



*Montford Park Street Mural - Jamil Steele, 2019*

## CALL FOR ARTISTS

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

### PLACEMAKING PROGRAM

### CALL FOR ARTISTS: City of Charlotte Placemaking Program: Prequalified Artist Pool

Charlotte, North Carolina

RFQ Issue Date: Friday, March 27, 2020

City of Charlotte Placemaking Program

### SUBMISSION DEADLINE

**Sunday, April 26, 2020** by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

Applications to be submitted by email to [erin.chantry@charlottenc.gov](mailto:erin.chantry@charlottenc.gov). There is no fee to submit qualifications. Applications will not be accepted after the **April 26, 2020 11:59 p.m. (EST)** deadline.

Please note that City of Charlotte staff will be available to answer questions about this call until 5:00 p.m. (EST) on April 24, 2020.

### PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Placemaking Program will target neighborhoods and activity centers by funding projects that create active and inviting public spaces, through activating leftover and/or underutilized public spaces, implementing enhanced streetscapes as well as demonstrating how public spaces can help transform neighborhoods by creating vibrant gathering spaces.

## **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

The City of Charlotte is accepting qualifications from professional artists or teams of artists for potential inclusion in a prequalified Artist Pool. The pool will be used to match artists on a rolling basis with opportunities for public art throughout Charlotte.

Artists selected from this pool may be commissioned to produce original artwork(s) or contracted to collaborate with the lead design team to provide design services for art elements at several specific placemaking projects throughout the city. Projects will range in scale and scope, possibilities may involve: pavement surface enhancements, seating, bike racks, handrails, lighting, kinetics, wall murals, street murals, etc. This call represents an opportunity for artists and artist teams working in a diverse range of media to reach a broad audience. This request is open to artists and artist teams working in all media, with demonstrated experience collaborating with architects, landscape architects, fabricators, and installers. The Placemaking Team will use this prequalified list to match artists with opportunities commensurate with skills and experience.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Inclusion in the Prequalified Pool does not guarantee a commission.

## **BUDGET**

Project budgets may range from \$2,000-\$10,000

## **ARTIST ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants not meeting the following eligibility guidelines will be withdrawn from consideration:

- Submittal of a complete application
- Work samples demonstrate an ability to create dynamic site-specific artworks, and/or the ability to tie design to a place or community.
- Previous works demonstrate competency in working with durable materials.
- The artist's resume demonstrates evidence of professional competence and, experience working in collaboration with architects, landscape architects, and community members.
- Based in Charlotte, NC or the surrounding area. Local artists and artist teams will be preferred for all projects.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you are an artist that has previously been awarded a place in the Placemaking Program's Artist Pool, you need to reapply to be considered for future projects.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

This solicitation process is being undertaken to enable the Placemaking Team to identify the most highly qualified artists and artist teams for several upcoming opportunities throughout Charlotte. As part of this process, applications from artists who wish to be included in the prequalified artist pool will be pre-screened by City of Charlotte staff for compliance with RFQ eligibility requirements.

A selection panel of community stakeholders and the Placemaking Team will then review all eligible artists' applications to create a prequalified pool of artists and artist teams. Those accepted into the prequalified pool will be notified by the City of Charlotte in writing.

City of Charlotte staff will then use the prequalified pool to make recommendations to the Placemaking Program, matching artists to specific opportunities on a project-by-project basis.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Inclusion in the Prequalified Pool does not guarantee a commission.

## PROJECTED TIMELINE

March 27, 2020 - Artist applications released

April 26, 2020 - Artist application submission deadline

May 1, 2020 - Selection panel review and artist notifications sent.

May 4, 2020 - Commissions for specific projects will begin to be made and continue as projects are implemented

## TO APPLY

Applications must be received via email to [erin.chantry@charlottenc.gov](mailto:erin.chantry@charlottenc.gov) by 11:59 p.m. EST on April 26, 2020. The following materials will be required:

- **Artist Statement:** Briefly describe your experience, philosophy, and approach to artmaking. In your statement please address the following questions (500 words or less).
  - What is your connection to Charlotte?
  - What is your interest in public art and how do your shared art examples demonstrate value of placemaking?
  - What life experiences inspired the art you are sharing in this application?
  - What is your preferred medium?
- **Resume:** a resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV) demonstrating professional history and skills as a professional artist (maximum 2 pages). **Images of Past Work:** up to five (5) images of recent work - completed within the past five (5) years.
- **References:** Two professional references who can speak to the artist's ability to meet deadlines, work with community, and create innovative work as part of a design team. Include name, organization, phone number, and email.

## CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED PROJECT LOCATIONS:

- Urban Arboretum Trail  
The urban arboretum trail is a piece of a larger tree canopy preservation program, consisting of smaller properties preserved and amenitized to create meaningful connections with neighbors through public space. The trail portion of the project will reconnect neighborhoods separated by highways and add incremental improvements to the route.
  - Andrill Terrace Underpasses: Mural, Lighting, Kinetic, Fence Woven Art (between Summit and Madison Avenues)
  - Greenville Site Sidewalk Mural (1098 Callahan Street to Police Athletic League)
  - Corner of Johnson & Wales Way and 4<sup>th</sup> Street Signal Box Wrap Design
  - And more, locations TBD on local streets surrounding the I-77 and Brookshire interchange
- Street murals
- Signal Cabinet Wraps
- Wall Murals
- Bus Stop Improvements
- Bike Parking
- Playscapes and Street Furniture

## FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFQ

For further information regarding the RFQ, please contact Erin Chantry, Senior Urban Designer, at (704) 432-4493 or by email at [erin.chantry@charlottenc.gov](mailto:erin.chantry@charlottenc.gov).

### **ABOUT THE PLACEMAKING TEAM**

Since 2017, the Placemaking Team has managed the coordination and cooperation of various departments to streamline the permitting process for grassroots community placemaking projects. The team is responsible for the community-based artist selection and design review process for each public artwork. The team is a multidisciplinary group of City Staff. In 2018, the Charlotte City Manager took engagement feedback from the community around movement on projects and has since allocated \$500,000 to seed this initiative. The initiative marries tangible improvements to communities to meet their goals with the opportunity to build community collaboration. See more at:

[www.charlottenc.gov/placemaking](http://www.charlottenc.gov/placemaking)

*The Placemaking Team is committed to serving a diverse range of individuals and organizations through its programs and services and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or any characteristic protected by law.*