CALL FOR ARTISTS

City of St. George - Downtown Utility Box Art

Application Deadline: August 2, 2021
Submission Form Link: https://forms.gle/eh6mZM4E72WcyuZM7
Project Budget: $400 - $1000 per project

OVERVIEW:

Background
THRIVE125
Since joining the United States in 1896 after a 50-year effort, Utah has evolved into the dynamic and diverse state we all love today. It is a crossroads for America and an economic hub of the Rocky Mountains, anchored by a vibrant culture.

This statehood celebration will include all of the people who have shaped Utah during the past 125 years, as well as all the indigenous peoples who lived in the region for thousands of years before statehood. And while this is a celebration, it is also a chance to honestly discuss our relationships to each other, to the nation as a whole, and to the land itself.

St. George has a proud, incredible, and unique place in Utah’s history ranging from multiple dinosaur fossil sites to the traditions of the Anasazi and Paiute peoples and the many pioneer era buildings, wagons, and photographs. St. George is also home to rich and diverse communities of Hispanic peoples, Polynesian groups, and African-Americans.

Working with local and Utahn artists, this project will bring the history and beauty of the dinosaurs, ancient, native and migrant peoples, and the pioneers together. Each of these forces shaped the landscape and the culture of St. George. By displaying various representative art of each group around the Arts and Events District of downtown, we will bring these forces together in a way that is ever-present in reality but new in perception.

Between October and November, selected artists will design prints for utility boxes with scenes from throughout the history of St. George. Artists will be of varying ages and backgrounds, and may have close connections to or be descended from the pioneers, from the Paiutes, the Polynesian community, the Hispanic community, the African American community, and from other relevant peoples or cultures that are important to the history of the city and state.
The designs will be printed professionally and installed on the utility boxes in November of this year.

Each artist will be asked to create a digital version of their piece with their own descriptions and inspirations. All of this work will be documented and commemorated in print and in a public exhibit and celebration in December of this year at the St. George Art Museum.

**Eligibility**
This RFP is open to all artists and/or artist-led teams residing in or with previous residence in Southern Utah including the areas of Washington County, Kane County, Iron County, and Garfield County.

All applicants will be considered regardless of race, gender, gender variance, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion, marital status, political opinion or affiliation, or mental or physical ability.

**Goals**
The St. George Public Art Project Selection Committee seeks an artist or artist-led team to create site-specific artwork that:
- Possesses high aesthetic merit, iconic nature, and marketability.
- Relevance and connection with St. George’s diverse area and community.
- Compliant with all applicable codes and or ordinances.
  * Site plan, clearances, constraints, dimensions and additional details will be detailed in the artist contracts (see process below).

**Location Options**
We’ve identified 15 locations in the Downtown St. George Area with large utility box clusters that are perfect for murals that depict St. George’s history, cultural identities, and vibrant artistic past, present, and future. These are all situated in the Arts District but vary greatly in size and shape.
Ancestor Square:

City View Plaza:
Greengate Village:

Zion’s Square:

Town Square:
SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA:

Step 1. Request for Proposals (RFP)
Interested artists will be asked to submit their qualifications and concepts for review (submission form link below) which includes:
- Letter of Intent
- CV / Resume
- Portfolio of Past Work & Projects
- Concept of Design*
  *You will not know the exact dimensions of your project site until the selection process is complete.

All documents should be in PDF format.

All will be taken into consideration for a selection of a maximum of 15 finalists.

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Step 2. Selection of Artists
The St. George Public Art Project Committee will review all properly submitted applications and select no more than 15 artists to complete an artwork proposal for review.

The selection of artists or artist-led teams as finalists to draft proposals will be based on having met some or all of the following criteria:
- Process and work is compelling and relevant.
- Ability to work within deadlines, budget and professional manner;
- Has an authentic relationship/connection to the content/community involved in the work. Former or previous residents of the area.

Each of the chosen finalists (maximum 15 artists) will:
- Enter into an agreement with the City of St. George local government body.
- Be given 1 month to produce a design for review.
- Present their design to a selection committee.
- May be asked to travel to St. George to aid additional deliberation of design.

After proposal presentations, the St. George Public Art Project Committee will recommend artists or artist-led teams to St. George City Council for final approval. The City of St. George has the right to reject any and all submissions.
PROJECT BUDGET DETAILS:
The total commission of $400 - $1000 is inclusive of artist’s fees and related expenses for
design, supplies, fabrication, insurance, delivery of work(s), travel, permits, and installation. The
final printing and installation of the piece is separate from this amount and is not the
responsibility of the artist.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:
Step 1 Applications Due (RFP): .................................................................August 2, 2021
Artists Announced: .................................................................August 16, 2021
Step 2 Proposals Due: .................................................................September 16, 2021
Interviews/Presentations: ...........................................................September 22-25, 2021
Winning Artists & Designs Announcement: ..................................September 27, 2021
Artwork Fabrication/Installation Completed by: ..............................November 30, 2021
Unveiling to the Public: .................................................................December 3, 2021

QUESTIONS:
Questions regarding this Request for Proposals may be directed to Emily Reed, Community Arts
Manager at the email address listed below.

All communication between St. George Public Art Project Committee and applicants will occur
electronically via email.

Contact: Emily Reed, Community Arts Manager, emily.reed@sgcity.org
Website: http://sgcity.org