

University Health Women's & Children's Hospital: Site-Specific Hanging Sculpture for Main Lobby - San Antonio, TX [RFQ]

Project Budget: \$150,000

Project Location: University Health Campus 4502 Medical Dr, San Antonio, TX 78229

Date issued: [03/02/2021]

Due date: [06/02/2021] **CLOSES 11 PM CST**

Project Overview:

University Health's *Salud-Arte: Art of Healing* program seeks an artist or artist team to design and create a site-specific hanging sculpture for the main lobby of the new Women's & Children's Hospital at University Health's Medical Center campus. The building is set to open in early 2023. The commissioned artwork will thoughtfully respond to this unique context in a way consistent with the mission of University Health.

Project Description:

The mission of University Health is to improve the good health of the community through high quality compassionate patient care, innovation, education and discovery.

We are leading the way to be one of the nation's most trusted health institutions. The Women's & Children's Hospital will provide much-needed facilities to meet the needs of our growing community and region.

Our patient care will be:

- High quality and compassionate above all,
- Attentive, kind and helpful without exception, and
- Wise in the use of resources.

The vision of University Health's *Salud-Arte: Art of Healing* program is to use art to inspire healing, compassion, hope and trust. We also aim to reflect the community, improve the experience of our patients and visitors, and communicate our important mission through art and design enhancements while being good stewards of our financial and natural resources.

The commissioned hanging sculpture for the main lobby of the Women's & Children's Hospital will be in keeping with the mission statements above. Please review approved materials, selection criteria, and the location description provided below.

This artist opportunity is one of several for the new Women's & Children's Hospital. The *Salud-Arte: Art of Healing* program encourages all interested parties to continue to visit www.publicartist.org/ in the upcoming weeks for more artist opportunities in site-specific work and art procurement for our expanding Medical Center campus.

Project Goals:

University Health and its *Salud-Arte: Art of Healing* program strive to create and commission artworks that reflect aesthetic and technical quality and foster a welcoming, uplifting environment for healing. The site-specific hanging sculpture for the main lobby of the new Women's & Children's Hospital will be an aesthetically pleasing focal point for patients, visitors,

and staff alike. The artwork must consider the safety of the hospital's visitors and should be easy to clean and maintain.

Though not a requirement, the committee appointed by the *Salud-Arte: Art of Healing* program has suggested the following themes for consideration in developing proposals: water; waterfalls; nature and its healing properties; flight; trees and treetops. Please note that these are only suggestions. Artists selected to develop proposals are encouraged to interpret and build upon these themes and motifs in ways unique to their personal aesthetics and visions for this project. Proposals are not required at this phase of the selection process.

Budget Description:

The budget for this project is \$150,000. This budget includes artist fees and all costs associated with the design, engineering, fabrication, permitting, delivery and installation of the artwork. Finalists selected from this RFQ will receive a \$1000 stipend to develop a proposal. See selection process and timeline details below.

Eligibility:

The project is open to all artists and artist teams, 21 years and older, residing in the United States. Professional artists with experience completing projects of similar size and budget are encouraged to apply. All applicants, regardless of race, sex, religion, nationality, origin or disability, will be considered. Please see selection criteria below.

Media: architectural arts, glass, metal, sculpture, stainless steel

Location Description:

The artwork will hang in the lobby of the new Women's and Children's Hospital above the main staircase. Architectural drawings for dimensions of the space and possible hanging points that take into consideration the structural engineering of the ceiling will be provided to finalists selected to design a proposal. Finalists will be expected to take advantage of these drawings and use the specified hanging points in their submission. Proposed sculptures must be no more than 10'-10" long, 6' wide, 6' high in size and should not exceed 500 pounds. Additional materials and information will be provided to those elected as finalists.

The artwork must consider the safety of the hospital's visitors. Proposed sculptures should be easy to clean and maintain and must NOT hang low enough to the floor or close enough to the stairs for hospital patrons to touch or disturb the artwork.

NOTE: The glass wall surrounding the main staircase is the donor wall of the hospital. This wall features the names of hospital donors embedded in the glass, as well as a design enhancement by Priscila de Carvalho that is visible both outside and inside the building. Finalists will be expected to review the image of this design for their reference in developing their proposal. Selected finalists must take into account the aesthetic relationship between their proposal and the existing commissioned work. A successful proposal will neither visually clash with de Carvalho's design nor detract from it by being overelaborate.

Site history:

University Health is committed to meeting the needs of our growing community to ensure access for all to the high quality, affordable care they need and deserve.

The Women's & Children's Hospital at University Hospital will provide much-needed facilities to meet the needs of our growing community and region. This will be a place where women, children and their families are surrounded with all of the experts and technologies to provide the highest level of compassionate care. It will be the only hospital in South Texas exclusively focused on the unique needs of women and children. And it will be a hospital like no other, where patients will see and feel the difference of care provided by a team who understands that being attentive, kind and helpful without exception is good medicine because:

- care is provided in ways that foster collaboration and communication
- patients and families feel respected
- a caring community is built on empathy, support and compassion

Selection process:

The University Health Art Program Committee will review applications received through this RFQ, select three finalists to develop proposals, and award one artist or artist team from the appointed finalists. Selected artist(s) should expect to commit to at least 3 rounds of revisions that might be requested by the architect and design team to conform to existing design conditions. Please review the selection criteria for proposals below.

The *Salud-Arte: Art of Healing* program strongly discourages artists from mailing or hand-delivering any physical material or samples that have not been expressly requested by the committee. Any materials received, solicited or unsolicited, will not be returned to the artist. The University Health Art Program Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any and all responses received, or commission an artist through another process should responses to this RFQ prove unsatisfactory.

Selection criteria:

Responses to this RFQ will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit and technical quality of body of work
- Strong professional qualifications and/or experience completing large-scale public artwork
- Demonstrated ability to work within a given budget and timeframe
- Demonstrated ability to work with a diverse professional team (e.g., with architects, engineers, curators, construction teams, et cetera)
- Compatibility with the mission of University Health and with the goals outlined in this RFQ

Only artists who meet these criteria should apply.

Finalists selected to develop proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit of proposal and technical quality of body of work
- Thoughtfulness of response to the Women's and Children's Hospital's unique context, especially in relation to Priscila de Carvalho's donor wall design and with regard to safety concerns outlined above

- Demonstrated ability to work within a given budget and timeframe; specifically, their demonstrated ability to complete this proposal in a timely and professional manner
- Compatibility of proposal with the mission of University Health and with the goals outlined in this RFQ
- Design's adherence to the specified dimensions and weight limit of 10'-10" long, 6' wide, 6' high in size and not more than 500 pounds
- Interpretation of themes suggested by the judging committee (see above)

Once awarded, the commissioned artists:

- Must complete the project to the highest level of quality and be on time
- Must commit to at least 3 rounds of revisions that might be requested by architect and design team to conform to existing design conditions
- Follow and convey the spirit and mission of the Salud-Arte: Art of Healing Program

Timeline:

The following schedule is preliminary and subject to change.

Project opens: March 2, 2021

Deadline for RFQ submissions: June 2, 2021

Announcement of selected finalists: June 15, 2021

Deadline for proposal submission: July 7, 2021

Announcement of selected artist: August 2021

Submission requirements:

- 5-10 Images of artwork
 - File naming convention: ##LastnameFirstname
- Image List
 - Include title, dimensions, location, medium, budget, and 1-2 sentences explaining the project and/or commissioning agency/client, if applicable.
- 3 References with contact information
- 2 Page Resume
- Artist statement (800 word maximum)
- Letter of interest (800 word maximum)

Do not send original artwork. Late applications will not be considered. PLEASE READ THIS RFQ CAREFULLY. The University Health Art Program Committee reserves the right to remove a public art call from the PublicArtist.org platform should the architectural direction or existing design conditions change.

For technical questions about this RFQ or the application process, please contact Crystal Hollis at info@publicartist.org or at 210-701-0775 (9am - 5pm CST/CDT).

For more information about the new Women's & Children's Hospital and University Health's *Salud-Arte: Art of Healing* program, please visit <https://www.universityhealthsystem.com/>.