Artists** will be asked to present the design team concepts to the SEA, City of Pittsburgh, and other project stakeholders.

During the construction process, artists may be asked to review shop drawings, fabrication samples, and final installation, including site visits and project team meetings as necessary.

Please note that this opportunity is for design work integrated into the construction process. It will not be the only opportunity for artwork at this park. The SEA and City of Pittsburgh will seek opportunities to offer future public art opportunities at this location. If you are interested in remaining informed about future public art opportunities at the Cap, please contact the Office of Public Art at opa@pittsburghartscouncil.org.

B. PROJECT SCHEDULE

The selected artists will work with the design team throughout the fall and early winter of 2016 to develop design concepts, which will be incorporated into design and construction documents by the landscape architects and engineers.

Artists must be available for a four-day work session in November, 2016. Specific date to be determined.

C. BUDGET

The fee for Community Artists is \$7,000 each for their services.

The fee for the Coordinating Artist is \$15,000.

The fee for the Coordinating Artist is higher than the Community Artist because Coordinating Artist will be spending more hours on the project working with the design team to create and review construction documents, review shop drawings, and working with each Community Artist to review their concepts in the construction documents and shop drawings.

Limited travel stipends will be available.

D. ELIGIBILITY

This project requires artists to collaborate with each other, HDR, and LBA to develop and integrate design elements into the construction documents. Artists will not be fabricating individual works of art through this opportunity.

Pittsburgh artists, especially artists with connections to the Hill District, are strongly encouraged to apply for one or both positions.

Community Artist: Visual artists or literary artists who have a personal or professional connection to the Hill District, including those who live, work, or have family connections to the neighborhood. There are three positions available on the design team. Public art experience is not required for this position.

Coordinating Artist: There is one position available on the design team. The Coordinating Artist must be a visual artist with the following experience:

- Collaborating with other artists
- Producing public art projects that are integrated into construction
- Serving on teams with architects and engineers to produce and review construction documents
- Reviewing shop drawings

All artists will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Aesthetic quality of previous work
- Experience working collaboratively
- Experience working in the public realm
- Ability to meet the project timeline and participate in November work session
- Quality and completeness of application materials

Artists have the option of choosing to apply to be the Coordinating Artist, a Community Artist, or apply for both positions. Artists must apply as individuals. Artist teams are not eligible for this opportunity.

E. SELECTION PROCESS

The Office of Public Art is facilitating the artist selection process for this project. Qualifications submitted through this RFQ will be reviewed by a selection committee. A limited number of artists will be invited for an interview.

During the interview, artists will discuss their past work, their ability to work on the project, this interest in this particular project, their relationship to the Hill District, and their experience collaborating with design teams, other artists, and community members. The artists who are asked to interview for the project will not be asked to develop a model or proposal.

Should the selection committee determine that none of the applicants presented are the right match for the commission, an artist or artists may be selected via an invitational process.

F. PROJECT TIMELINE

Week of September 19, 2016	Request for Qualifications Released
September 28, 2016 6:30 PM	Artist Info Session Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Hill District 2177 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Friday, October 14, 2016	RFQ Submissions Due at 5pm EST
Week of October 24, 2016	Artist Interviews
October 31, 2016	Finalists Notified
November 2016	Participate in Design Review Process
December 2016 – January 2017	Review Construction Drawings
September 2019	Project Complete

This timeline is subject to change without notice.

G. HOW TO APPLY

Applications will only be accepted electronically via online submission form.

You may access the application here: tinyurl.com/579CAPRFQ.

The application includes the following requirements:

1. **A complete application form.** (see link above)
2. **A letter** that details your interest in working on this project.

If you are applying to be a Community Artist, please tell us about your experience collaborating and your connection to the Hill District.

If you are applying to be the Coordinating Artist, describe your experience in collaborating with other artists, producing public art projects that have been integrated into construction, serving on teams with architects and engineers to produce and review construction documents, and your ability to review shop drawings.

If you are applying for both positions, please indicate that in your letter.

Name the file using this convention:
LastName_First Name_Letter.doc.

3. **Up to 10 work samples.** Worksamples can be JPG or JPEG images, videos, PDFs or Word documents.

Images should be no larger than 5" x 7" and up to 300 dpi. Each image should be no larger than 1MB.

Literary artists may submit text worksamples up to 20 pages in Word or PDF formats. Artists may also submit images or scans of publications, book covers, videos of readings,

any other appropriate visual representation to convey the content of a literary work.

Videos must be in .mov or .mp4 format, and no longer than 3 minutes.

Name each work sample with your last name, first name and the numbers 1-10. For example, if your name is Romare Bearden, the first artwork on your disc should be bearden_romare_1.jpg and the second image should be bearden_romare_2.jpg.

4. **A script** that includes a short description of each image submitted. The description for each image should include the following information as applicable: artwork title, dimensions, materials, budget, location, and a brief summary. This document must be submitted in .doc, .docx, or .txt format. PDF files cannot be accepted for this document.

Name the file using this convention:
LastName_First Name_Script.doc.

5. A copy of your **artist statement**.

Name the file using this convention:
LastName_First Name_Statement.doc.

6. A copy of your **resume**, up to two pages.

Name the file using this convention:
LastName_First Name_Resume.doc.

Submissions must be received by 5:00 pm EST October 14, 2016.

Late applications will not be accepted.

H. **ARTIST INFORMATION SESSION**

The Office of Public Art will be hosting an information session for interested artists about the RFQ on September 28, 2016 at 6:30pm. The meeting will be held at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Hill District, 2177 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

At this meeting, the Office of Public Art will discuss the application process and respond to questions. Attendance of this meeting is **not required** to submit an application.

I. **QUESTIONS?**

Contact Kate Hansen of the Office of Public Art at 412.391.2060 x 233 or at opa@pittsburghartscouncil.org.

For more information about the concept plan, please click [here](#) or visit tinyurl.com/capconceptplan.