

City of Knoxville: Public Arts Committee

Request for Proposals: Permanent Art Installation in Downtown Knoxville

The City of Knoxville's Public Arts Committee seeks proposals from artists or artist teams for a permanent work of art to be located on the east wall of the 500 block of Gay Street, at the intersection of Gay Street and Union Avenue, in downtown Knoxville. The selected artist or team will receive up to \$10,000 to complete the project, including design, materials, equipment rental, insurance, site preparation, and installation. Preference will be given to artists residing in Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, or Union counties.

PROJECT DETAILS:

Context: Gay Street has been the City of Knoxville's primary financial and commercial district since its development in the 1790s. Located on the 500 block of Gay Street, there is a 12'10" x 7'3" white space that the Public Arts Committee has identified as a priority for a mural or other permanent public art. The area is a highly trafficked pedestrian corridor that connects the State Street Garage to the numerous restaurants and shops on Gay Street and in Market Square. Two historic theatres are also located on Gay Street: the Tennessee Theatre and the Bijou Theatre. The Regal Riviera Cinema also attracts many visitors to downtown.

Site details: As seen in the center of the first site image provided on page 4, the white rectangular square measuring 12'10" in width by 7'3" in height is located on the 500 block of Gay Street near the Union Avenue intersection.

ELIGIBILITY:

This opportunity is open to all artists or artist teams over the age of 18.

MATERIALS:

If a mural, it must be created using the following or comparable materials:

- Acrylic gesso primer
- 100% acrylic resin paint from either Golden Company or Nova Color Paints
- Top coat of satin or semi-gloss acrylic varnish applied via airbrush sprayer
- Anti-graffiti coat of either Soluvar or Repello

If not a mural, materials must be waterproof and affixed to the concrete wall in order to be permanent in nature and must also require little maintenance.

WALL PREPARATION:

All walls must be pressure washed; if paint residue is on the existing wall, a trisodium phosphate blast must be applied to remove any old paint, etc.

BUDGET:

The total maximum project budget is \$10,000, which includes artist fees and costs associated with the design, fabrication, transportation to the site, equipment rental, permits, insurance, installation, materials, and protective coating.

TIMELINE:

- December 12, 2016: Announcement of RFP
- January 30, 2017: Deadline for submissions
- February 7, 2017: Review proposals and select winning artist(s)
- Spring 2017: Artwork installation
- TBD: Artwork unveiled to the public

SELECTION PROCESS:

The committee will apply the following criteria when selecting artists:

1. *Artistic merit.* The inherent quality and excellence of a proposed artwork together with the strength of the artist's concept and design capabilities are the highest priorities of the public art program.
2. *Context.* Artwork must be compatible in scale, material, form and content with its surroundings.
3. *Relevant experience.* Experience and professional record of the artist(s) should provide convincing evidence of ability to successfully complete the project as proposed.
4. *Technical feasibility.* An artist must exhibit a successful track record of construction and installation of artwork or show that an appropriate professional has examined the proposed artwork and confirmed feasibility of construction and installation.
5. *Budget.* An artist's proposal should provide a budget adequate to cover all costs for the design, fabrication, insurance, transportation, storage, and installation of the proposed artwork, plus reasonable unforeseen circumstances. Artists should have a history of completing projects within budget.
6. *Diversity.* Artwork will be sought from artists of diverse ethnic and cultural identities.
7. *Fabrication and installation schedules.* The artist's proposal should include a project timeline that incorporates design review, fabrication, delivery and installation in accordance with project schedule. The artist should have a history of completing projects on time.
8. *Residence.* If two proposals are determined to be of equal merit, and if an artist resides in one of the following East Tennessee counties, the project will be awarded to the local artist: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed application form (see page 5)
- Current CV/resume
- Letter of interest (1 page maximum): applicants should briefly describe their interest in the project and include a description of their approach and proposed design for the project
- Design proposal for the site submitted as a high-resolution JPEG or PDF format
- 4-6 high-resolution digital images of previous work and a brief description of each image (title, year, medium, dimensions, location)
- 3 professional references with current contact information

- Itemized budget
- Fabrication and installation schedules
- Any unique consideration the proposer may wish to include

Please note: submitted materials will not be returned and incomplete applications will not be considered.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2017. All materials must be received no later than 5:00 PM. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Mail or e-mail complete applications to:

Arts & Culture Alliance

ATTN: Liza Zenni

PO Box 2506

Knoxville, TN 37902

lz@knoxalliance.com

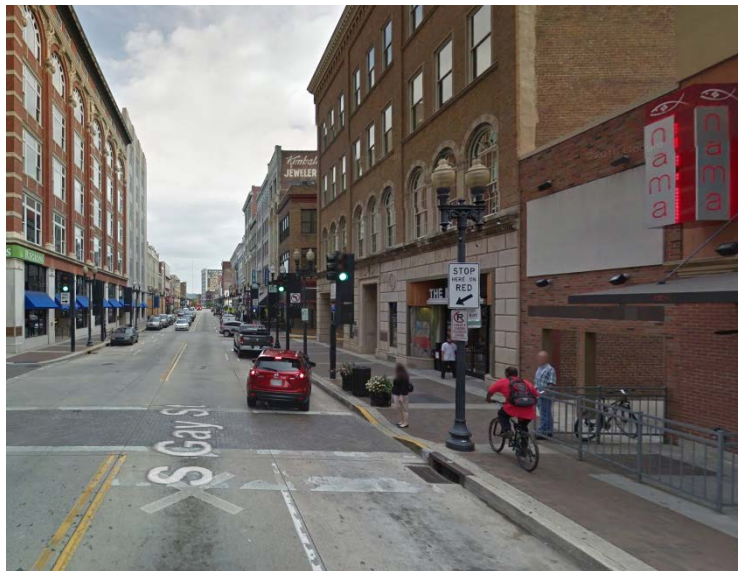
For more information:

Call (865) 523-7543 or e-mail: lz@knoxalliance.com

The proposed site, which measures 12'10" in width by 7'3" in height



Gay Street facing north, the proposed site is on the right



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Permanent Art Installation in Downtown Knoxville**

APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIPCODE: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

WEBSITE (OPTIONAL): _____

DEADLINE: Submissions must be received by **5:00 PM on January 30, 2017.**

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

- ___ Application Form
- ___ CV/Resume
- ___ Letter of Interest
- ___ Design Proposal
- ___ 4-6 Images of Previous Work
- ___ 3 Professional References
- ___ Itemized Budget
- ___ Fabrication/Installation Schedule
- ___ Additional information (optional)

MAIL OR E-MAIL APPLICATION TO:

Arts & Culture Alliance
PO Box 2506
Knoxville, TN 37902
lz@knoxalliance.com