

COUNTY OF CHATHAM

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ARTISTS

Project Description

The County of Chatham is requesting statements of qualifications from artists for the following projects to be located in the Chatham Community Library. The library is a 25,000 square-foot facility to be located on the Pittsboro campus of Central Carolina Community College (CCCC). The library will serve as a joint facility between Chatham County and CCCC and will also be the headquarters of Chatham County Libraries. The library will be built to be at least LEED Silver certified.

Artists will be selected based on qualifications, level of interest, and compatibility of their approach with the design of the library.

The following are areas that create opportunities for incorporating the work of artists and craftsmen. Rather than seen as pieces of public art that stand apart from the architecture, these projects are envisioned as collaborations between the architect and artists that integrates with the design of the building and site. A floor plan showing the locations of the art projects is attached.

Children's program room (#1 on Floor Plan)

Mural Artist: Mural themed from children's literature.

Approximately 50 feet long and 10 feet high.

Estimated budget: \$15,000

Children's program courtyard—"A Fantasy Garden" (#2 on Floor Plan)

Blacksmith/Metal Artist: A forged or welded metal enclosure that will both provide security for children and, at the same time, be designed in a way that is fanciful and decorative so that it doesn't feel like a security fence. Fixed benches can be fabricated from metal with a similar theme to the screen enclosure.

Approximately 52 feet long. Standard height of 4 feet. The fence will need a gate for egress outside the fantasy garden.

Estimated budget: \$20,000

Brick or Stonemason: Provide pavement for the Fantasy Garden area inside the metal fence. Install a paving design that will complement the theme of the metal screen. Paving area is approximately 405 square feet. This work should be done in collaboration with the screen enclosure artist and architect.

Estimated budget: \$8,000

Hearths (#3 on Floor Plan)

Ceramic Artist: Tiles or masonry units to complement the design of the fireplaces, which are centerpiece elements in the library. The two fireplaces are located in the main reading area. The project will be designed in collaboration with the architect to ensure the project complements the interior design of the library.

Hearth base measures 1'-3"h x 12'-0"w x 3'-8"d. Fireplace (starting from top of base) measures 6'-9"h x 6'-4"w x 2'-6"d. Total tiled area is approximately 160 square feet.

Estimated budget: \$20,000 per hearth

Bicycle Racks (# 4 on Site Plan – located directly to the north and west of the library)

Blacksmith/Metal Artist: Two decorative metal bicycle racks.

Estimated budget: \$1,000 per rack

Water Feature (#5 on Site Plan – north of northwest corner of library)

Ceramic Artist: Facing the vertical wall of the water fountain with masonry units or tile designed and fabricated through an artist collaboration. Wall for ceramic artist is 3'-0" x 20'-0" (approximately 60 square feet).

Estimated budget: \$8,000.

Scope of Work

The work elements include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- 1 Provide plans.
- 2 Provide conceptual sketches.
- 3 Upon written approval of the owner, develop proposal for artwork, including fee proposal.
- 4 Coordinate with architect and contractor to install artwork. Artist is responsible for installation.
- 5 Provide a written plan of maintenance requirements.

Proposed Schedule

By September 1, 2008	Award contract to successful proposing artists
By November 1, 2008	Present conceptual sketches
By January 1, 2009	Present proposal for work, including fee proposal
Summer 2009	Complete installation of artwork

Requirements

- 1 Artists must submit seven (7) written, bound responses and one electronic copy by 5:00 pm EST on July 21, 2008. Written responses should be delivered to Robin James, 12 East Street, P.O. Box 608, Pittsboro, NC 27312. The electronic copy should be submitted in .pdf format and e-mailed to robin.james@chathamnc.org. Both the written and electronic copies must be received by the deadline above. Responses received after this time will not be accepted.
- 2 Responses submitted should be concise and address the objectives requested by the County.
- 3 Responses shall be limited to a maximum of 10 pages, excluding photographs.
- 4 All respondents to the request for qualifications shall address the following, as a minimum, and should conform to the numbering system used below:
 1. Letter of transmittal, identifying contact person.
 2. Statement substantiating artist's understanding of project objectives and task assignments.
 3. List similar work performed by the artist over the last 5 years. Include color photographs of artwork. Include as a minimum: scope, cost, dates, and owner contact.
 4. Provide three (3) client references.
 5. State any history or present condition that would put the firm in a conflict of interest in the design and/or construction of the project.
 6. Attach any other supporting material to your response.

Selection and Award

Chatham County anticipates interviewing one or more artists before making a final selection. Each art project will be evaluated separately. The County anticipates selecting more than one artist and making multiple

awards from this RFQ.

The interview team will include: 1) the Project Manager, 2) the Chatham County Public Libraries Director, 3) a representative of the Pittsboro Friends of the Library, 4) Louis Cherry, Library Architect, and 5) donors.

Chatham County shall award the contract to the most qualified firm and reserves the right to reject any of and all responses based on the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated understanding of the project.
2. Demonstrated experience with similar public art projects
3. Familiarity with Chatham County. Preference will be given to artists who live in Chatham County.
4. Ability of the firm to meet the project schedule and remain within the budget.
5. Successful negotiation of fee for this work.
6. Availability of funds.
7. Such other appropriate information as the County deems advisable.

Questions:

Please contact:

Robin James, Purchasing Agent

Chatham County Finance Office

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