



**Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA)
New South Bend Elementary School
South Bend School District
CALL FOR ART / REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)**

Due: Friday, May 1st, 2020, 5pm

Budget: \$62,000 inclusive of design, fabrication, and installation.



Architect's Rendering of front entrance, courtesy of Erickson McGovern Architects

What we're looking for

South Bend School District and ArtsWA are seeking an individual artist or artist team to design and create original artwork for the new South Bend Elementary School. We seek applicants who can design and create artwork that is able to reflect the South Bend community and the Indigenous traditions of the Pacific Northwest, particularly those of the Shoalwater Bay and Chinook Indian Tribes and/or other tribes of Washington state.

Eligibility

Open to artists residing in Washington & Oregon states. Those with active or recent ArtsWA projects are ineligible for this call. Artists currently on ArtsWA's Public Artist Roster may be considered for this opportunity without applying to this call but are welcome to emphasize their interest in this specific opportunity by submitting updated materials. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, or gender identity.

The Washington State Arts Commission is committed to values of inclusion, diversity, equity, and creative expression. We believe in diverse forms of artistic expression, and we believe in access to

arts and arts education for all individuals in our state. The arts can and should play a role in addressing inequities, modelling inclusion, and teaching empathy.

How to submit

Please e-mail digital materials to marissa.laubscher@arts.wa.gov by **5pm, Friday, May 1, 2020**. You should receive confirmation of your submission within one business day. If you are unable to submit electronically, contact Marissa Laubscher to discuss possible accommodations (360)586-2419.

What to submit

Artists interested in this project must prepare and submit the following set of documents:

- 1. A letter of interest** outlining your approach to public art as well as providing the Art Selection Committee with insights regarding your interest in making art for the new South Bend Elementary School. It should outline:
 - what you bring to the project as an artist
 - experience with other similar projects
 - any other comments that might help to differentiate you
 - your name, address, phone number and e-mail address
 - not to exceed one page. **PDF or DOC format.**

- 2. 8 images of past works**, preferably created within the past 5 years. 1,200 pixels on the long side, 72 pixels/inch minimum, file size less than 1.5 MB. Named uniquely. **JPG format.**

- 3. An image list document**, this document should describe the images you've submitted. The document should indicate:
 - title
 - dimensions
 - materials
 - date of work
 - city/ locations
 - project budget and client, if applicable.
 - a brief description of the ideas, themes or context behind the artwork
 - (250 words max per image). **PDF or DOC format.**

- 4. References:** A list of at least three references from past projects or work. The list must include complete addresses and telephone numbers. **PDF or DOC format.**

OPTIONAL: A professional resume/CV (limit 2 pages). Artists working collaboratively may submit a resume/CV for each member. **PDF or DOC format.**

This means your e-mail submission will include 3-4 separate .doc or .pdf file attachments, and 8 separate .jpeg file attachments. Submitting your documents this way, versus in a single document file, makes it much easier for us to share and present your work to the selection committee.

Vision for the artwork

ArtsWA's Art in Public Places program is uniquely positioned to advance and support art and artists across Washington. Our goal is to build and care for a dynamic contemporary art collection that is accessible and valued. We seek impactful and lasting artworks that reflect Washington's diverse communities.

ArtsWA and the new South Bend Elementary School Art Selection Committee will select an artist or artist team to design and create an artwork that is able to reflect the South Bend community and the Indigenous traditions of the Pacific Northwest, particularly those of the Shoalwater Bay and Chinook Indian Tribes.

In addition, we are interested in work that speaks to the unique features of the area and school including the diverse student body and the natural landscape. South Bend is situated on Willapa Bay, an area marked by natural beauty and wildlife. Seafood and forestry occupations are prevalent. The architect designed the new school to reflect the natural beauty of the area. Design features that reference fish, wood, and water are prevalent throughout the building design and it is important that the artwork complement this theme. Artwork that can be engaged with or used as a teaching tool is also desired.

There are opportunities for either interior or exterior artwork with the goal of placing artwork where it will have the greatest impact on students. Secondary audiences include the extended South Bend community, teachers, and staff. The new school is expected to be an active community hub with events occurring on evenings and weekends in addition to school activities.

Artists are encouraged to further familiarize themselves with the new South Bend Elementary School project via the architect's [overview](#). You can also familiarize yourself with the School District by visiting their [website](#).

What you will need to do if chosen

The artwork will be commissioned through ArtsWA's Art in Public Places program. Artists will coordinate work with ArtsWA and South Bend School District staff. An agreement between ArtsWA and the artist or artist team will formalize budget, schedule and artwork design. The selected artist will be expected to:

- Design and propose an artwork for review and approval by ArtsWA staff, conservators, and the new South Bend Elementary School Art Selection Committee
- Travel to the project site up to three times during the proposal/design process to meet with the Art Selection Committee and ArtsWA project manager
- Work within the fixed budget
- Maintain registration as a Washington State vendor and adhere to applicable state permitting and licensing requirements, including those relating to contracting and the paying of Prevailing Wages

- Enter into contracts with ArtsWA and fulfil those requirements, including paying applicable taxes.

What the budget needs to include

The project budget is **\$62,000** inclusive of design, travel, structural engineering, materials, fabrication, installation, artist fee, taxes and all other associated project costs.

How we choose the artist(s)

The Art Selection Committee consists of local stakeholders including school and district staff. The selection process is facilitated by ArtsWA staff. The panel will review submitted portfolios and materials of all applicants and select an artist or artist team to create a proposal and artwork.

The criteria used by the Art Selection Committee will include:

- **Appropriateness**
Evidence of the artist's ability to execute artwork at an appropriate scale and using materials suitable for permanent artwork in public places, or demonstrated potential for successful transition to public art;
- **Site Responsiveness**
Evidence of the artist's ability to create artwork that addresses the physical and/or community context of its placement; and
- **Artistic Excellence**
Evidence of some or all of the following: mastery of skills and techniques, professional approaches to process and presentation, and/or communication of unique vision or perspective.

Timeline

- RFQ distributed: Week of March 23rd, 2020
- All materials due: Friday, May 1, 2020, 5:00pm
- Art Selection Committee review: May 2020
- Notification to selected artist: mid- late May 2020
(Committee may decide to interview 2-3 finalists before making selection)
- Artist site visit: late May early June 2020
- Design: June 2020 through January 2021
- Fabrication: March 2021 through March 2022
- Anticipated artwork installation: March/April 2022

In order to avoid technical problems, artists are encouraged to submit well in advance of the deadline. Late submittals will not be accepted.

Due Date and Time: Friday, May 1st, 2020, 5PM Pacific Time

The Art Selection Committee may opt to not select an artist from this submission process, if, in its collective opinion, no applications meet its expectations.

Have Questions?

Contact Marissa Laubscher, Art in Public Places Project Manager; (360) 586-2419,
marissa.laubscher@arts.wa.gov