

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

ARTIST CALL: CORAL GABLES PARKING GARAGE 7



BUDGET: \$400,000

ELIGIBILITY: Professional artists or artist-led teams with experience creating light-based artwork.

DUE: August 21, 2020

PROJECT:

The City of Coral Gables requests qualifications from professional working artists for consideration to create a light-based artwork on the north-facing towers of the new Parking Garage 7, with a possible companion piece on the southwest corner of the Public Safety Building. Artwork is sought that functions as a beacon to identify the Public Safety Building location, welcoming people to the site as a place of safety, help, and refuge.

SITE DESCRIPTION:

The City of Coral Gables is beginning construction of a parking garage (Garage 7) to accompany the new Public Safety Administration Building, which will function as the City's Police Headquarters and Administration Department, Fire Station 1 and Fire Department Administration Department, 911 Call Center and First Responders Dispatch Center, and EOC Command and Operations. The parking structure will provide approximately 450 spaces and is located on the south side of Minorca Avenue, between Salzedo Street and Ponce de León Boulevard in the City of Coral Gables. The parking structure will primarily serve City of Coral Gables employees and the public for access to the new adjacent Public Safety Building. The new garage structure will have parking, office space for City of Coral Gables' Parking,

Human Resources and Labor Relations departments; ground floor retail; and pedestrian connection to the new Public Safety Building on the second floor.

The dimensions of the parking structure will be roughly 269'-6" x 100'-0". Based on these dimensions, the structure will consist of 6 supported levels plus the ground floor. The typical floor to floor heights will be of 11'-0". The parking structure will be open and naturally ventilated with openings incorporating architectural screens and treatments to shield views of the parked automobiles and lighting sources from the street.

The design incorporates elements for passive security, including glass-backed elevators and wide, stairs visible from garage interior and exterior. Stairs that are visible to interior and exterior will encourage patrons to use them, while making them feel safe and secure.

The elevator/stair towers provide the opportunity to create iconic elements for the parking structure and to help wayfinding. A two cab elevator tower will be Incorporated along with stairs on the northwest quadrant of the building, and stairs at the northeast corner of the garage.

PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES:

Locations for public art include:

- 2 enclosed towers
- Related artwork on front facing building façade
- Possible companion artwork on southwest corner of Public Safety Building

Public art opportunities:

- Light-based artwork
- Screening enhancement

SELECTION PROCESS:

Members of the City's Arts Advisory Panel will evaluate artist qualifications as set forth in the Coral Gables Art in Public Places Program: Funding, Goals and Implementation Guidelines. A short-list of artists will be selected to interview remotely with City staff, public safety and parking officials. Based on current travel restrictions and public health protocol, on-site visits are suspended.

Select artists will enter into an agreement with the City to develop design concept proposals for the City to consider. Once a proposal is agreed upon and approved by the City Commission, the artist or artist team will enter into a separate agreement for final design drawings, fabrication, and installation.

Qualifying Artist Criteria:

- Meets the definition of professional artist, which is defined as "an individual generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional practitioner of the visual arts, as judged by the quality of that professional practitioner's body of work, educational background, experience, past public commissions, exhibition record, publications, receipt of honors and awards, training in the arts, and production of artwork."
- Demonstrates artistic excellence, innovation and originality as represented in past work and supporting materials.
- Demonstrates interest in and understanding of the project.
- Demonstrates interest and capability in creating public artworks in collaboration with the design team (if applicable) and other project partners.
- Demonstrates experience in successfully completing works of similar scope, scale, budget and complexity, or ability to articulate how he or she would be able to bring the necessary artistic and technical skills to this project.

- Demonstrates ability to communicate effectively with the City of Coral Gables staff, other project partners and the community.
- Demonstrates the potential to work in a public environment and animate public space.
- Demonstrates capacity for working in media and with concepts that are appropriate to the project goals and site.
- Is available to perform the scope of the work in a timely and professional manner.

A selection panel comprised of Arts Advisory Panel members and City staff will review concept proposals based on the following criteria.

The concept should:

- Meet the definition of a work of art, which is defined as “tangible creations by artists exhibiting the highest quality of skill and aesthetic principles, including but not limited to paintings, sculptures, stained glass, statues, bas reliefs, engravings, carvings, frescos, mobiles, murals, collages, mosaics, tapestries, photographs, drawings, monuments and fountains or combinations thereof,” and is one-of-a-kind or part of an original, numbered series.
- Respond to the City’s vision for public art as set forth in the Master Art Plan and Guidelines.
- Meet the goals for the project as defined in the Project Plan.
- Demonstrate excellence in aesthetic quality, workmanship, innovation and creativity.
- Demonstrate appropriateness in scale, form, content and is of materials/media suitable for the site.
- Acknowledge and inform the specific site and is sensitive to the City’s overall design traditions.
- Demonstrate feasibility in terms of budget, timeline, safety, durability, operation, maintenance, conservation, security, and/or storage and siting. Consideration is given to the City’s ability to provide ongoing maintenance and repair.
- Bring diversity to the City’s public art collection in terms of media, artistic discipline, and/or artistic approach.

We encourage third parties, including gallery representatives, to submit qualifications on behalf of an artist. Following the RFQ process, follow-ups, contracts, and concept proposal requests will be communicated directly with the artist or their studio designee.

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS OF SELECTED ARTWORK:

Proposed works will require engineering to withstand 175 mph wind loads.
Insurance requirements available upon request.

PROJECTED SCHEDULE:

RFQ Submission Deadline	August 21, 2020
Qualifications Reviewed / Short Listed Artists / Interviews	September, 2020
Short-list Artists Confirmed & Contracted	October, 2020
Concept Proposal Development	October, 2020
Concept Proposal Presentation to Arts Advisory Panel	November, 2020
Concept Proposal Presentation to Cultural Development Board	November, 2020
Concept Proposal Presentation to City Commission	November/December, 2020
Concept Confirmed & Artist Contracted	Early, 2021
Selected Artist 75%-100% Design Complete	Winter/Spring, 2021
Fabrication	Spring/Summer 2021
Installation	Summer/Fall, 2021

CORAL GABLES ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM:

When the City Commission established Coral Gables’ Art in Public Places program by ordinance in 2007, it set out the following overarching goal:

It is the intention of this program to preserve the City’s artistic heritage, enhance its character and identity, contribute to economic development and tourism, add beauty and interest to public spaces and increase opportunities for the public to experience and participate in the arts through the acquisition and installation of world-class art in publicly accessible areas.

The ordinance establishes a “percent for art” mechanism that applies to certain City capital projects and certain private development projects – mechanisms that generate resources for exhibiting, purchasing, and commissioning new artworks in the City.

More information about the Art in Public Places program may be found at:

www.coralgables.com/artinpublicplaces

ABOUT CORAL GABLES:

The City of Coral Gables, The City Beautiful, is a progressive, international, coastal, and historic City. Coral Gables has a population of 51,000 residents, has a vibrant downtown, and is home to the University of Miami. It is proud to be ranked by Forbes.com ninth out of America's Top 25 Towns to Live Well, and America's sixth most successful walkable suburb by the Wall Street Journal.

The City of Coral Gables is unique among the communities of Miami-Dade County in that it can trace its beginning to the early 20th century City Beautiful movement. The spirit of the City Beautiful movement was rooted in the notion that if cities were to be the centers of American progress then the infrastructure of those cities should be something that was celebrated. From tree plantings, to a robust street construction

program, to key infill investments in the downtown core, the City of Coral Gables carries on that legacy today in its approach to public works and planning.

In the past three decades, the City has experienced healthy growth, which bolstered the economic base. Growth in the commercial sector has brought in new activities for residents, including nighttime entertainment, live music, new retail options, and casual and fine dining. It has also helped maintain low property taxes. Today, Coral Gables is home to approximately 155 multinationals and 26 consulates and trade offices.

The City supports the residential and business sectors with excellent City services, having attained the highest possible standards in every field. In fact, Coral Gables is the only City in the State of Florida and one of only two cities nationwide to have a Class 1 Fire Department, a fully-accredited Police Department, and the highest awarded Building and Zoning Department rating. In addition, Coral Gables has been named a "Tree City USA" for 26 consecutive years, has an award-winning Communications Division, and offers a comprehensive Parks and Recreation program.

HOW TO APPLY:

A link to the on-line application is available at: www.coralgables.com/artinpublicplaces

We are requesting:

- Brief Statement
- Artist Resume
- Ten Images of Completed Work
- Professional References