



North
Carolina
Arts
Council
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of leadership*



Request for Qualifications

Project: Outdoor Mural – downtown Lumberton, NC

Artist/Artist Team Stipend: \$9,000

Deadline: Thursday, April 4, 2019; 5:00 pm EST

Project Summary and Goals

The City of Lumberton, the Robeson County Arts Council, Rediscover Lumberton and the North Carolina Arts Council are seeking qualifications from professional artists, or artist teams, to design and paint a mural on a prominent building wall located between N. Elm and Chestnut streets in downtown Lumberton (See location map below).

The goals of this mural project are:

- To activate and enhance the cultural connectivity and economic vitality in downtown Lumberton through engaging artwork and creative placemaking.
- To honor the city's history, natural beauty, and cultural heritage.
- To add to the collection of public art.
- To deter graffiti.
- To provide opportunity for community engagement and ownership

The project should meet the following objectives:

- To create a mural that is colorful and inspiring for residents and visitors.
- To create a mural that reflects the unique characteristics and assets of Lumberton.

The mural wall commands a prominent location, with lots of visibility in the historic downtown Lumberton area. The mural wall is adjacent an enhanced pedestrian alleyway which connects the downtown plaza and pavilion to the Carolina Civic Center. The wall is approximately 2,820 square feet. (See included photos of wall area.)

Community Profile

Lumberton is one of eight cities in the North Carolina Arts Council's SmART Communities program which demonstrates how the arts transform downtowns and fuel sustainable economic development. The City of Lumberton has a commitment to creating a high-quality downtown, and to building a stronger community through preservation-based economic development. Lumberton is the county seat of Robeson County, North Carolina, which is the largest county in the state by land area.

Lumberton is located on the Lumber River, and a few miles north of the Lumber River State Park. It was founded in 1787 by John Willis, an officer in the American Revolution. Lumberton was developed as a shipping point for lumber used by the Navy, and logs were guided downriver to Georgetown, South Carolina. Most of the town's growth took place after World War II. Lumberton's population, reported in 2017, was more than 21,000, with a high proportion of residents who identify as Lumbee, one of North Carolina's largest state recognized Native American tribes.

Artist Eligibility & Submissions

Preference will be given to North Carolina and local/regional artists or artist teams that have prior experience in the creation of public art and mural and large-scale artworks. Submit application/materials to: <https://www.hightail.com/u/DeniseDickens-PublicArt>

Submit Application by April 4, 2019 | 5pm EST

Submission Guidelines

- An artist statement of interest in the mural project
- Three references with e-mail and telephone contact information
- Artist resume or Bio
- Examples of other relevant works and/or reviews of similar work. Maximum of five (5) images. Each image submitted as a .jpg and label with the artist's last name, image number, and image title. For example: Smith_01.jpg, Smith_02.jpg, etc. Images must be 1028x728 pixels (or smaller) and at least 72 dpi.
- Suggested plan for community engagement activities

Budget

The total amount to be paid to the artist is a stipend is \$9,000, inclusive of the design and installation/painting process. This is inclusive of any primer, paint, brushes, lifts, installation materials necessary to complete the mural. Artist will need to provide scaffolding/equipment for painting mural and insurance.

Artist's Responsibilities

- Primary responsibility of the selected artist is to create a detailed color drawing/design for the mural wall that reflects the artist's proposal for final approval by the Lumberton SmART team.
- Artist will consult with the Public Art Specialist prior to making changes to approved artwork proposal or art work specifications.
- Artist will coordinate with Public Art Specialist and Lumberton SmART team to schedule community engagement activities prior to beginning painting process.
- Artist will coordinate with City of Lumberton on painting schedule.
- Artist will use materials as specified in proposal or adjusted with prior approval by SmART Public Art Specialist.
- Artist will apply a final sealant at the completion of the painting.
- Artist will attend mural dedication.

Selection Process and Schedule

This project has a two -step selection process. After applications are received, the selection panel will invite up to four artists to submit a proposal. Finalists will be paid a stipend of \$500 for their proposals.

Evaluation Criteria – Step #1

Three to four finalists will be selected based upon:

- Artistic accomplishment as demonstrated by images of previously completed artwork.
- Technical competence and comparable scale of past works.
- Experience with collaboration with multiple stakeholders, working on design teams, and with projects in urban settings.
- Demonstrated ability to create artwork that reflects the distinctive characteristics of place.
- Demonstrated ability to complete projects on time and within budget.

Evaluation Criteria – Step #2

The selection of an artist, or artist team, will be based upon:

- Artistic merit of the design
- Appropriateness of the design for the location, including the scale, content, color and design in relation to the site
- Concept reflects stated goals of the project
- Artist's qualifications
- Originality of the design

Timeline – subject to change

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|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| April 4, 2019 | RFQ submission deadline |
| April 9, 2019 | First artist selections |
| May 10, 2019 | Finalists submit mural proposal |
| May 17, 2019 | Notification of selected artist |
| June – July 31, 2019 | Painting of Mural |

Artist Selection Committee

The committee is comprised of leaders from the SmART Lumberton team, which includes representatives from the public and private sector, public art experts, and stakeholders in the community as well as artists and art professionals from the area. The selection committee will review all material properly submitted. Finalists will be selected based upon the competitiveness of the applicants' qualifications.

For additional information on this project: contact: Denise Dickens, Public Art Specialist,
denise.dickens@townofcary.org

Wall
North
facing



North Facing Wall

