

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

LOWER MAIN STREET INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS – ART COMPONENT

Project: Design, fabricate and install artistic lighting

Budget: \$80,000

The total amount for the purchase, planning, design, fabrication and installation for the public art may not exceed the dollar amount above.

Deadline: **Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 11:00 am EST.**

Description: The goal of this project is to create artistic lighting to be installed under the 190 overpass near Canalside in downtown Buffalo.

Goal: The successful respondent to this RFQ will have experience designing, fabricating and installing artistic lighting that is:

- aesthetically pleasing
- permanent in nature
- easily maintained
- culturally appropriate

Timeline:

- Preliminary concept presentations at Buffalo Arts Commission zoom meeting: Thursday, February 18 at 5:30 pm.
- Contract with artist or designer March of 2021
- Project to begin April of 2021
- Lighting to be installed August of 2021

Questions: Emerson Barr III
Executive Director, Buffalo Arts Commission
716.851.5027
ebarr@city-buffalo.com

Creative Lighting Component Objectives:

- to create a sense of welcome to the Canalside and Arena entertainment area
- to provide a feeling of surprise and delight
- to be consistent with, and if possible reinforce, the unique character of Buffalo
- to be sturdy and weather-resistant enough to serve as a permanent, low-maintenance, installation.

LOCATION

The location of the artwork will be under the 190 overpass between Seneca One Tower and Exchange Street. The section of the underpass limited by Main Street is the boundary for the installation.

RFQ REQUIREMENTS

Any artist, architect, or designer may submit qualifications for consideration. Also welcomed are collaborative “team” qualifications. Excluded from consideration are employees of the City of Buffalo. A complete response to the RFQ will include:

1. **Résumé** – A current professional resume for the artist(s) submitting, emphasizing public art experience and information regarding any other installations which may have been completed. Résumé(s) must include contact information such as mailing address, phone number, and email.
2. **Past Work** – Photos of five (5) relevant pieces of artwork that were created by the artist(s) applying. Photos must be clearly labeled with the artist name, artwork title, completion date, current location, artwork media, and the dimensions of the artwork with the “top” indicated.

SELECTION CRITERIA

RFQ responses will be screened for completeness to the specifications outlined in this Request for Qualifications. Incomplete responses will not be considered. The City of Buffalo is not required to select any RFQ response and reserves the right to reject any and all responses.

The following five (2) criteria will be considered in the selection process:

1. **Artist(s) Qualifications** – Artistic excellence, originality, and ability to produce a consistent body of work; experience with projects of a similar scale and scope; good work habits, including the ability to meet deadlines, experience with budgeting, good communication skills, and good problem-solving abilities.

- 2. **Artist(s) Availability** – Commitment of the artist(s) to work within the project time frame as stated in this Request for Qualifications. Ability to work coordinate installation/fabrication with project construction; availability to attend meetings if requested by the Buffalo Arts Commission or Department of Public Works, Parks & Streets.

RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS

Responses to this RFQ must be received by **Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 11am EST.**
The City of Buffalo is not responsible in the case of lost, misdirected, or incomplete responses.

To Respond By Mail:

Place all required materials in a full size envelope with correct postage and mail to:

Emerson Barr
Executive Director, Buffalo Arts Commission
City Hall, Rm 606
65 Niagara Square
Buffalo, New York 14202

To Respond By Email:

Insert all materials as email attachment(s) that are collectively no greater than ten (10) MB in size.

Label the subject line of the email:
Request for Qualifications Lower Main

Send to:
ebarr@city-buffalo.com

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

If an artist is selected, the artist will be required to enter into a standard performance contract with the City on the City’s standard form selected and provided by the City. Said contract must be acceptable to the City in all respects and typically would contain a requirement for the artist to indemnify the City and provide the City with additional insured status under the artist’s general liability insurance coverage. Artists considering Responding to the RFQ are encouraged to include and describe with their response what types of insurance, if any, the artist carries. Types of standard insurance coverages the City typically requests, as and when applicable depending upon circumstances, are general liability, automobile liability, workers compensation and disability insurance.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This project is made possible under Article XIV of Chapter VIII of the City of Buffalo Charter. Any artwork subsequently purchased becomes the sole property of the City of Buffalo. Those whose work is selected will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Buffalo that includes the waiver of copyright permissions.

The City of Buffalo reserves the right to withdraw, amend, and/or reissue this Request for Qualifications at any time and for any or no reason. Receipt of response entries by the City of Buffalo or submission of an artist's response or selection of an artist for purposes of negotiating a contract confers no rights to any artist nor obligates the City of Buffalo in any manner. The City of Buffalo reserves the right at its sole discretion and for any reason, to reject all responses and not award any contract and to solicit additional or different responses at a later time. The City incurs no obligation regarding this Request for Qualifications, or any contract resulting there from, until a contract is fully completed and documents properly submitted and executed by all parties. The City of Buffalo also reserves the right to extend the dates in the timeline set forth in this Request for Qualifications.

The City of Buffalo may, in the event the selected artist fails to negotiate a satisfactory contract or fails to perform and the contract is terminated within forty-five (45) days of its initiation, request the artist submitting the next best Request for Qualifications response to honor their response. Costs of developing a response are solely the responsibility of the artist. The City of Buffalo shall not provide reimbursement for such costs. The City of Buffalo shall not be liable for any artist's preparation costs for any reason. Submission of a response shall constitute acceptance of the terms, conditions, criteria, requirements and evaluations set forth in this Request for Qualifications and operates as an offer and a waiver of any and all objections and Proposer originated modifications to the contents of this Call to Artists.

The City of Buffalo reserves the right to reject any submission deemed to be non-responsive for failure to comply fully with the terms of the Request for Qualifications. However, the City of Buffalo reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to request clarifications, corrections or additional information and to waive irregularities in execution or delivery of the response provided it is in the best interest of the City of Buffalo. The City of Buffalo reserves the right to amend this "Request for Qualifications" at any time.

Section 1. Instructions

1. Fill out this two (2) page Entry Form for the RFQ response you are submitting.
2. Attach the following items to the completed Response Form along with your response. See “RFQ Requirements” page for requirements on the items below:
 - Artist Résumé(s)
 - Past Work
3. Submit the materials above according to the directions on the “Submission Instructions” section

Section 2. Artist/Team Contact Information

Name of Lead Artist: _____

Names of Other Team Members (if applicable): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number: _____ Alt Phone (Optional): _____

Email Address: _____

Would you like to receive communication about future public art opportunities? Yes / No