Call to Artists - Request for Qualifications
Grand Central District Entry Feature Project

Budget: $199,000
Deadline: June 24, 2022
Submittal via CODAworx at the following link:
https://www.codaworx.com/rfp/grand-central-district-entry-features/

I. Project Description

The City of St. Petersburg, in conjunction with the Grand Central District, through a selection committee comprised of members selected by the City of St. Petersburg and the Grand Central District ("Committee"), seeks to commission an artist or artist team ("Artist") to design, engineer, construct and install two large District markers in the Grand Central District on the NW corner of 1st Ave N and 16th and on the NW corner of Central Ave and 16th Street in the Grand Central District, St. Petersburg, FL.

The project under this Call to Artists - Request for Qualifications ("RFQ") is for public art pieces that provide visual placemaking and demarcation and enhance the Grand Central District.

II. Background Information

The Grand Central District spans from 16th Street to 31st St. and includes Central Avenue and 1st Ave N and 1st Ave. S.1st Avenue South to 1st Avenue North in St. Petersburg, FL. It is an award winning, historic midtown Main Street district characterized by an eclectic mix of locally owned, independent businesses, historic buildings, and public art murals. Grand Central is the also the birthplace of St. Pete Pride. It is the largest LGBTQ community of businesses, employees, residents, and visitors in St. Pete. Today it is a popular District in the Tampa Bay region, with an authentic, inclusive environment that promotes a diverse and welcoming community for all. To learn more about Grand Central, visit www.GrandCentralDistrict.org

III. Budget

A. Project Budget:

The Artist’s budget allocated for this project is $199,000. This allocation is inclusive of costs for the final installed artwork, including but not limited to Artist design and engineering fees, fabrication, shipping, installation, travel, hotel, transportation, mileage, and insurance.

B. Stipends for Finalists:
All Artists selected as finalists by the Committee to prepare and present a proposal to the Committee will receive a flat fee of $1,500 each, which is intended to cover any and all expenses.

IV. Eligibility

This RFQ is open to all professional artists who are United States residents with experience creating, designing, fabricating, and either installing or overseeing the installation of art in a similar setting. Professional artist means a practitioner in the visual arts, generally recognized by critics and/or peers as a professional of serious intent and ability. Indicators of an individual’s status as a professional artist include, but are not limited to: income realized through the sole commission of artwork; frequent or consistent art exhibitions; placement of artwork in and/or upon the exterior or grounds of public institutions or museums; receipt of honors and awards, and training in the arts.

V. Estimated Schedule for Submissions

The estimated schedule for the project proposals is as follows; however, the City reserves the right to alter and modify these procedures and dates in its sole and absolute discretion.

June 24, 2022 – deadline for RFQ submissions
July/August 2022 – finalists selected and notified
August/September 2022 – deadline for finalists’ proposal submissions
September/October 2022 – finalists’ presentations of proposals
September/October 2022 – selection of Artist

VI. Submission and Selection Process

A. General Submission Instructions

All required submittal materials must be submitted via CODAworx via the link provided at the beginning of the RFQ. Artists will need to sign up for a free CODAworx account to submit.

All questions should be directed to Gary Jones, City of St. Petersburg, Economic & Workforce Development, 727-893-7877 or gary.jones@stpete.org

B. Required Submittal Materials

1. Artwork Images

A total of five(5) images of completed artworks or projects is required, along with the following information for each: title, medium, category, dimensions, price/value, year completed, and additional description including location and name of commissioning agency. Only submit images of projects that have been realized to final completion. Images of proposals, models, computer-generated
images and/or incomplete projects will not be reviewed and may disqualify the Artist from this RFQ. Slides, videos, prints or any physical submissions of artwork will not be accepted. These images will serve as an overview of your work relevant to this RFQ. Images should be high-resolution (2MB maximum).

2. Letter of Interest (including Statement of Thematic Concept and Planned Medium)

Express your interest in this project, provide locations of art that you/your team has designed, created, fabricated, and either installed or overseen installation, and address how you/your team’s past work demonstrates that you can meet the project’s requirements. The Project requirements of the artwork are as follows:

   a. Appearance that is highly visible to all pedestrians and oncoming traffic, and visitors to the District heading west, both day and night;
   b. Materials must require minimal maintenance and be able to withstand the local environmental conditions that could reasonably be expected to occur at the site;
   c. Permanent installation with a minimum 25-year life.

Please include name, address, email, phone and website (if applicable) on this document. Include a brief statement on your concept for the artwork, including any particular theme or themes that it might include. Additionally, include which mediums you plan to use in the artwork and a description if warranted.

3. Resume, including List of Professional References

Emphasize professional public art experience (2-page maximum per team member resume, not including the list of professional references). If submitting as a team, compile all resumes into a single document. Please include Artist’s name, address, email, phone and website (if applicable) on this document.

Include at the end of each resume a list of a minimum of three (3) art and/or design professionals who have detailed knowledge of the Artist’s work and working methods, including fulfilling deadlines, working with the community, etc. Include contact name, organization, address, telephone, and email for each reference.

C. Selection Criteria for Finalists

The Committee will select up to three (3) Artists finalists to create and present a proposal on the project. Those finalists will be selected based upon the following:

   • Ability to meet project goals as delineated in this RFQ
   • Quality and strength of past work as demonstrated in the submitted application materials.
   • Statement of thematic concept and planned medium.
• Demonstrated ability to design, construct and install art of a similar scale.

D. Approval by City Council

The Committee’s selection of an Artist is subject to approval by the City of St. Petersburg City Council.

VII. Amendments and Addendums

Changes to this RFQ, when deemed necessary by the City of St. Petersburg, will be completed only by written amendment(s) or addendum(s) issued prior to the deadline for receipt of responses to this RFQ. Applicants should not rely on any representations, statements or explanation other than those made in this RFQ or in any amendment(s) or addendum(s) to this RFQ that are posted on the CODAworx website. Where there appears to be a conflict between the RFQ and any amendment or addendum issued, the last amendment or addendum issued shall prevail.

The RFQ and any amendment or addendum will be posted on the CODAworx website. It is the sole responsibility of applicants to routinely check this website for any amendment or addendum that may have been issued prior to the submittal deadline for RFQ responses. The City of St. Petersburg is not responsible for the completeness of any package (RFQ and Amendments) not downloaded from the CODAworx website. It is the applicant’s sole responsibility to assure receipt of all amendments or addendums.

VIII. General Terms and Conditions:

A. Artist will be required to comply with all applicable laws, including but not limited to Florida Statute 255.05 if applicable.
B. Upon submission, all materials (including proposals) become public records and the property of the City of St. Petersburg.
C. In accordance with Florida law, all Committee meetings, including all presentations to the Committee, are open to members of the public.
D. Due care and diligence has been exercised in preparation of this RFQ and all information contained herein is believed to be substantially correct; however, the responsibility for determining the full extent of the requested services rests solely with those submitting responses to this RFQ.
E. The City of St. Petersburg reserves the right to reject any or all applications submitted in response to this RFQ, waive any or all informalities and/or irregularities, re-advertise with either an identical or revised scope, or cancel this RFQ in its entirety.
F. The City of St. Petersburg reserves the right to reschedule or cancel a finalist selection without paying a stipend or any Artist expenses, subject to the terms and conditions of any stipend agreement that may be entered into between the City and any finalist(s).
G. The City of St. Petersburg is not under any obligation to select any finalist or to award a contract.
H. The City of St. Petersburg reserves the right to contact any or all applicants after submittal of a response to this RFQ in order to obtain supplemental information and/or clarification in either verbal or written form.

I. From the date this RFQ is released until the date an Artist is awarded a contract for the project, applicants shall not contact individual members of the Committee about the project. Failure to comply may render an Artist ineligible to compete for this project.
Grand Central District
Entry Feature Locations
St. Petersburg, Florida