

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

ARTIST CALL: CORAL GABLES PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING



BUDGET: \$400,000

ELIGIBILITY: Professional artists residing in the United States & Abroad

DEADLINE: May 15, 2020

The City of Coral Gables requests qualifications from professional working artists for consideration to create iconic artwork for the City's new Public Safety Building. Artwork is sought that serves as a memorial to and honors our public safety professionals. The selected artist/artist team will be required to work directly with Public Safety officials prior to developing concept proposals.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The City of Coral Gables is completing construction of a new, state of the art Public Safety Building to replace a deteriorating existing Public Safety Administration Building. The new building will function as the City's Police Headquarters and Administration Department, Fire Department Administration Department, 911 Call Center and First Responders Dispatch Center, EOC Command and Operations, and Fire Station 1.

The site is 39,387sf and is bound by 3 roads, Alcazar Avenue, Salzedo Street and Minorca Avenue, which provides great accessibility, visibility, and the advantage of being within the urban City core. The new facility consists of a single five-story building and an adjacent secured parking garage. Impact to the neighborhood is anticipated to be minimal.

The New Public Safety Building will function as an office facility, but also operate 24 hours, 7 days per week as the Police Headquarters and Fire Station 1. The development will comply with all applicable laws and ordinances; including Green Buildings sustainable design practices and LEED Silver certification. Green building design, or sustainable design, strives to reduce a building's impact on its occupants and the

environment. Sustainable design integrates architectural elements and engineering systems to optimize the performance of the proposed building and its interaction with the environment.

The new Public Safety Building is designed by AECOM Technical Services, Inc. with the following highlights:

- Designed for 116,000 square feet with additional parking
- Replaces a deteriorating facility at another location
- Includes an accessible main plaza and lobby
- Offers sustainable, state-of-the-art emergency preparedness and training center
- Addresses today's public safety needs and tomorrow's technology
- Holds six bays for fire vehicles

PROJECT GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

Artwork is sought that serves as a memorial to fallen officers and fire fighters while honoring all public safety officials. A design that includes a water feature is preferred.

PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES:

Locations for public art include:

- Plaza
- Lobby (limited)

Public art opportunities:

- Plaza enhancement (such as paving or terrazzo)
- Free standing sculpture
- Water element
- Limited interior space for possible related artwork

SELECTION PROCESS:

Members of the City's Arts Advisory Panel will evaluate artist qualifications as set forth in the Coral Gables Art in Public Places Program: Funding, Goals and Implementation Guidelines. A list of artists will be selected to interview remotely, followed by a short-list of artists invited for a site visit and interviews with public safety officials. Based on current travel restrictions and public health protocol, the second phase of interviews and subsequent work may take place remotely with designated public safety officials making the final selection of an artist or artist team to work with.

The select artist will enter into an agreement with the City to work directly with Public Safety officials and develop design concept proposals for the City to consider. Once a proposal is agreed upon and approved by the City Commission, the artist or artist team will enter into a separate agreement for final design drawings, fabrication, and installation.

Qualifying Artist Criteria:

- Meets the definition of professional artist, which is defined as "an individual generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional practitioner of the visual arts, as judged by the quality of that professional practitioner's body of work, educational background, experience, past public commissions, exhibition record, publications, receipt of honors and awards, training in the arts, and production of artwork."
- Demonstrates artistic excellence, innovation and originality as represented in past work and supporting materials.
- Demonstrates interest in and understanding of the project.

- Demonstrates interest and capability in creating public artworks in collaboration with the design team (if applicable) and other project partners.
- Demonstrates experience in successfully completing works of similar scope, scale, budget and complexity, or ability to articulate how he or she would be able to bring the necessary artistic and technical skills to this project.
- Demonstrates ability to communicate effectively with the City of Coral Gables staff, other project partners and the community.
- Demonstrates the potential to work in a public environment and animate public space.
- Demonstrates capacity for working in media and with concepts that are appropriate to the project goals and site.
- Is available to perform the scope of the work in a timely and professional manner.

A selection panel comprised of Arts Advisory Panel members and representatives of the Police and Fire departments will review concept proposals based on the following criteria.

The concept should:

- Meet the definition of a work of art, which is defined as “tangible creations by artists exhibiting the highest quality of skill and aesthetic principles, including but not limited to paintings, sculptures, stained glass, statues, bas reliefs, engravings, carvings, frescos, mobiles, murals, collages, mosaics, tapestries, photographs, drawings, monuments and fountains or combinations thereof,” and is one-of-a-kind or part of an original, numbered series.
- Respond to the City’s vision for public art as set forth in the Master Art Plan and Guidelines.
- Meet the goals for the project as defined in the Project Plan.
- Demonstrate excellence in aesthetic quality, workmanship, innovation and creativity.
- Demonstrate appropriateness in scale, form, content and is of materials/media suitable for the site.
- Acknowledge and inform the specific site and is sensitive to the City’s overall design traditions.
- Demonstrate feasibility in terms of budget, timeline, safety, durability, operation, maintenance, conservation, security, and/or storage and siting. Consideration is given to the City’s ability to provide ongoing maintenance and repair.
- Bring diversity to the City’s public art collection in terms of media, artistic discipline, and/or artistic approach.

We encourage third parties, including gallery representatives, to submit qualifications on behalf of an artist. Following the RFQ process, follow-ups, contracts, and concept proposal requests will be communicated directly with the artist or their studio designee.

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS OF SELECTED ARTWORK:

Proposed works will require engineering to withstand 175 mph wind loads.

Insurance requirements available upon request.

PROJECTED TIMELINE:

RFQ Submission Deadline	May 15, 2020
Qualifications Reviewed / Short Listed Artists / Interviews	June, 2020
Select Artist Interviews	June/July, 2020
Artist Confirmed & Contracted	July, 2020
Concept Proposal Development	Summer, 2020
Concept Proposals Submitted	October, 2020
Concept Proposal Presentation to Arts Advisory Panel	Fall, 2020
Concept Proposal Presentation to Cultural Development Board	Fall, 2020
Concept Proposal Presentation to City Commission	Fall, 2020
Concept Confirmed & Contracted	Fall, 2020
Selected Artist 75%-100% Design Complete	Fall/Winter, 2020
Fabrication	Winter/Spring, 2021
Installation	Spring, 2021

CORAL GABLES ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM:

When the City Commission established Coral Gables' Art in Public Places program by ordinance in 2007, it set out the following overarching goal:

It is the intention of this program to preserve the City's artistic heritage, enhance its character and identity, contribute to economic development and tourism, add beauty and interest to public spaces and increase opportunities for the public to experience and participate in the arts through the acquisition and installation of world-class art in publicly accessible areas.

The ordinance establishes a "percent for art" mechanism that applies to certain City capital projects and certain private development projects – mechanisms that generate resources for maintaining Historic Public Art, and for commissioning new artworks in the City.

More information about the Art in Public Places program may be found at:

www.coralgables.com/publicart

ABOUT CORAL GABLES:

The City of Coral Gables, The City Beautiful, is a progressive, international, coastal, and historic City. Coral Gables has a population of 51,000 residents, has a vibrant downtown, and is home to the University of Miami. It is proud to be ranked by Forbes.com ninth out of America's Top 25 Towns to Live Well, and America's sixth most successful walkable suburb by the Wall Street Journal.

The City of Coral Gables is unique among the communities of Miami-Dade County in that it can trace its beginning to the early 20th century City Beautiful movement. The spirit of the City Beautiful movement was rooted in the notion that if cities were to be the centers of American progress then the infrastructure of those cities should be something that was celebrated. From tree plantings, to a robust street construction program, to key infill investments in the downtown core, the City of Coral Gables carries on that legacy today in its approach to public works and planning.

In the past three decades, the City has experienced healthy growth, which bolstered the economic base. Growth in the commercial sector has brought in new activities for residents, including nighttime entertainment, live music, new retail options, and casual and fine dining. It has also helped maintain low property taxes. Today, Coral Gables is home to approximately 155 multinationals and 26 consulates and trade offices.

The City supports the residential and business sectors with excellent City services, having attained the highest possible standards in every field. In fact, Coral Gables is the only City in the State of Florida and one of only two cities nationwide to have a Class 1 Fire Department, a fully-accredited Police Department, and the highest awarded Building and Zoning Department rating. In addition, Coral Gables has been named a "Tree City USA" for 26 consecutive years, has an award-winning Communications Division, and offers a comprehensive Parks and Recreation program.

HOW TO APPLY:

On-line applications are being accepted at: www.coralgables.com/publicart

We are requesting:

- Letter of Interest
- Biography & Artist Statement
- Artist Resume
- Ten Images of Completed Work
- Professional References