



Nebraska ARTS COUNCIL

RFQ OUTLINE

PUBLIC ART PROSPECTUS – RFQ

A Nebraska One Percent for Art Project

ARTWORK PROJECT SITE:

KEIM HALL, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE
– Various Interior and Exterior Sites—flexible placement

ARTWORK SOUGHT: Wide variety of media; sustainable/green artwork concepts highly encouraged

DEADLINE: MAY 18th, 2009

BUDGET: \$117,900

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I. ELIGIBILITY:

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) project competition is open to all professional public artists or artist teams, including those who are new to the field of public art, from throughout the United States. Artists from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply for this project.

EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM NO. 21 Equal Opportunity in Procurement and Contracts

The University of Nebraska recognizes the importance of a strong culturally diverse business community and the positive impact that successful businesses have upon the people of the State of Nebraska. The University of Nebraska assumes a leadership role in actions that will provide business opportunities for all businesses in the State of Nebraska.

Accordingly, the University of Nebraska reaffirms its policy of providing equal opportunity to small business enterprises and to minority, disadvantaged and women owned business enterprises in all aspects of the University's procurement and contracting activities. This includes procurement of or contracts for operational supplies and equipment, construction projects and materials, service contracts and lease agreements. It is also the University's policy that any person or business seeking the opportunity to do business with the University shall not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, marital status, or veteran status. The University of Nebraska conducts its procurement and contracting activities in a manner designed to prevent unlawful discrimination. University policies are consistent with applicable state and federal laws and regulations prohibiting unlawful discrimination.

The foregoing policy statement shall be printed in all request for proposals or invitations for bids issued by the University in its procurement and contracting activities.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 2001.

/s/ J.B. Milliken
J. B. Milliken, President

II. RFQ SUMMARY:

RFQ SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 5 P.M., MONDAY, MAY 18TH, 2009

BUDGET: \$117,900

The University of Nebraska – Lincoln, in accordance with the State of Nebraska One Percent for Art legislation, seeks artwork for the Keim Hall renovation project, which is presently under construction on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, in Lincoln, Nebraska. The Keim Hall Artwork Selection Committee has been formed to administer this process.

The artwork project site has not been finalized; however, key areas of interest include the building's front exterior entrance, the 2nd floor main corridor and common area overlooking a courtyard; areas within the courtyard space. Other sites could be also considered by the selected artist(s).

The Keim Hall renovation project is a LEED-certified construction project. The academic tenancy of the building promotes sustainable, green concepts in several areas, including agronomy, horticulture, and sustainable energy. While there is no specific theme desired for the project, the artwork sought should reflect this building and academic philosophy. Artists' focus on limiting their "green footprint" would be encouraged for this project. *Reclaimed materials from the project site are available for artists' use, but use of these materials is not required for this project.*

III. UNL KEIM HALL ARTWORK PROJECT

a. THEME/TYPE OF ART SOUGHT:

The Keim Hall project offers an excellent opportunity for the artist to create work that is integrated into the interior and/or exterior spaces of the building. The flexibility available for art placement presents the selected artist(s) maximum creativity in exploring the project space.

Keim Hall is located on the East Campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It has multiple functions including classrooms, labs, research facilities and faculty and government offices. Artwork selected for this project should reflect the identity of the building community, with attention to the student experience. Students utilizing this building study agronomy, landscape design, plant and soil science, and professional golf course management. Thematic reference to these academic programs could be integrated, and contemporary, innovative approaches to this subject are desired. Since the University is an educational institution, artwork which inspires and educates students is especially encouraged.

An important aspect of this project is the focus on ecologically sensitive, green approaches to art-making and the nature of the completed artwork. The Keim Hall renovation project is a LEED-certified construction project. The academic tenancy of the building promotes sustainable, green concepts in agriculture, horticulture, and land management. While there is no specific theme required for the project, the artwork sought should reflect this building and academic philosophy. Artists' focus on limiting their "green footprint" is also encouraged. *Reclaimed materials from the project site are available for artists' use, but use of these materials is not required for this project.*

While the aesthetic statement made by the artist is more important than an identifiable allusion to some scientific idea or theme, the desired work should contain sufficient literal reference to the theme to allow the average observer to comprehend and enjoy the work. Artwork which retains a timeless, contemporary quality for its audience, present and future, is highly desirable.

While a unique commission would be an ideal solution for the project, direct purchases of existing work will also be considered. Artists may apply for the commission, submit art for direct purchase, or apply to be considered for both options.

Artwork of any media fitting the above stated goals and suitable to the space(s) and the extremes of Nebraska weather will be considered other than those in the following list: *Video, artificial lighting, computer technology or other projects requiring electrical support; fountains/waterworks; the exterior use of wood or other materials subject to photo- and biodegradation.*

b. ARCHITECTURE/ENVIRONMENT

Building Tenancy

The following tenancy and uses are planned for Keim Hall, which will include research and classroom education:

First Floor: Conference room, Landscape Design classroom, Golf Club Repair Lab, USDA offices, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum offices, Agronomy Faculty offices.

Second Floor: Administrative offices for Agronomy and The Center for Grassland Studies including the Professional Golf Management Program and Grazing Livestock Systems programs, classrooms, student lounges.

Third Floor: Research Labs in Plant and Soil Science.

c. BUDGET: \$117,900

d. SAFETY/MAINTENANCE

Artwork must satisfy reasonable standards of permanence and safety, meeting all relevant codes required for public places, and offering reasonable proof of soundness against theft, vandalism or excessive maintenance and repair.

Artwork for this project must meet the following specifications:

1. All work must be safe, tamper-resistant, and easily maintained, regardless of ease of public reach.
2. Artists should approach the project as a permanent installation when considering materials.
3. All work must be of an appropriate size and design so that it will not create a hazard for impaired pedestrians or use of maintenance equipment.

e. SITING

The actual sites planned for the art remain flexible, and artists are asked to think creatively about the use of space. The key areas of interest are described below, but are not the only areas an artist could consider for the project.

Potential for landscaping/plant use:

Sites for this project could include areas where the surrounding landscape would enhance, or integrate with, the artwork. A small area of greenspace in front of the building and areas within the enclosed courtyard could potentially be used by the artist (NOTE: Use is subject to existing design project plans for courtyard and area landscaping.)

Exterior front of building

The front, south-facing exterior main entrance to the building features a portico with two apron walls which would be suitable for artwork placement. There is also a small area of greenspace on each side of the entrance which could support some form of artistic treatment or freestanding work. The entrance landing behind these walls which leads into the building and portico roof could potentially be integrated into the site.

Main public corridor on second floor

The second floor of the building (1/2 flight up from the main south entrance) is the “public” area of the building. Since the south entrance and main interior corridor are the most public areas of the building, art placed in this area would have the greatest exposure.

Interior second story common area with window overlook to courtyard

This space functions as a common area, and features north-facing windows with views into the courtyard. This space may contain one or two bench seating units, but is primarily considered a pass through area. Walls on either side of the space could be considered for artwork, subject to construction plans and maintenance considerations. An artist could also place a freestanding piece in the space, though placement and height would need to be carefully considered for maximum impact.

Student lounges and hallways

The student lounge in the east wing of the second floor and various hallways in the building also provide opportunity for artistic treatment. The lounge areas provide an ideal environment for capturing the attention of many of the students using the building.

The courtyard

The courtyard is a focal point for both Keim Hall residents and those in Plant Science Hall. The majority of offices face the courtyard. The new glass façade facing the courtyard stands before the primary hall carrying all the traffic throughout the building.

Artwork in the courtyard could include freestanding sculpture, interactive artwork, pathways, and/or integrated areas for human activity. Media used in this location must be suitable for the harsh extremes of Nebraska weather.

Please see the list of resources at the end of the prospectus for specifications and additional information on these sites.

V. SELECTION PROCESS

Selections will be made by the Keim Hall Art Selection Committee, composed of college representatives, in consultation with Nebraska Arts Council and UNL Facilities Planning and Construction.

The committee will review submissions from this RFQ and either select an artist based on preliminary submission materials, or pursue more detailed proposals from a short list of selected applicants. Honoraria for finalists during the proposal phase will be provided.

The following factors will be considered when reviewing submissions:

- Quality of work
- Appropriateness of subject/concept for the site
- Past exhibition/public art record
- Previous commission experience, including evidence that past commissions were produced in accordance with agreed-upon timelines and within budget
- Permanence and safety, meeting all relevant codes required for public places, and offering reasonable proof of soundness against theft, vandalism or excessive maintenance and repair

VI. PROJECTED TIMELINE (The Keim Hall Artwork Selection Committee reserves the right to change timeline without notice):

April 6, 2009:	RFQ public notification/announcement
May 18, 2009:	Request for Qualifications (RFQ) application deadline
May 18-June 9 2009:	Keim Hall Art Selection Committee review
June 10, 2009:	Review results Announced

Pending Outcome of Review:

June 10-22, 2009:	Direct purchase of artwork negotiated and/or semi-finalist artists interviewed/receive RFP
July 20, 2009:	Semi-finalist artist proposals feadline
July 27, 2009:	Semi-finalists site visit/proposals/interviews
July 31, 2009:	Project artist selected
Winter 2009/Spring 2010:	Artwork installation

VII. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

a. Delivery/Deadline

Mail/Hand Deliver Applications to:

“UNL KEIM HALL Art Project”

J.D. Hutton
Nebraska Arts Council
1004 Farnam Street, Plaza Level
Omaha, NE 68102

RFQ SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 5 P.M., MONDAY, MAY 18TH, 2009

Note: This is a postmark and hand delivery deadline, not the date a postmarked item must arrive at the designated address. Artists submitting materials dated near or on the postmark deadline are strongly cautioned to carefully review the proposed project timeline. Applications facing a lengthy delivery time period can be at risk for missing

the initial review date—plan your posting of materials accordingly. Hand delivered items must be received by 5 p.m. May 18th.

b. Application Content:

Application review materials MUST be submitted on CD in the form of digital .jpg and .pdf files. Please contact JD Hutton at the Nebraska Arts Council with questions about preparing your materials. To be effectively reviewed for consideration, the application should contain:

1. Letter of Interest

Not to exceed one page: This is considered a letter of introduction, not a proposal—please use the LOI to your best ability to promote yourself and what you could offer to this project to the Selection Committee. For example, you may identify particulars of your involvement as an artist, such as your schedule, process, medium, and method by which you will create your work, which would be relevant to this project.

DIRECT PURCHASE OPTION: If you have artwork available for direct purchase, please note this in the Letter of Interest, and include images of the works in the visual support materials. **CLEARLY** identify the items available for purchase in your Image List along with the sale price and delivery terms.

Submit on your CD as a .pdf file.

2. Visual Support Materials

a. Digital Still Images (20)

Twenty (20) digital images, in .jpg format, sized to 700 pixels on longest side, on CD. Up to 3 detail shots may be included per artwork. (Do not exceed 60 total images for submission) **DO NOT** send PowerPoint presentations or other automated “slide show” presentations.

b. Video

Optional: A DVD of artworks approximately 5 minutes in length; esp. for any artwork involving moving parts, video, time-based work. Video should demonstrate the artwork, its functionality and mechanics.

3. Image List

Number this list to correspond with digital images and video file, if any. Provide filename, artwork title, date created, medium, dimensions, **PRICE** (clearly identify any items available for **DIRECT PURCHASE** and include price and delivery terms) and any descriptive information pertinent to the work. Include your contact information. Submit on your CD as a .pdf file.

4. Professional Vita/Resume

Must be in the form of a .pdf file and located on Image CD. A hard copy may be included. Include your contact information on this document. Submit on your CD as a .pdf file.

5. Three Professional References

Provide at least three professional references (commissioning agency/organization, architect, etc.) who have an intimate knowledge of your work and methods. Include complete address and phone/email for each

reference. Include your contact information on this document. Submit on your CD as a .pdf file.

6. Optional Relevant Experience and Qualifications Support Information

Up to three (3) selections of supporting materials (reviews, news articles, essays, etc.

NOTE: All optional documentation must be saved as pdf file(s) on Image CD.

7. Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (S.A.S.E.)

Important: UPS, FEDEX and other special mail service returns are NOT permitted due to additional pickup/delivery costs. Only submissions with a SASE will be returned; all others become the property of KEIM HALL. The KEIM HALL Art Selection Committee and its consultants assume no responsibility for loss or damage to submission.

VIII. PROJECT CONTACT:

J.D. Hutton, Artist Services and Communications Manager, Nebraska Arts Council, 1004 Farnam Street, Plaza Level, Omaha, NE 68102-1885, (402) 595-1242/FAX (402) 595-2334, jayne.hutton@nebraska.gov

Please contact J.D. Hutton for all initial inquiries about the project. Various individuals may be consulted to answer the wide variety of questions the project could receive. Answers to these questions will be made available to all artists on the Nebraska Arts Council's 1% for Art Keim Hall Project information page.

IX. RESOURCES:

Below are resources available for artists who are interested in more information about the project and site specifications. Contact JD Hutton for more information about reclaimed material available for use:

Nebraska Arts Council: www.nebraskaartscouncil.org:

- View/download project information and application materials
- FAQ—Answers to Frequently Asked Questions
- Photos/Floor Plans/Specs on Sites
- Project Contact J.D. Hutton (see contact info above)

Department of Agronomy and Horticulture, UNL: www.agronomy.unl.edu/

Multidisciplinary Center for Grassland Studies, UNL:

- <http://www.grassland.unl.edu> (overall Center site)
- <http://www.pgm.unl.edu> (Professional Golf Management major)
- <http://www.gls.unl.edu> (Grazing Livestock Systems major)