



Oklahoma Art in Public Places Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Project: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Deadline: May 6, 2025

Overview and Project Description

Artists and artist teams are invited to submit qualifications and a proposal for the design and installation of artwork for an Oklahoma Art in Public Places project at the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) located at 707 N. Robinson Ave., Oklahoma City, OK, 73102. The location for the public art will be the parking garage's south facade facing 6th Street in a highly visible and publicly accessible area.

Theme and Intent

The new artwork for the Department of Environmental Quality should serve as a visual celebration of the agency's invaluable work in safeguarding the environment. It should reflect the core missions of the department such as promoting clean air, water, and land, while also emphasizing its role in sustainability, pollution control, and resource management. By showcasing vibrant, nature-inspired imagery or symbols that represent the agency's dedication to conservation, the artwork will not only enhance the space but reinforce the importance of DEQ's mission. This thoughtful design can inspire both employees and the public to recognize the value of preserving the natural world for future generations.

DEQ was created on July 1, 1993, as Oklahoma's primary environmental protection agency to administer state environmental laws and delegated federal programs protecting Oklahoma's air, land, and water resources, and to administer programs related to sources of ionizing radiation. The agency does this through several core functions: permitting, compliance assurance, environmental assessment and monitoring, site cleanup, planning, and outreach.

DEQ's mission is to protect and improve public health and the environment in a manner that supports and advances a prosperous Oklahoma for current and future generations. The primary focus for artwork location is two street-level facade areas referenced in the drawings on pages 4-5.

Project Funds

The artist or artist team will receive \$100,000 to create the artwork. All costs associated with the public art project including, but not limited to, artist design fee, structural engineering, materials, fabrication, insurance, transportation, installation, building or site modifications, travel to and from the site, per diem expenses, project documentation, contingency to cover unexpected expenses, and any other costs related to the project are covered by this budget. All costs associated with the public art project are covered by this budget, and no additional funds will be available.

Application Requirements

Artists must [complete the application form available at this link](#) and provide support materials specified below. Please be sure to allow adequate time to submit your application as technical difficulties can occur. Applications that are mailed, emailed, faxed, or hand delivered will not be considered.

Proposals will not be accepted after the May 6, 2025, 11:59 p.m. (CDT) deadline

Application materials include:

1. Letter of Interest
 - a. This should be a summary of your artistic focus and professional career, especially as your background relates to your qualifications for the DEQ project.
 - b. One page maximum
2. Resume/CV
 - a. If applying as a team, please include the team/studio resume. If a team/studio resume is not available, please combine the individual resumes of each team member into one document.
3. Up to 10 images of relevant previous work, per member of team with a maximum of 15 images
 - a. Files can be up to 2mb. Images should be at least 72dpi.
 - b. Please number images 1-5, etc., in the file name using this system, #LastName,FirstName.jpg
4. Image descriptions
 - a. Please include title, medium, dimensions, and year for each artwork. You may also include a brief statement about each work (two-sentence maximum).
 - b. Number your descriptions, corresponding to the file names.

Selection Process

RFQ applications will be reviewed and scored by the Director of Art in Public Places to identify the short list of qualified artists to be considered for the project based on the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence as evidenced by representations of past work and other supporting materials.
- Appropriateness of artwork to the goals of the project, as evidenced by representations of past work and other supporting materials.
- Professional experience is adequate to meet the demands of the project, including working in a large scale.
- Availability to participate in the design, approval, and implementation of the project as required.

The list of qualified artists will be presented to the Public Art Selection Committee for DEQ, consisting of one representative of DEQ, the Director of Art in Public Places, the project architect, one artist, one arts professional, one art educator, and two community representatives. The Committee will identify up to five finalists who will be invited to develop conceptual site-specific proposals after attending a mandatory orientation session with the project team and key stakeholders. Each finalist will be paid an honorarium of \$1,000 for the development and in-person presentation of a conceptual design proposal. Artists residing greater than 60 miles from DEQ are eligible to receive up to \$2,000 total towards the reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses, approved by the Oklahoma Arts Council prior to travel arrangements being made for the orientation session and panel interview. Receipts will be required for travel expenses to be considered. The public art selection committee will submit rankings of finalist proposals and recommendation for approval to the Art in Public Places Oversight Committee.

Timeline

Application opens April 1, 2025

Application deadline May 6, 2025

Notification of selected finalists May 30, 2025

Mandatory finalist orientation session June 2025

Finalist presentations July 2025

Anticipated notification of selected artist August 2025

Installation of artwork spring 2026

**Timeline is subject to change*

Once selected, the artist or artist team will work with Sterling Hayes, Director of Art in Public Places, to coordinate an installation schedule. Construction of the DEQ Parking Garage will begin spring 2025, with plans to open June 2026.

Questions/Follow up

Please direct questions or requests for additional information to Sterling Hayes, Director of Art in Public Places, at sterling.hayes@arts.ok.gov or (405) 308-0975.

The Oklahoma Arts Council administers the Oklahoma Art in Public Places Program in accordance with HB1824.



DEQ PARKING GARAGE

Oklahoma City, OK 73135



EXISTING TOWER (01)
 EXISTING SERVICE CORE (02)
 IN-PLACE DECK OFFICE
 BUILDING SHALL REMAIN
 BLDG HEIGHT = 130.55



Approximately
 11 ft.(W) x 10 ft.(H)

1 SOUTH ELEVATION (6TH STREET)
 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"