

# Summit Public Art Request for Qualifications

## A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

### **Opening Statement**

Summit Public Art (SPA), whose mission is to bring art to public spaces in the City of Summit, NJ, is issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a permanent art installation at a prominently situated fountain in Summit's downtown business district. Due to possible Covid-19 constraints, the installation is projected to occur in the spring of 2022.

### **Budget - for Entire Scope of Project:**

\$75,000. Includes, but is not limited to,

- artist's fee.
- detailed digital renditions of art installation selected by SPA.
- materials.
- fabrication.
- installation.
- travel.

### **Project Description**

The City of Summit's downtown business district includes a fountain, situated at the rear of a central plaza, the "Summit Promenade," that is heavily trafficked (see Attachment photos). The fountain wall, including outcroppings on its surface, is composed of concrete. From spring through early fall, water flows from the top of the wall, over the outcroppings, into a basin from which the water recycles back to the top. From late fall through early spring, the fountain serves as the plaza's backdrop without flowing water.

This project offers an exciting opportunity for an artist to create a site-specific, architecturally integrated public art piece, installed directly on the fountain surface, that is engaging and memorable. SPA's hope is for this installation to become the focal point of the plaza and an iconic site for the city.

### **Art Installation Specifications**

- Center wall (main area) is approximately 20ft. wide x 8ft. high. Two side panels - each approximately 7ft. wide x 4ft. high.
- Art piece will be installed over the wall surface, including outcroppings and side panels, and must not interfere with the normal flow of water.
- Artist must retain the overall structure and integrity of the original fountain.
- Installation must have engaging and vibrant motif and color palette with broad-range appeal in all seasons whether or not the water is flowing.
- Installation must be suitable for diverse community.
- Abstract and representational proposals are welcome.
- Shatterproof glass or any other maintenance-free material suitable for all types of weather, including harsh Northeast winters, will be considered.
- Installation must be resistant to water.
- Installation must have lifespan of no less than 30 years with minimal or no repairs required.

## **B. RFQ DETAILS**

### **Request For Qualifications (RFQ): Submission Requirements**

- *Statement of Interest* (500 words maximum), providing brief overview of why artist wishes to be considered for this project.
- *Statement of Qualifications* demonstrating artist's ability to
  1. be original and site specific.
  2. be sensitive to an installation's location.
  3. engage and delight the community.
  4. execute a public art project, including transport, fabrication and installation.
  5. work with engineering, fabrication, or construction constraints.
  6. meet deadlines agreed upon with client from concept through completion.
  7. describe artist's experiences with similar projects, including scope, budget, and concept(s).
- *Resume/CV* (not to exceed two pages) - include email and cell phone number.
- *Digital Images*. A minimum of five (5) and a maximum of ten (10) jpeg images representing past work, particularly projects of comparable size and scope.

Note: each image must include

1. title of work.
  2. work's dimensions.
  3. materials used.
  4. project budget.
  5. location (if public art).
- *Three professional references* (including contact information) who can address artist's ability to complete the proposed project.
  - *The artist must be self-insured.*
  - **Submissions should be emailed to [summitpublicarts@gmail.com](mailto:summitpublicarts@gmail.com)**

### **Finalist Selection Process**

- At the close of the RFQ submission period (see Timeline below), artists' submissions will be evaluated by the Summit Public Art Selection Committee. After reviewing all submissions, the Committee will select a maximum of five finalists to whom they will issue a detailed Request for Proposal.

### **Timeline**

- RFQ Issued: February 1, 2021
- Deadline for RFQ Submissions: March 15, 2021
- Notification to Finalists: May 1, 2021



## **About Summit Public Art and the City of Summit**

Summit Public Art is a volunteer-based, city organization that has installed upwards of 100 temporary art installations and 4 permanent installations throughout the city, many by artists of national and international renown. Our mission is to bring art to public spaces in Summit, enhancing the vibrancy of the community by introducing art experiences to those who live, work and visit Summit.

Summit is known for its strong Public Art Program.

The City of Summit is home to more than 22,000 people speaking over 35 languages, with approximately 150,000 people living in the immediate surrounding communities.

Summit is a major transport hub to and from Manhattan.

Summit has a vibrant, walkable downtown with a strong commercial and cultural presence, and with many historic neighborhoods, parks, and recreational areas. It is home to the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, the state's largest contemporary art museum.

To learn more about Summit Public Art, visit our website:

[www.summitpublicart.com](http://www.summitpublicart.com)

**Photos of the Summit Promenade Fountain:**

