Public Art Program Project Brief

**Project Name**: Sam Houston State University Gibbs Ranch Equestrian Facility and Agricultural Lab

Texas State University System seeks to commission an artist or artist team to design artwork for the Sam Houston State University Gibbs Ranch Equestrian Facility and Agricultural Lab.

Any project related questions will be answered at the Artist Information Session held July 12, 2023, 12:00 to 1:00 PM CST

Join the Meeting: https://txstate.zoom.us/j/87406897161?pwd=cGkvNEF3eDBaZ2Zm4bXVyMzJ4cmZGdz09
Meeting ID: 874 0689 7161  Passcode: 333319

A recording of the session will be posted after the meeting here: https://www.tsus.edu/about-tsus/tsus-public-art/news.html

**Project History or Scope**

Founded in 1879, Sam Houston State University is the third oldest public university in Texas. During its 141 years of service, the university has touched the lives of generations of Texans while helping shape the educational, social, economic, and cultural development of the state. Sam Houston State University is a doctoral-granting university located in the rapidly growing Interstate-45 corridor north of Houston. Currently, Sam Houston State has approximately 21,500 students enrolled in one of 90 undergraduate or 70 graduate and 10 doctoral programs offered by 8 colleges.

Sam Houston State University provides high quality education, scholarship, and service to qualified students for the benefit of regional, state, national, and international constituencies.

The new Gibbs Ranch Equestrian Facility and Agricultural Labs is under construction at the Sam Houston State University Gibbs Ranch property which fronts US Highway 75 North, approximately four miles northwest of the main campus in Huntsville, Texas. The project will house several programs in the University’s Department of Agricultural Sciences and be home to the University’s rodeo team. The facility program envisions a total site development of 2.6 million square feet that will ultimately encompass ten new structures, one relocated structure and significant exterior improvements through two phases of construction. The initial phase includes all primary site work to support both phases of vertical construction, a 15,147 SF Learning Center, the Plant Sciences facility with 15,000 SF Head House plus three 40,000 SF Greenhouses, a 14,688 SF Meat Sciences and Food Technology building and a 78,750 SF Multi-purpose Agricultural Center with related parking and support facilities. The second phase will include an equine science facility, a stall barn for the rodeo team, an equipment shed and final landscaping of the entire site.


**Artwork Budget $175,000**

Artwork budget is all-inclusive of artist fees, other consultants’ and subcontractors’ fees, insurance, engineering, materials, fabrication, transportation, installation (including any site modification) and lighting.
Potential Artwork Sites

Exterior Rendering: Gathering Area

Southeast View
Public Art Project Goal(s)

Artwork will connect with the educational programming occurring inside the facility and/or the history of Gibbs Ranch.

Recommended Selection Process/Solicitation type

Open Call Request for Qualifications. Due to the construction timeline and budget of the project, this commission opportunity will be open to public artists living and working in the Southwestern states’ region (Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming). The Committee on Public Art (CoPA) will narrow the list of artists who applied, and the Director of Public Art will request paid proposals from the shortlist. The shortlisted artists will submit their proposals and be present for interviews with the CoPA. The CoPA will choose one selected artist and one alternate for review by the President and Chancellor.

Submission Requirements

Eligibility

- Age 18 or older
- Professional artist: A practitioner of visual and/or interdisciplinary arts, at any stage in their career, whose work is recognized by peer artists to demonstrate serious intent and ability, who has a body of work and has made art creation a focus of their practice.
- Lives or works in the Southwest Region (Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming)

Preferred Qualifications

- Exhibited in a museum.
- Held in a museum collection.

Applications

Applications will be accepted via www.publicartist.org only.

- Artist Resume or CV (2 pages)
- Digital Images of past work (5-10)
- Artist Statement and Interest (700 maximum)
- References (3 names/emails)

Short listed artists will be notified via email and phone.

Paid Proposals will include:

- Written concept of artwork.
- Conceptual design with site specific preliminary rendering and approximate dimensions.
- Model and/or material sample of proposed work (TSUS will keep all models until a final award is made. Selected artist’s model becomes part of the TSUS Public Art Collection. If you are not selected, please include return shipping materials and payment.)
- Draft breakdown of budget including any artist fee, travel, anticipated engineering,
materials, fabrication, shipping, installation, foundation, insurance, lighting, etc. TSUS is tax exempt.

- Tentative timeline.
- Anticipated maintenance requirements.
- Examples of completed artworks of a budget to what is being proposed.

Interviews will include 15 minutes for the artist presentation and 15 minutes for six questions transmitted to the short-listed artists prior to their interviews.

**Evaluation Criteria**

- Quality and aesthetics of artwork submitted.
- Sensitivity to the social, environmental, historical, educational and site contexts of each campus
- Ability to enrich and diversify the System’s art collection.
- Demonstrate success based on experience, materials, feasibility, and maintenance.
- Effective communication and completeness of application
- Alignment with project specific public art goal(s) as outlined by the CoPA.

**Timeline**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post RFQ</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artist Information Meeting</td>
<td>July 12, 2023, 12:00 PM CST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artist Submissions due by</td>
<td>August 17, 2023, 12:00 AM CST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short list of Artists notified by</td>
<td>August 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short list Interviews</td>
<td>September 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commission awarded by</td>
<td>September 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Project Completion</td>
<td>October 2023</td>
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<td>Project Completion</td>
<td>September 2024 or sooner</td>
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