



PUBLIC ART PROSPECTUS – RFQ

A Nebraska One Percent for Art Project

ARTSPACE PROJECT SITE:

SEYMOUR HERITAGE PLAZA, Wayne State College, Wayne, NE – Exterior Greenspace/Hardscape Remodel

ARTWORK SOUGHT: Public meeting/gathering space concept with seating encouraged—open to media suitable for environment

DEADLINE: AUGUST 21, 2009

BUDGET: \$50,000

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I. ELIGIBILITY:

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) project competition is open to professional public artists or artist teams, and those who are new to the field of public art living in the Midwestern region of the United States, including those states that directly border Nebraska. This includes the following states: Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Colorado and Wyoming. Artists from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply for this project.

Wayne State College Equal Opportunity Statement

Wayne State College is an equal opportunity institution. Wayne State College does not discriminate against any student, employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in employment and education opportunities, including but not limited to admission decisions. The College has designated an individual to coordinate the College's nondiscrimination efforts to comply with regulations implementing Title VI, VII, IX, and Section 504. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies and practices may be directed to Dr. Cheryl Waddington, Director of Human Resources, Title VI, VII, IX Compliance Coordinator, Wayne State College, 1111 Main Street, Wayne, NE 68787, (402) 375-7403.

II. RFQ SUMMARY:

RFQ SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 5 P.M., FRIDAY, AUGUST 21ST, 2009

BUDGET: \$50,000

Wayne State College (WSC) and the Nebraska Arts Council (NAC), in accordance with the State of Nebraska One Percent for Art legislation, seeks artwork for the Seymour Heritage Plaza Artspace project, which is located on the campus of Wayne State College, in Wayne, Nebraska. The Seymour Heritage Plaza Artwork Selection Committee has been formed to administer this process.

The artwork project site is located at Seymour Heritage Plaza, an already existing plaza area. The project plan is to expand the existing design and integrate the existing sculpture and platform area in the overall design plan with a focus on creating an attractive outdoor gathering, performing and study space for the campus community.

III. WSC SEYMOUR HERITAGE PLAZA ARTSPACE PROJECT

a. THEME/TYPE OF ART SOUGHT:

About Dr. Lyle Seymour

Dr. Lyle Seymour earned his bachelors degree from WSC in 1951 and became a member of the WSC faculty in 1953 as a chemistry instructor. In 1961, he became chairman of the division of mathematics and science, and in 1967 was appointed dean of faculties. He served as president of WSC from 1974 to 1982, retired in 1982 and died in December 2005. The Seymour Heritage Plaza serves as a tribute to Dr. Seymour's service and dedication to WSC.

While the aesthetic statement made by the artist is more important than an identifiable allusion to a particular idea or theme, the desired artspace plan 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.

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; wood or other materials subject to photo- and biodegradation.*

The Selection Committee strongly encourages an artistic solution which incorporates comfortable seating and gathering spaces for campus visitors.

b. ARCHITECTURE/ENVIRONMENT

Surrounding Facility Use

The following buildings and student services immediately surround Seymour Heritage Plaza, which could influence an artist's concepts for use of the space:

- Conn Library
- Coffee shop
- Fine Arts Center
- Student Center
- Pile Hall

In addition, the area of campus in which Seymour Heritage Plaza is situated comprises the academic facilities and residential halls of the campus. The Plaza is also located centrally along a greenspace pathway which extends across campus and features many works in WSC's growing sculpture collection.

c. BUDGET: \$50,000

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.

The Seymour Heritage Plaza project offers an excellent opportunity for the artist to create work that is integrated into existing space and create new space and use opportunities for the specified site. The flexibility available for art placement provides the selected artist maximum creative opportunity in exploring the project space. The Seymour Heritage Plaza is located at the entrance of the Conn Library which will also house a new art gallery and an existing coffee shop. This project could include areas where the surrounding landscape would enhance, or integrate with, the artwork.

Artwork in Seymour Heritage Plaza could include freestanding sculpture, interactive artwork, pathways, bike racks, performance space, canopies and/or integrated areas for human activity.

The Selection Committee strongly encourages an artistic solution which incorporates comfortable seating and gathering spaces for campus visitors. Performances are occasionally given in this area and enlarging the existing platform space would improve the area for this use. 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 Seymour Heritage Plaza Art Selection Committee, composed of college representatives, in consultation with Nebraska Arts Council.

The committee will review submissions from this RFQ and either select an artist or artists based on preliminary submission materials, or pursue more detailed proposals from a short list of selected applicants. Honoraria for costs associated with proposals will be provided to the shortlisted artists.

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 Seymour Heritage Plaza Artwork Selection Committee reserves the right to change timeline without notice):

May 19, 2009:	RFQ Public Notification/Announcement
August 21, 2009:	Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Receipt Deadline
Aug. 24-Sept. 30, 2009:	Seymour Heritage Plaza Art Selection Committee Review
Oct. 1, 2009:	Review Results Announced

Pending Outcome of Review:

Oct. 1, 2009:	Notification of results; Semi-finalist Artists interviewed/receive RFP
Nov. 20, 2009:	Semi-Finalist Artist Proposals Deadline
Nov. 30, 2009:	Semi-Finalists Site Visit/Proposals/Interviews
Dec. 4, 2009:	Project Artist Selected
April/May 2010:	Artwork Installation

VII. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

a. Delivery/Deadline

Mail/Hand Deliver Applications to:

“WSC Seymour Heritage Plaza Artspace Project”
J.D. Hutton
Nebraska Arts Council
1004 Farnam Street, Plaza Level
Omaha, NE 68102

RFQ SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 5 P.M., FRIDAY, AUGUST 21ST, 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. August 21st.

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. 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 presentation formats.

b. Video

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

3. Image List

Number list to correspond with digital images and video file, if any: provide filename, artwork title, date created, medium, dimensions, and price/budget. 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 self-addressed, stamped envelope (S.A.S.E.) with sufficient postage will be returned; all others become the property of Wayne State College. The Seymour Heritage Plaza 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) 595-2142/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 Seymour Heritage Plaza Artspace Project information page.

IX. RESOURCES:

Below are resources available for artists who are interested in more information about the project and site specifications:

Nebraska Arts Council: www.nebraskaartscouncil.org:

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

Wayne State College: www.wsc.edu