



Oklahoma Art in Public Places Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Project: Sallisaw Veterans Center | Deadline: October 15, 2019

Overview and Project Description

Artists and artist teams are invited to submit qualifications for the design and installation of artwork for an Oklahoma Art in Public Places project at the new Sallisaw Veterans Center. The Center is a 175-bed facility designed to provide daily care and treatment for Oklahoma's heroes in a home-like, family-friendly setting. The Center will be located on a 90-acre plot of land on the south side of Sallisaw, west of U.S. Highway 59 South and south of Drake Road. Sallisaw is a vibrant community located within the boundaries of the Cherokee Nation. It is the county seat of Sequoyah County. The Sallisaw Veterans Center is a project of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA). Areas of interest for public artwork include, but are not limited to:

- a. A large outdoor sculpture located on the plaza at the entrance to the Center
- b. Sculptures for placement in the resident garden spaces
- c. Sculptures for placement on the walking trail

About Oklahoma Art in Public Places

Signed into law in 2004, the Oklahoma Art in Public Places Act reserves 1.5 percent of eligible state capital improvement project budgets for investment in public art that represents the history and values of Oklahoma. Administered by the Oklahoma Arts Council, the program advances state economic development goals and enhances public spaces for Oklahoma residents. In its management of the program, the Oklahoma Arts Council facilitates a process that brings together state government entities, artists, and local citizens in the commissioning or acquisition of artwork reflecting the history and values of individual communities.

Project Funds

The total artwork budget is \$350,000. 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.

Selection Process

RFQ applications will be reviewed by the Oklahoma Arts Council Director of Art in Public Places to identify a 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 the Sallisaw Veterans Center, consisting of one representative of ODVA, the Oklahoma Arts Council Director of Art in Public Places, the project architect, one artist, one arts professional, one art educator, and four community representatives. The Committee will identify 3-5 finalists who will be invited to develop conceptual site-specific proposals after attending an orientation session with the project team and key stakeholders. Each finalist will be paid an honorarium of \$2,000 for the development of a conceptual design proposal, plus the reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses approved by the Oklahoma Arts Council prior to travel arrangements being made for the orientation and panel interview.

The Committee will submit rankings of finalist proposals and recommendation for consideration and final approval to the Oklahoma Art in Public Places Oversight Committee.

Artist Selection Considerations

- Complete application submitted prior to the application deadline, October 15, 2019
- Artwork examples submitted represent the artist's own original creative work
- The artist's work reflects artistic excellence, innovation, and originality, as evidenced by quality of craftsmanship and mastery of skills, professional approaches to processes and presentation, and communication of a unique vision
- The artist's work is judged to be appropriate to the goals of the project, including working in a large scale, public safety, educational value, and ease of maintenance
- The artist's professional experience is adequate to meet the demands of the project. Qualifying activities would include some combination of the following: education and training as an artist, an exhibition record in museums, art galleries, nonprofit art spaces, previous public or private commissions, participation in artist-in-residency programs, or other related activities indicative of a professional art practice
- The artist is available to consult with the community and the design team in the development of the artwork
- The artist is available to participate in the design, approval, and implementation of the project as required
- Assessed ability to meet project deadlines and to perform work in a timely and professional manner
- Results of reference checks for project finalists

The Oklahoma Art in Public Places program is open to all artists regardless of age, race, class, national origin, creed, gender, gender expression, religious affiliation, physical or mental ability.

Timeline

RFQ issued - September 15, 2019

RFQ deadline - October 15, 2019

Notification of finalists - November 8, 2019

Finalist orientation session - November 20, 2019

Finalist interviews and presentations -December 17, 2020

Announcement of selected artist or artist team - February 15, 2020

The selected artist or artist team will work with the project design team to finalize plans and determine the timeline for installation of the artwork. Construction of the Sallisaw Veterans Center will begin Summer 2020, with plans to open for residents Summer 2022.

Application Requirements

Applications must be submitted through the Oklahoma Arts Council [website](#). Please 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.

Applications will not be accepted after the October 15, 2019, 11:59 p.m. (Central Daylight Time) deadline.

Application materials include:

- a. Letter of Interest
 - i. One page maximum
 - ii. This should be a summary of your artistic focus and professional career, especially as your background relates to your qualifications for this project
- b. Resume
 - i. 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
- c. Ten images of previous work
 - i. Files can be up to 5mb. Images should be at least 72 dpi and larger than 1280x1280 pixels
- d. Image descriptions
 - i. Please include title, medium, dimensions, and year for each work. You may also include a brief statement about each work (2 sentence maximum)

Questions

Please direct questions or requests for additional information to Jarica Walsh, Director of Art in Public Places, at jarica.walsh@arts.ok.gov or (405) 521-2030.

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

Sallisaw Veterans Center Renderings



Sallisaw Veterans Center Renderings



Sallisaw Veterans Center Renderings

