

# REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

## Public Art Sculpture for Waco Fire Station #4

Issued by Creative Waco in partnership with the City of Waco

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### 1 Key Facts at-a-Glance

<b>Eligibility</b>	Open to professional artists / artist-led teams who reside in, and are legally authorized to work in, the United States. Preference will be given to applicants with a demonstrable connection to Waco or McLennan County, Texas.
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	USD \$62,000 <i>Budget details are provided for reference only—NO cost proposal is requested at the RFQ stage.</i>
<b>RFQ Deadline</b>	<b>Monday, 23 June 2025 – 11:59 PM CT</b>
<b>Submission Platform</b>	PublicArtist.org — search “Waco Fire Station 4 Sculpture.” No application fee.
<b>Anticipated Installation</b>	August 2026
<b>Contact for Questions</b>	Julie Cervantes – Director of Strategic Development, Creative Waco
✉ <a href="mailto:julie@creativewaco.org">julie@creativewaco.org</a>	☎ +1 254-300-8677

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### 2 Project Overview

Fire Station #4 (2601 La Salle Avenue) is under construction as a forward-looking public-safety facility that will serve neighborhoods that include Baylor University housing and campus. The City of Waco and Creative Waco seek a signature outdoor sculpture to be placed at the street-facing entrance that:

- **Honors** the courage, service, and inclusive spirit of Waco firefighters.
  - **Anchors** the new station as a civic landmark and photogenic point of pride.
  - **Balances Tradition & Place.** Stakeholders prefer a recognizable firefighter figure enriched with symbolic details and an optional, *subtle* nod to Baylor University’s bear mascot—avoiding kitsch or mascot-like literalism.
  - **Endures** Central-Texas climate with minimal maintenance.
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### 3 Site & Technical Context

- **Location.** A 48 in × 48 in (1.22 m × 1.22 m) concrete plinth
  - **Preferred Scale.** Finished height 8–12 ft (2.4–3.7 m), plan footprint ≤ 6 ft².
  - **Materials.** Bronze, stainless steel, painted steel; proposals may integrate lighting or mixed media.
  - **Utilities.** Conduit for low-voltage lighting is stubbed within the plinth—artist to specify loads during Phase 2.
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### 4 Conceptual Guidance

1. **Figurative Centerpiece** – A timeless representation conveying readiness, resilience, and community.
2. **Narrative Layers** – Symbolic elements (hose couplings, flame forms, bear reference) that reward repeat viewing without cliché.
3. **Inclusivity** – Reflect firefighters of all ranks, genders, and backgrounds.

*(Detailed design proposals are **not** requested in this RFQ. Finalists will develop concepts in Phase 2.)*

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### 5 Project Schedule *(subject to Council approval)*

Milestone	Date
RFQ published	22 April 2025
<b>RFQ submissions deadline</b>	<b>23 June 2025</b>

Technical & Artistic Panel review	23 June – 30 June 2025
Finalist interviews & maquette presentations	by 2 September 2025
Arts & Culture Commission recommendation	9 September 2025
City Council presentation of recommended design and contract approval	7 October 2025
Artist contract executed	31 October 2025
Fabrication	November 2025 – July 2026
Site prep & installation	August 2026
Artwork acceptance by the City of Waco	15 August 2026
Fire Station Opening Celebration	September 2026

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## 6 RFQ Submission Requirements (*single PDF ≤ 25 MB uploaded to PublicArtist.org*)

1. **Cover Sheet** – Project title, applicant name(s), primary contact, city/state, website.
2. **Statement of Interest** (*max 1 page*) – Connection to the project, artistic approach to figurative public sculpture, experience working with civic stakeholders.
3. **Past Work Samples** – Up to **10** images of completed, large-scale or relevant artworks. Include captions: title, year, material, dimensions, budget, location, commissioning agency.
4. **Résumé / CV** – Max 2 pages per individual (combine for teams). Highlight public-art commissions, fabrication experience, and community engagement.
5. **References** – Three professional references with phone & email.

**Do NOT** submit design renderings, maquettes, or detailed budgets at this stage.

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## 7 Paid Concept Proposals & Presentations

- Each finalist will receive a **US \$1,500 honorarium** to develop a maquette, preliminary budget, and installation plan to be presented via video call such as Zoom/Teams (TBD) to the selection panel.
- The panel's recommended design will advance to the Waco Arts & Culture Commission and City Council for final approval and contract award.

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## 8 Artist Contract (for information only)

- The selected artist will execute the **City of Waco Artwork Agreement** (template available on request) covering insurance for fabrication, transportation, and installation phases, copyright transfer, and maintenance obligations.

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## 9 Compliance Requirements (*applies to contracted artist only*)

- Workers' Compensation statutory (or waiver if sole proprietor)
- Waiver of subrogation & additional-insured endorsement naming City of Waco.
- Adherence to Drug-Free Workplace Act and State of Texas conflict-of-interest disclosures.

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## 10 Questions & Optional Site Visits

*Submit all questions in writing to [julie@creativewaco.org](mailto:julie@creativewaco.org) no later than **10 June 2025**.*

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## 11 Creative Waco & City of Waco Commitments

Creative Waco—Waco's designated local arts agency—partners with the City to champion public art that celebrates local stories, supports professional artists, and enhances quality of life. Together we are committed to an open, equitable selection process that results in a sculpture worthy of Waco's firefighters and community.

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**Thank you for your interest and creativity!**

Help us honor the bravery of Waco's firefighters with a landmark artwork that will inspire for generations.