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CALL TO ARTISTS

WEATHERWAX PUBLIC ART PROJECT ABERDEEN, WA

PROJECT BUDGET: \$104,000

[BUDGET IS INCLUSIVE OF DESIGN, FABRICATION, INSTALLATION, TRAVEL & WA SALES/USE TAX]

ELIGIBILITY: OPEN TO PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS LIVING IN WASHINGTON, OREGON AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

APPLICATION: SUBMISSION OF AN [ONLINE APPLICATION](#) IS REQUIRED; PLEASE REVIEW ALL GUIDELINES PRIOR TO STARTING AN APPLICATION.

DEADLINE: 5:00 PM ON FEBRUARY 27, 2012; ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THIS DEADLINE.

ARTWORK OPPORTUNITY

The City of Aberdeen, WA, in cooperation with the Grays Harbor Community Foundation, is seeking an artist to create a significant three-dimensional artwork for the Simpson Triangle, a highly traveled site between the business districts of Aberdeen and Hoquiam, WA. The artwork will honor the legacy of a local family and inspire both generosity and commitment to community in local residents and those that pass through the City. The artwork will be of a scale and level of detail to support both motorist drive-by and up-close pedestrian viewing experiences, and will incorporate architectural sandstone blocks of local significance as a re-use material.

The commission will be awarded on the basis of competitive proposals from short-listed applicants. An artist selection panel comprised of art and design professionals and community representatives will review all eligible applicant materials received from this open call. The panel will select three finalists to create proposals. Each finalist will be paid \$5,000 for proposal development. In addition to the proposal fee, travel costs for out-of-town finalists will be paid for two trips to Aberdeen, the first visit for a site orientation, and the second visit to present a proposal to the panel.

4Culture will manage the artist selection process, final design development and artwork implementation process for this artwork opportunity.

BACKGROUND

The City of Aberdeen is located in Grays Harbor County (population 72,000) on the southern edge of the Olympic Peninsula. Over 4 million motorists pass through the City each year. With a rich history in logging and fishing industries, a proud legacy of raising internationally regarded creatives, and a

recent emphasis on tourism, Aberdeen seeks to offer a variety of “big city services and attractions with a small-town atmosphere.”

This artwork opportunity is an exciting step in the City’s efforts to revitalize major arterial routes within the city and create a vibrant civic space that will set the tone and design standards for future development and public art integration.

The City is working in cooperation with the Grays Harbor Community Foundation, a philanthropic resource dedicated to improving Grays Harbor County, to commission a public artwork that will honor the Weatherwax family and celebrate the resilient spirit of Aberdeen.

In 2002, Aberdeen’s J.M. Weatherwax High School, a historic building built in 1909, was destroyed by a fire. Named for the local Weatherwax family that contributed to the Grays Harbor Community as philanthropists and civic leaders – epitomizing humility, hard work, and generosity – the loss of the building generated interest in creating a new physical acknowledgment. Architectural sandstone blocks previously installed on the high school building’s façade (see page 6) were salvaged for re-use in the effort to recognize anew these “ordinary people who did extraordinary things,” and inspire others to do the same.

A reminder of the Weatherwax legacy, the stones also serve as a symbol of strength and survival, rising from the ashes, and resilience – qualities that Aberdeen residents see within themselves. Some of the stones are permanently displayed in the new high school building which opened in 2007, while others await artistic re-use and interpretation with this public artwork opportunity.

The finalists selected to create a proposal, and the artist who is ultimately awarded this commission, will consider the available stones and determine how to best re-use them in a meaningful and visually engaging way in a new artwork that may include additional materials. The artist will further consider the natural light and weather conditions, as well as the parallel experiences of motorists and pedestrians in designing a public artwork for the Simpson Triangle.

PROJECT LOCATION

The site for this public art opportunity is the Simpson Triangle, located on the corner of Simpson Avenue, North Division Street and Park Street in Aberdeen, WA (see page 5). Sited along a major arterial route that is highly visible to commuters traveling between the business districts of Aberdeen and Hoquiam, WA, the site is prominent.

The City of Aberdeen will provide physical improvements to the Simpson Triangle site prior to artwork installation, and in consultation with the selected artist. Improvements may include extension of irrigation and/or power sources, furnishing and placing of fill material to raise the site as needed, construction of curbs, and complete surface improvements between the artwork and new curbs. The City will also transport sandstone blocks from their storage location to the project site.

RESEARCH THE CLIENT

Link to the City of Aberdeen

<http://aberdeenwa.gov/index.php>

Link to the Grays Harbor Community Foundation

<http://www.gh-cf.org/>

ARTIST SELECTION SCHEDULE*

Deadline for Entry	February 27, 2012
Selection Panel Meeting	March 13, 2012
Finalist Notification	March 14-16, 2012
Finalist Orientation	April 03, 2012**
Proposal Presentations	June 12, 2012**

ARTWORK PROJECT SCHEDULE*

Contract Issued	July 2012
Final Design Complete	Fall 2012
Implementation	By Summer 2013

*Schedules are subject to change

**Applicants are expected to hold these dates in order to participate in orientation and proposal presentation sessions if selected as finalists.

ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS

SELECTION PROCESS

The artist for this commission will be selected through an open call process, with the final artwork decided on the basis of competitive proposals. A selection panel comprised of art and design professionals and community representatives will review all eligible applicant materials received from this open call, and select up to three finalists to develop proposals. The panel will review the finalists' proposals and select one artist for the commission.

Each finalist will be paid \$5,000 to attend a mandatory orientation in Aberdeen, develop a proposal, and present the proposal to the selection panel. Each finalist's proposal will include: (1) visual rendering(s) and/or models of the proposed artwork that reuses the salvaged sandstone blocks in some way; (2) a budget that demonstrates allocation of the commission award; and (3) a written narrative that explains the artist's intention for the work and how it relates to honoring the Weatherwax family, inspiring residents and visitors of Aberdeen, and the site context. In addition to the proposal fee, travel costs for out-of-town finalists will be reimbursed for up to two trips to Aberdeen to participate in the orientation and present a proposal to the panel.

The panel reserves the right to make no selection from the submitted applications or finalist proposals.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Finalists will be selected based foremost on the following criteria:

- Quality and strength of past work as demonstrated in the submitted application materials;
- Demonstrated experience with projects of a comparable scope and budget, including artwork for transportation related infrastructure or highly traveled sites;
- Interest and experience creating artwork that honors, inspires, and/or incorporates re-use materials;
- Command of dynamic spatial relationships and demonstrated understanding of complex sites with multiple viewing points.

ELIGIBILITY

This project is open to professional artists residing in Washington, Oregon and British Columbia. City of Aberdeen employees, 4Culture staff, Grays Harbor Community Foundation staff and board members, Aberdeen Public Art Committee members, selection panel members, project personnel, and immediate family members of all of the above are not eligible to apply.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

VISIT [4CULTURE OPPORTUNITY LISTINGS](#) AND FOLLOW THE APPLICATION-SPECIFIC LINK.

ARTISTS APPLYING FOR THIS PROJECT MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS ONLINE:

PROFILE — Applicant contact information.

RÉSUMÉ— Two-page (maximum) résumé. Keep the formatting as simple as possible. Only Word and Text documents will be accepted.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST — 300 words (or less) that explain why the artist is interested in this opportunity, how the artist's past work is appropriate for this project, and how the artist meets the eligibility requirements and selection criteria of this call.

WORK SAMPLES — Artists are encouraged to submit images of past work that best illustrate their qualifications for this project. Applicants may submit a maximum of 16 digital images (no composites). Images will be projected one at a time during the application material review session. If applying as a team, the team submits no more than 16 images.

Upload JPG files only; images must be 1920 pixels on the longest side and at least 72 dpi. Files must be less than 2MB in size.

Applicants will be required to list the title of the artwork/project name, completion date, medium and dimensions. Optional fields include project location, commissioning agency, budget, project partners (architecture, engineering, and/or landscape architecture firms, etc.), photo credit, and copyright owner.

Applicants are encouraged to provide a brief description (75 words or less) of each work sample.

QUESTIONS

Please contact:

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Willow Fox

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DEADLINE: REQUIRED MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM ON FEBRUARY 27, 2012.

SIMPSON TRIANGLE SITE, AERIAL VIEW



Image courtesy of City of Aberdeen

ARCHITECTURAL SANDSTONE BLOCKS, LINE DRAWINGS

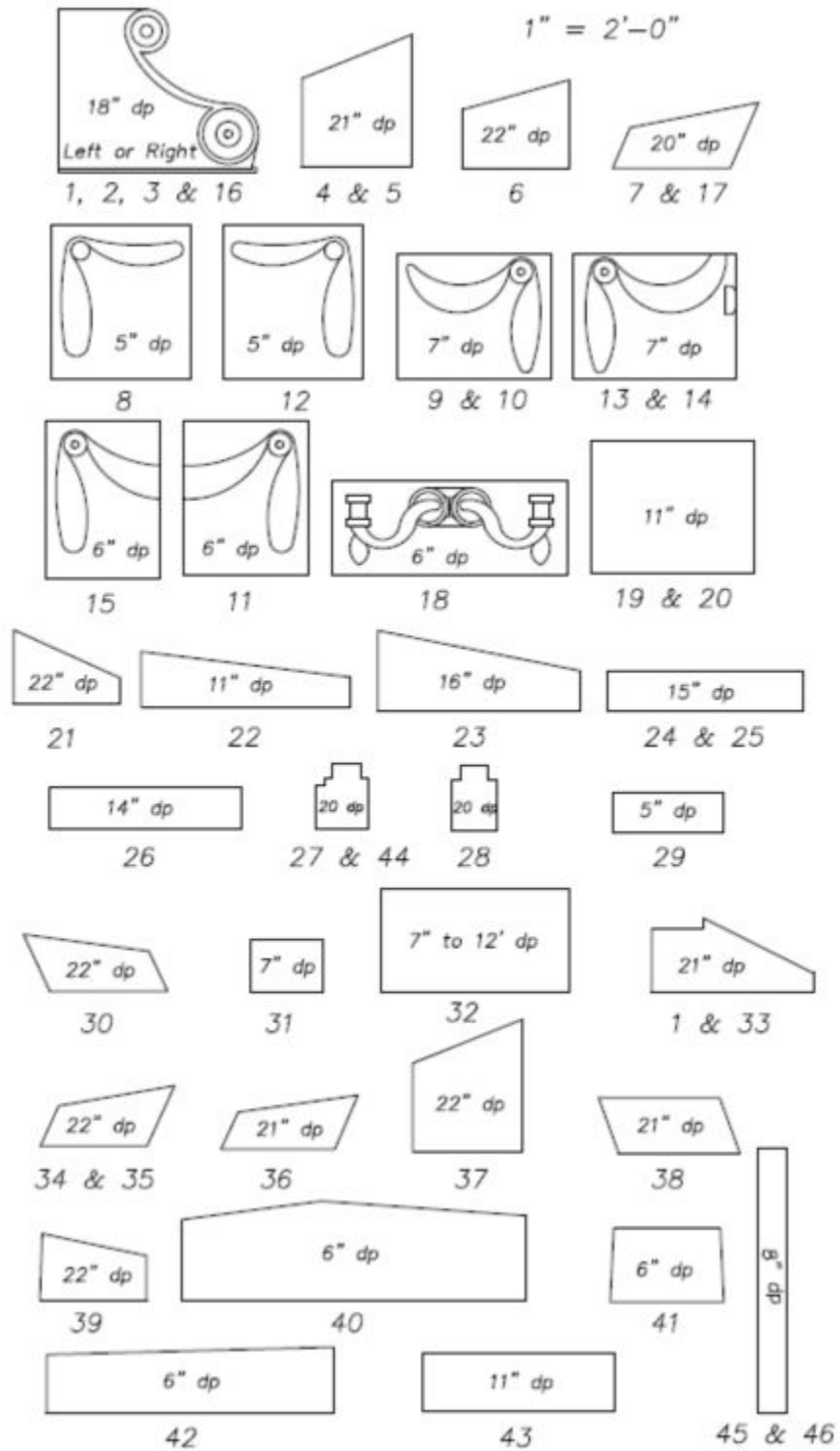


Image courtesy of City of Aberdeen