



**Call to Artists – Request for Qualifications
City Park, Beaverton, Oregon**

The Beaverton Arts Commission seeks qualifications from professional artists/artist teams for a permanent artwork in a prominent location at the heart of the city's cultural center, a relatively new and very popular park with water fountains and wooded picnic area. The site is adjacent to Oregon's best farmer's market and across the street from the Beaverton City Library. The park and its amenities are extremely successful and fully enjoyed by a culturally diverse population, and the artwork will be a significant visual landmark in the city.

The total budget is \$50,000

Deadline to apply is September 30, 2009

Open to artists in the United States and British Columbia, Canada

Finalists to present proposals in December, 2009. Installation to be completed fall of 2010.

Overview

Beaverton Arts Commission seeks to commission a permanent artwork commensurate with its commitment to *artistic excellence, significance and cultural diversity*. The City of Beaverton's public art program was established in 1985, and has recently developed a new master plan with the goals of making its public art more visible, engaging and accessible. Many citizens and city staff participated in developing the new plan, available at www.beavertonarts.org and the Beaverton Arts Commission is excited to commission a new artwork which would demonstrate the value of art in animating public spaces with work of high artistic quality.

The Site

The cultural heart of the city is centered on a handsome and highly-used library a few blocks from the Beaverton's historic downtown. The library, built in 2000, is the center of the City's public art collection. It features an entry area with walls of magnificent ceramic tiles by Jun Kaneko. The library contains two-dimensional works by artists including John Buck, Lucinda Parker and Laura Ross-Paul. Across the street from the library, City Park is a large green space used for informal recreation and civic events and is adjacent to the Beaverton Farmers Market, the largest market in the state, drawing 15,000 families for fresh produce, plants, food and music. Close to the proposed site for the artwork in City Park is water play fountain that attracts families throughout the spring and summer months. City Park is the site for outdoor movies and concerts and a picnic area with play structures for young children.

The proposed site is highly visible from adjoining streets, and is visited by thousands of people as they walk to the Farmers Market, fountains and events. In keeping with the goals of the public art program, the site is in a very active public area, accessible to all, where art will become a significant visual landmark in the city. The 45' x 40' site is flat with nearby overhead lighting.



Photograph taken at SW Fifth Street at SW Washington, looking north. The site is the largest rectangle of grass. When in operation, the Farmers Market is located in the area where red car is parked and beyond. Play fountains are to the right in paved area. Library is in next block to the right.



View of site looking west



Fountains are active May - October

The City

The City of Beaverton is located seven miles west of Portland, nestled between Portland and the agricultural lands of Washington County. With a population of 86,000, Beaverton is known for outstanding schools, excellent housing and city services and a convenient location in the Portland metropolitan area. In addition, it is well served by light rail, bus and highway links, and over 1000 acres of parks. Beaverton is the most ethnically diverse city in the state, with over 80 languages spoken in the public schools. Immigrants from many parts of the world have found it a safe and friendly community in which to establish their families, drawn by jobs at Nike, Intel, Columbia Sportswear, in technology, food processing and regional services.

The Goals

The proposed site at City Park has been selected because, while visible from cars, it is heavily used by pedestrians. The Beaverton Arts Commission envisions an artwork that demonstrates that Beaverton values the creative spirit. There are few gathering places in Beaverton, and it is anticipated that the artwork will provide a focal point and reinforce a sense of place within the community. The artwork might provide shelter for the families that use the space, address the current or historic elements of the city, or concern itself solely with making a strong aesthetic statement. Beaverton's ethnic diversity is not immediately apparent, but it is important enough that it requires the artwork to be welcoming to all. The current public art collection is primarily two dimensional work, and this commission is the opportunity to add a dynamic three dimensional work that would be part of a public art walking tour, making art a more prominent part of the city's identity.

The Selection Committee anticipates an artwork appropriate to its location, and has chosen not to specify themes or materials to give full opportunity to the artist's creative vision.

Materials, Safety, Durability

All materials and processes used must be appropriate to their purpose and compatible with the environment and location. As the city embraces sustainable practices, the use of sustainable materials and technology is encouraged.

Completed artwork must be durable, permanent and free of materials that may be considered precious or fragile. All materials used in the fabrication and installation must be suitable to the outdoor setting with pedestrian, skateboard and bicycle traffic, and must be reasonably vandal-resistant. The artwork should be easily maintained, and must meet all public safety and accessibility requirements.

Eligibility

The commission is open to professional artists or artist teams living or working in the United States or British Columbia, Canada. Interested artists or artist teams must submit qualifications and **a brief statement providing adequate information to describe a conceptual approach to the artwork**. All qualified artists from the region are encouraged to apply.

Artist Selection Process and Criteria

All submitted and complete applications will be subjected to a juried evaluation process through the CaFÉ application system www.callforentry.org. There is no fee to apply. The Selection Committee will select up to three finalists to develop a full proposal for the project. All finalist artists or artist teams will receive a stipend of \$750, in addition to a travel allowance to present their concept to the selection committee.

Selection criteria include:

- Successful completion of other creative projects of a similar nature
- Mastery or skill in an artistic media
- Strong communication and organizational skills
- Ability to work within an established budget

Compensation

A total budget of \$50,000 is allocated to this commission, inclusive of all materials, artist fees, installation, travel and transportation. Limited site preparation support may be negotiated. Up to three finalists will be selected to develop a proposal and present it during a personal interview with the Selection Committee. Each finalist or team will receive a \$750 honorarium, in addition to a travel allowance to come and present the proposal.

Application Guidelines and Calendar

Artist and artist teams must apply using the CaFÉ (www.callforentry.org) application system. There is no application fee to use the system. Deadline: September 30, 2009, 11 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

All applications must include the following to be considered.

- **An Artist’s Statement**, not exceeding 2000 characters, describing a broad conceptual approach to the commission.
- **Visual documentation (10 images) in digital format** that illustrates the completion of similar projects and the artist’s ability to complete the Beaverton City Park project. CaFÉ requires that images be 1920 x 1920 pixels. Please see the Image Prep tutorial for assistance.
- **1 copy of current resume** not to exceed 2 pages for each artist.
- **Contact information** for 2 professional references

Project Timeline	
Submission Deadline.....	September 30, 2009, 11 pm PST
Finalist Selection.....	October 30, 2009
Finalist Proposal Presentation.....	December, 2009
Artist Contract.....	December, 2009
Installation.....	Fall, 2010

Selection Committee

Robert Becker	Commercial Interior Designer; Library Advisory Board, Chair
Gary Brentano	Director of Business Development Services, City of Beaverton
Bonnie Laing-Malcolmson	President, Oregon College of Art and Craft
Phil Nelson	Memory Garden Benches & Sculpture; Attorney
Pat Reser	Art collector; Reser’s Fine Foods; Beaverton Arts Foundation
Kelly Quashnie	Designer; Beaverton Arts Commission
Gina Wilson	Artist

Staff

Jayne Scott	Executive Director, Beaverton Arts Commission
Bill Flood	Community cultural planner, consultant
Valerie Otani	Artist, consultant

Questions

Valerie Otani otani@easystreet.net

Further Resources

www.beavertonarts.org	Beaverton Arts Commission
www.beavertonoregon.gov	City of Beaverton
www.washingtoncountymuseum.org	Washington County Historical Museum
www.beaverton.org	Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce