



## Oklahoma Art in Public Places Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

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### **Project: Stillwater Regional Airport Mural**

**Deadline: July 1, 2024**

#### **Overview and Project Description**

Oklahoma 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 Stillwater Regional Airport. The Oklahoma Arts Council, in partnership with Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell and the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, are seeking an artist or artist team to create a mural in the Stillwater Regional Airport, located at 2020 W. Airport Road, Stillwater, Oklahoma. The location for the public art will be on an exterior wall of the airport, a publicly accessible area where passengers arrive at and exit the terminal. The vision for this project is for a signature artwork of exceptional quality and enduring value to welcome visitors arriving to a state that is the best place in the nation to work, live, and thrive.

The selected artist or artist team will paint their mural directly on the wall, which measures approximately 312 square feet. The artist or artist team will be required to seal the mural with an anti-graffiti coating. The mural is expected to remain in place until October 2027, with possible extension through October 2029. We encourage applications from artists who work with colorful imagery and whose work demonstrates a unified vision or aesthetic.

#### **Theme and Intent**

This mural will include an artistic interpretation of the Official Brand of the State of Oklahoma. The mural should include the phrase "Welcome to Oklahoma" but cannot include any calls to action to visit specific destinations. Requests to include any other text require approval by the Director of Art in Public Places. Iconic non-commercial Oklahoma locations can be illustrated in the work. The goal of the mural is to drive tourism and commerce to the state while fostering enthusiasm and pride from current residents.

The selected mural will be a dynamic and visually impactful artwork of remarkable quality and lasting value, greeting passengers arriving to the state, whether they are tourists or residents. The art will highlight the Official Brand of the State of Oklahoma, connecting and assisting in developing a recognizable identity for the State of Oklahoma. This mural will be original art appropriate for exterior wall installation and able to stand up to conditions of heavy pedestrian traffic and weather. The art will enhance the entrance with a distinctive aesthetic experience both highly visible and welcoming to pedestrians.

#### **Project Funds**

The artist or artist team will receive \$6,000 to create the mural. Artists will be responsible for design, fabrication, delivery, and installation of the artwork within the given budget, using appropriate paints for the surface and painting a protective sealant on top of the mural. All costs associated with the public art project are covered by this budget, and no additional funds will be available.

## Application Requirements

Artists will complete an application form at [https://arts.ok.gov/Our\\_Programs/OAIPP/Calls\\_for\\_Artists.html](https://arts.ok.gov/Our_Programs/OAIPP/Calls_for_Artists.html) and provide support materials including a letter of interest, sketch(es) of the proposed mural artwork, resume/CV, 5 images of past artwork, and image details. 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. Applications will not be accepted after the July 1, 2024, 11:59 p.m. (CDT) deadline.

Application materials include:

- a. Statement of Interest
  - i. A statement of interest will include a brief summary of artistic focus and professional career, especially as your background relates to this project.
  - ii. A brief description of the concept to be proposed, should the applicant be selected.
  - iii. Statements cannot exceed two pages.
- b. Sketch(es) of proposed artwork
  - i. This is not a final proposal and can be a rough sketch.
- c. Resume/CV
  - 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.
- d. Five images of relevant previous work
  - i. Files can be up to 2mb. Images should be at least 72 dpi.
  - ii. Please number images 1-5, etc. in the filename using this system, #LastName,FirstName.jpg
- e. Image descriptions
  - i. Please include title, medium, dimensions, and year for each artwork. You may also include a brief statement about each work (two sentence maximum).
  - ii. 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.
- 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 Stillwater Regional Airport Mural. The Public Art Selection Committee will identify up to three finalists who will be invited to develop mural proposals after attending a mandatory orientation session. Each finalist will be paid an honorarium of \$500 for the development and presentation of a design proposal. The artist selection will be approved by the Public Art Selection Committee and the Oklahoma Arts Council. Once the selected artist's final design is approved by the Airport Director and the Oklahoma Arts Council, any changes thereto must be approved in writing by both parties prior to installation of the artwork. The Oklahoma Arts Council reserves the right to withhold the award of a commission and re-release the call for entries as needed.

## **Timeline**

Application opens June 1, 2024

Application deadline July 1, 2024

Notification of selected finalists August 1, 2024

Mandatory finalist orientation session August 2024

Presentation of finalist proposals September 2024

Notification of selected artist September 2024

Installation of artwork October 2024

*NOTE: Timeline above is subject to change.*

Once selected, the artist or artist team will work with Sarah Pugh, Art in Public Places Program Assistant, to coordinate an installation schedule.

## **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](mailto:sterling.hayes@arts.ok.gov) or (405) 308-0975 or Sarah Pugh, Art in Public Places Program Assistant, at [sarah.pugh@arts.ok.gov](mailto:sarah.pugh@arts.ok.gov) or (405) 892-8823.

*The Oklahoma Arts Council administers the Oklahoma Art in Public Places Program in accordance with HB 1824.*



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