City of Durham
Pre-Qualified Artist Registry

101 CITY HALL PLAZA, DURHAM NC 27701

Project Overview

The City of Durham's Cultural and Public Art Program invites artists and artist teams to submit portfolios to be selected to join the City of Durham Pre-Qualified Artist Registry. This registry will serve as a resource for the program's selection of artists and artist teams to create City cultural and public art projects. Access to a predetermined network of qualified professional artists saves our staff valuable time by making the process for responding to the numerous calls issued by the City more efficient. It also strengthens and streamlines the program by maintaining a database of artists in the community with particular skill sets.

Submission Requirements

Application materials must be received on **Cafe**
Items required include :

- Artist Statement
- Images
- Resume
- References

SUBMIT TODAY!

CITY OF DURHAM

Project Background

The City of Durham's Cultural and Public Art Program commissions a variety of public artworks in collaboration with City departments and other organizations engaged in capital development projects across Durham, North Carolina. The City of Durham's Cultural and Public Art Program defines public art as original visual art including, but not limited to, sculptures, murals, photographic renderings, mosaics, and electronic art installations.

Project locations may include but are not limited to the City's parks, sidewalks, interior and exterior walls, vehicles, bus stops, and spaces that are visible from public streets and pedestrian walkways. Public art is traditionally free of admission fees, and administered through a public process that provides opportunities for the community to provide input.

The City of Durham Pre-Qualified Artist Registry will be used to select artists when a project's requirements render it suitable. Selection will be based on the appropriateness of the artist's medium and experience relevant to specific project requirements. The City continuously seeks greater diversity and urges artists and artist teams of all backgrounds and any medium to become part of the pre-qualified registry.

About City of Durham

The City of Durham recognizes that Durham's rich cultural heritage is an important part of what makes our neighborhoods thrive, attracts tourism and business development, and what brings together the community. Durham supports a vibrant arts community, historic preservation, and social and cultural diversity through policies, ordinances, economic incentives, and special events. In 2011, the Durham City Council passed an ordinance designating up to one percent of all capital improvement project budgets for the creation of public art. The City then developed the Cultural and Public Arts Program to coordinate and fund public art projects across Durham.

About Durham, NC

Durham began in 1864 as a small rail depot village, with tobacco and textiles driving the City’s early economic development. Drawing on this rich and diverse history, Durham has reimagined its earlier tobacco and textile warehouses and prominent landmarks to create a compact, walkable, and vibrant downtown filled with exciting dining, activities, and more. The district was the first commercial district in North Carolina to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Since 2000, the city has experienced exponential growth with more than $1.3 billion in investments. For more information, visit http://downtowndurham.com.

Eligibility

Candidates are eligible regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender identification, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical ability. Artists who are selected to join the City of Durham Pre-qualified Artists Registry are encouraged to apply to any additional open calls issued by the City of Durham Public Arts Program, provided they meet eligibility requirements.

Submission Requirements

Application materials must be received via the submission portal. Items required shall include the following:

- **Artist Statement**: Briefly describe your experience, your discipline(s), and your qualifications for completing artworks. Artist teams should explain their interest and qualifications collectively.
- **Images:** Submission should include visual representations of past artwork that demonstrate your qualifications for this project. Applicants must upload at least five (5) high-resolution images from at least three (3) different projects. Each project image should have an accompanying summary of the title, location, cost, materials/medium, and timeline associated with the piece. Videos will count as one of the five (5) images, and should be submitted as a hyperlink within the PDF. Artist teams' images should include examples from each team member.
- **Resume:** Resumes for each artist/artist team member should include any public or private commissioning experience, and community engagement experience, if applicable.
- **References:** Each artist should provide three (3) professional references or recommendation letters with contact information for each references. Community references will be accepted. Artist teams may submit a total of three (3) references collectively.

Selection Process & Evaluation Criteria

City staff will review applications for completeness and may reject incomplete applications. An Artist Selection Committee (which may include City staff, members of the Durham Public Art Committee, visual art/design professionals, and other community members) will evaluate application portfolios for inclusion in the registry.

Proposed Project Timeline

Submittal deadline: Rolling
Selected artist notification: Rolling

Additional Information

The City reserves the right to reject any and all submissions. The City may negotiate changes of any nature with any artist. The City, in its discretion, may terminate the Pre-Qualified Artist Registry at any point in time for its convenience. The City reserves the right to issue individual calls for public art projects as it may determine necessary. Although applicants should make their best faith effort to comply with the requirements outlined in this call for artists, the City may, in its discretion, waive non-compliance.

Contact Information

Applicants with additional inquiries about this project should contact:

Alexandra Benson
Cultural & Public Art Program Assistant
Alexandra.Benson@durhamnc.gov
Phone: 919-560-4197 x 21238

The City reserves the right to change the criteria and to otherwise vary from this procedure as it determines to be in the City's interest. Unless the artist or artist team indicates otherwise, all of the materials submitted to qualify for this opportunity will be discarded after the conclusion of this solicitation.

Submission Portal

Click Here to apply for the City of Durham Pre-Qualified Artist Registry

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