

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS DELAWARE AVE SW SCULPTURE

Closing date: January 16, 2023

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Southwest BID and Lowe Enterprise Real Estate are looking for a one-of-a-kind, site-specific, 3D artwork or sculptural installation. It must be highly durable, structurally sound, damage resistant, and of an appropriate scale. We encourage artwork that is playful and engaging. The artwork should be reflective of the Southwest community.

The application is a two-step process where we first ask artists to submit their qualifications and interest in the project. From those applications, we will select finalists to submit detailed designs and proposals.

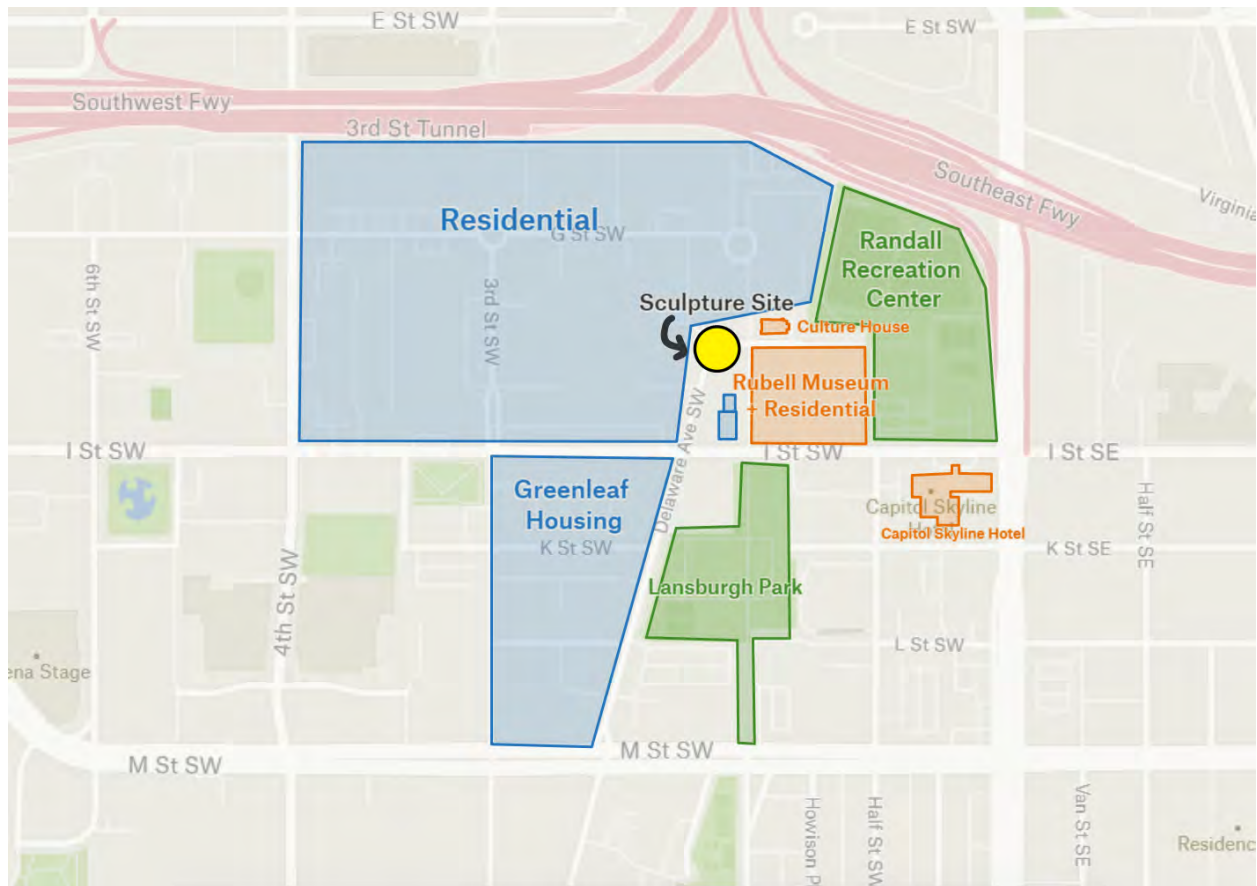
SITE DESCRIPTION

The installation site is located within a roundabout at the northern terminus of Delaware Ave SW. The roundabout is in the center of one of the most diverse and culturally exciting corners of Southwest, with a mix of residential properties, cultural institutions, and recreation facilities immediately adjacent.

To the east of the site is Culture House, the HENSE-adorned building that historically housed the Friendship Baptist Church, and the Rubell Museum DC, a new contemporary art gallery in the former Randall Junior High School site. The site is also flanked by residential properties, including Capitol Park Towers, a mid-century modern icon, Capitol Park 4 condominium community, Gallery 64 apartments, and the Aya, one of the District's short-term family housing developments.

The roundabout itself features a group of mature trees that should be considered in all proposals. There are 12 trees along the perimeter of the circle, and 4 in the interior. It is crucial that the proposed artwork does not damage the trees or their roots. The artwork must be to the scale of the site.

See attachment for photos.



HOW TO APPLY

This application is a two-step process that allows all interested artists to submit their previous work and qualifications for review. Artists are encouraged to have experience in sculptural design and/or fabrication. Artists may also apply as a team and should identify one point of contact.

Phase 1 - Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

We request artists submit a portfolio of work to indicate interest in the project. A panel of stakeholders will review applications submitted and then narrow it down to a small group of finalists that will advance to phase 2.

To apply, please fill out the [google form](#) that includes:

- Artists' name and contact information (phone, email, website, social media handles)
- Single PDF of the following:
 - Letter of interest (2000 characters max)
 - Brief written description or sketch of the intended design, including materials, size, and fabrication and installation methods (this does not have to be in color, detailed, or final)
 - Resume of lead artists and other participating members

- Portfolio of similar work samples for the lead artist with the role, budget, and clients. Please provide 3-6 related projects. If you are a new artist with less experience, please indicate that in your letter of interest and provide any relevant work samples.

Phase 2 - Request for Proposals (RFP)

Once finalists are selected, they should submit site-specific, detailed renderings of the proposed sculpture. The review panel will evaluate artwork submissions and select a winner from this group.

Please provide a single PDF that includes the following.

- A written description of the work and intent for community outreach & engagement (500 words max.)
- Detailed renderings of the artwork (minimum of three images)
- Budget: including artist fee, supplies, labor, installation costs
- Timeline indicating all steps of the project, including installation

Artists can submit up to two designs for final review.

TIMELINE

Phase 1

- December 12 – RFQ Open
- January 16 – RFQ Close
- January 16 - January 31 – Committee Review, select finalist
- January 31 – Finalists Announced

Phase 2

- March 3 – Artists submit final designs
- March 10 – Announce winner
- Spring 2023 - Final drawings, fabrication, and permit process
- Spring/Summer 2023 – Installations completed

BUDGET

There is a \$50,000 budget for the final installation. This budget includes all professional services and deliverables of the artwork, including but not limited to transportation, installation of the artwork, contractor fees, supplies, consultants/subcontractors, and travel.

We currently have funding to provide the selected finalists to move forward to Phase 2 (i.e., RFP process) with a \$500 design fee to produce site-specific proposals that include designs and renderings of final artwork.

RFQ REVIEW CRITERIA

A review committee of community stakeholders, including SWBID, Lowe, ANC6D, DDOT, and Southwest residents, will review applications and select one finalist. Reviewers will base scores on the categories below:

- Artistic Content: Previous artwork reflects originality, technical skill, sensitivity to site, and knowledge/experience of materials and fabrication methods suitable for permanent installation in a public environment. The draft concept should be thoughtful and site-specific
- Skills & Experience: demonstrates experience completing projects of comparable scope and scale
- Community Connection: artist demonstrates an understanding of the Southwest community, and the connection artwork will have to the neighborhood
- Personal Interest: Provides thoughtful response in the letter of interest
- DC/Southwest-based artists will be given preference in the instance of identical scoring

TERMS & CONDITIONS

The SWBID and Lowe have the right to work with the artist to make minor adjustments to the selected designs. The SWBID will use photos of the work in marketing and promotional materials and give the artist credit. For questions, please contact Jessie Himmelrich (jhimmelrich@swbid.org).

ATTACHMENT A







