

Summary

The City of Raleigh is seeking an artist or artist team to submit qualification to develop site-specific public artwork for integration as a part of renovations to the Biltmore Hills Tennis Center.

Artists must be United States citizens or permanent residents of North Carolina or the contiguous states of Georgia, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. Up to three finalists will be selected for interviews and paid a \$750 stipend.

Qualifications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. E.D.T. on Friday, March 3, 2017. There is no fee to submit qualifications.

Budget

The public art budget is \$38,000 inclusive of all expenses including design, fabrication, installation, travel, taxes and fees. Additional construction credits may also be available.

Biltmore Hills Project Overview

The City of Raleigh holds a great reputation in the sports tourism industry for actively supporting regional tennis tournaments. However, despite the continuing popularity and growth in the sport of tennis, the City had been unable to build new tennis courts for the past 15 years. Thanks to the efforts of a group of local tennis enthusiasts advocating for expanded tennis facilities in the southeast Raleigh area, the City conducted a study to identify the needs of the tennis community and which city-owned properties and funding sources could best accommodate community needs. After nearly three months of deliberation and public hearings, City Council approved the southeast tennis center project on April 17, 2012 as part of the two-thirds bond package. Recognizing the opportunity to further leverage those funds, other Capital Improvement funds are planned for the park including community center upgrades, gym HVAC improvements, ball field lighting upgrades, paving, and ADA improvements.

Biltmore Hills Park was eventually chosen as the preferred location for the new tennis center project. Biltmore Hills is a 38.48 acre park located at 2615 Fitzgerald Drive, Raleigh, NC, and originally developed in 1964. The 15,500 square foot Community Center houses a gymnasium, weight room, two meeting rooms, warming kitchen, restrooms, offices and storage. Other existing park amenities include a playground, 8 tennis courts, 2 full size basketball courts, a comfort station, shelter, softball field, and outdoor pool facilities.

Public Art Goals and Opportunities

The Biltmore Hills Tennis Center has been selected for public art based on its geographic location, its appeal as a location for diverse audiences that are sports enthusiasts, and its connection to the adjacent baseball and softball fields, as well as the Biltmore Hills Community Center.

Below are several goals regarding how public art can play a role at the Biltmore Hills Tennis Center:

- Celebrate the strength of athletics in this community and the Center’s family-oriented appeal as an energetic destination for sports enthusiasts;
- Educate as well as share how athletes of color have impacted athletics, particularly tennis history; and
- Encourage health and fitness, especially among youth, given its close proximity to the Biltmore Hills Community Center.

The public art could be free-standing or integrated into the site and/or Center. The artist will work closely with the design team to ensure a successful outcome.

Selection Criteria and Process

Applications submitted in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by the City of Raleigh Public Art Coordinator, who will then forward all complete and eligible applications received by the deadline to the Artist Selection Panel, appointed by the Public Art and Design Board. The Panel may include a member of the Board, an artist, an art professional, a design professional, and a representative from the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department.

The selection process will have two stages. During the first round, the Artist Selection Panel will evaluate qualifications of artists based on five criteria: artistic merit; placemaking experience; experience in educational and collaborative public art processes; project management experience; and technical expertise.

The Artist Selection Panel will identify up to three finalists to invite to Raleigh for interviews. Finalists will receive a \$750 stipend to cover travel and related expenses associated with the interview. In addition to reviewing qualifications and previous experience in detail, panelists will discuss with the finalists their approaches to the project and respond to questions. A specific proposal is not expected at this interview.

The Artist Selection Panel will choose the artist for the project and forward that recommendation to the Public Art and Design Board. Upon approval by the Public Art and Design Board, a scope of services and budget will be developed based on the artist’s or artist team’s approach to the project.

Project Timeline

This project requires commitment to the following timetable:

RFQ Application Deadline:	March 3, 2017
Finalists Selected and Notified:	March 2017
Finalists Interviewed:	April 2017
Project Awarded:	May 2017

How to Apply

As a part of the City of Raleigh's sustainability initiative, Raleigh encourages the reduction of paper use. To that end, we ask that submissions be in as paperless a manner as possible; therefore, RFQ submissions should be submitted in one of the following ways:

1. Email documents to jenn.hales@raleighnc.gov.
The subject line for submissions should read: *Southeast Raleigh Tennis Center*
2. Upload files to the Office of Raleigh Arts' ftp site. For access, please email jenn.hales@raleighnc.gov for instructions.

Artists wishing to be considered must submit the following materials. **For written materials, please maintain at least ½" margins on all sides and font size no smaller than 11.5 pt.:**

1. Statement of Interest

A one-page statement outlining your interest in this project and your experience working on comparable projects. Include how your work and experience will complement this project.
File titled Lastname Firstname_statement.

2. Professional Résumé

A résumé of no more than two pages that includes information regarding public art commissions, exhibitions and installations, awards, grants and education, with an emphasis on public art projects of similar size and scope in the past ten years. If applying as a team, submit a separate résumé for each team member. *File titled Lastname Firstname_résumé*

3. Three Professional References

Contact information for three references should be submitted, including name, title and affiliation, phone number and email address. References should be able to speak to your ability to provide services for a public art project of similar size and scope.
File titled Lastname Firstname_references

4. Previous Work, Digital Images

Ten digital images of recent previous work (created within the past ten years) in JPG format (150 dpi at minimum size 5.5" x 7"; maximum size 11 x 14"). All images must be saved using a file name and number that corresponds to the image identification list.
Image titled Lastname Firstname_image #

5. Image Identification List

An image identification list corresponding to the submitted digital images. Each image should include: image number, artist's name, title, year, media, location and project budget, dimensions, commissioning agency, collaborators or design professionals (if applicable). *File titled Lastname Firstname_list*

**Request for Qualifications
Biltmore Hills Tennis Center
Raleigh, North Carolina**



P.O. Box 590
Raleigh, NC 27602
919-996-3610
www.raleighnc.gov/

Do not provide or submit any other materials with your application. They will not be reviewed by the panel and will not be returned.

Submission and Deadline

All RFQ materials must be received **no later than Friday, March 3, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.** Incomplete or late submittals will not be considered.

Additional Information

For questions, contact Jenn Hales, Public Art Assistant for the Office of Raleigh Arts, at 919.996.4689 or jenn.hales@raleighnc.gov. For relevant information regarding the project, visit the Office of Raleigh Arts website at: www.raleighnc.gov/parks/content/Arts/Articles/CallForArtists.html.

Photos of the Site



Existing Tennis Courts



Basketball Courts



Biltmore Hills Community
Center Entrance



Biltmore Hills Community
Center Side View