

CALL FOR ART / REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

University of Washington (UW) and
Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA)



SRG Architecture

Submissions Due: Friday, May 7, 2021, 4 PM (Pacific)
Estimated Budget: \$355,000 (inclusive of design, fabrication, installation, and tax)

Overview

This is an exciting opportunity for an artist or artist team to incorporate one or more unique artworks into the new Behavioral Health Teaching Facility, located at the University of Washington's [Medical Center Northwest](#) (UWMC), in Seattle, commissioned through ArtsWA's Art in Public Places program. The facility is currently in design, scheduled to open December 2023 or January 2024.

Contact

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Budget

\$355,000, inclusive of all costs (design, travel, structural engineering, materials, fabrication, installation, artist fee, applicable taxes, contingency, etc.). Artwork funding is contingent upon capital construction funding by the WA State legislature, expected by July 1, 2021.

Submissions

All materials due by **4pm, Friday, May 7, 2021**, through [ArtsWA's Submittable site](#). If you are unable to submit electronically, contact us to discuss possible accommodations.



SRG Architecture

The Behavioral Health Teaching Facility

Scheduled to open in December 2023 / January 2024, the [Behavioral Health Teaching Facility](#) (BHTF) will be a one-of-a-kind fully integrated welcoming and healing environment for individuals struggling with serious physical and behavioral health problems. The building will support a full continuum of clinical services ranging from effective medication management and psychotherapies to state-of-the-art neuromodulation treatments, medical and surgical care for individuals with medical and behavioral health disorders. The building will also become the home for an interdisciplinary training and workforce development program that is focused on preparing and supporting the next generation of behavioral health providers for Washington State.

UWMC vision for the art

Through a process managed by ArtsWA, the Art Committee will select an artist or artist team to create an interior work (or multiple works) that engages the building, campus, patients, staff, visitors, and trainees. The artwork should embrace the building design vision of a noninstitutional setting that promotes well-being, healing, and learning in a welcoming and safe environment. The proposed artwork will need to take into consideration the safety and sensitivity of the building's population. Below are the guiding principles.



INTEGRATE

Innovative and comprehensive care, offered in a healing environment, to help patients with behavioral health recovery.



HEAL

Alternative to existing long-term (90/180) civil commitment beds at Western State Hospital.



EDUCATE

Training site for the next generation of health and behavioral health care providers for Washington State.



INNOVATE

Support the first of its kind 24/7, 365 day a year telehealth program.



SAFEGUARD

Ensure a safe environment for patients, providers, staff, trainees and visitors.



SUSTAIN

Project design to incorporate required infrastructure upgrades and connectivity for hospital's essential services.



HONOR

Preserve and evolve campus vision, including how patients and visitors experience the campus.



WELCOME

Provide a welcoming and healing environment that will raise public awareness about the importance of behavioral health and its impact to the health of all our families and our communities.

Commission and agreement

The artwork will be commissioned through ArtsWA and will become part of the State Art Collection. Installation will be coordinated through ArtsWA and UW. An agreement between ArtsWA and the artist or artist team will formalize budget, schedule, and artwork design.

Eligibility

You must be an established professional artist residing in the United States or British Columbia. You are strongly encouraged to apply if you have a connection to UW, the Salish Sea, or the tribal peoples of this region. Neither ArtsWA nor UW discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, or gender identity. Students, UW faculty and staff, and artists with current ArtsWA public art contracts are ineligible.

Selection process

The Art Committee is made up of local stakeholders including faculty, administrators, and the BHTF project design team, facilitated by ArtsWA. The committee will review submitted materials of all applicants and select an artist or artist team to create a proposal and artwork for the BHTF. (The Art Committee may also consider artists from ArtsWA's roster.)

The criteria used by the UWMC Art Committee will include:

- **appropriate materials:** evidence of your ability to execute artwork utilizing durable materials that are appropriate for a public space
- **site responsiveness:** evidence of your ability to create artwork that addresses the physical and/or community context of its placement
- **artistic excellence:** evidence of some or all of the following—mastery of skills and techniques, professional approaches to process and presentation, and communication of a unique vision or perspective

Submission materials

Please prepare and enter the following through [Submittable](#):

1. **a letter of interest** outlining your approach to public art and summarizing your interest in this project. Describe any experience with projects of a similar scope and include anything that might help us differentiate you as a candidate. Provide your name, address, phone number, and email address. Not to exceed one page, PDF or DOC format.
2. **a professional resume/CV** (limit 2 pages). Artists working collaboratively may submit a resume/CV for each member, PDF or DOC format.
3. **8 images of past works**, preferably created within past 5 years. (Horizontal orientation displays best.)
4. **brief descriptions (1-2 sentences) for each image**. Also include title, dimensions, materials, date, location, budget/cost, and commissioning entity (if applicable).
5. **three professional references** from past projects. Include name, title, and contact information, PDF or DOC. (ArtsWA-rostered artists do not need to provide references)

If selected, you will

- design and propose an artwork for review and approval by ArtsWA staff, professional conservator, structural engineer, and the UWMC Art Committee
- travel to the project site up to three times during the proposal/design process to meet with the UWMC Art Committee and ArtsWA project manager (in light of COVID-19, it is understood that some meetings may be held remotely)
- 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

Anticipated timeline

- RFQ distributed: Week of April 5, 2021
- all materials due: Friday, May 7, 2021, 4:00 PM Pacific Time
- first UW Art Committee review: May 2021
- second/final UW Art Committee review: June 2021
- notification to selected artist: July 2021
(committee may decide to interview 2-3 finalists before making selection)
- artist site visit (may be held virtually): July 2021
- design: August 2021 through March 2022
- fabrication: June 2022 through May 2023
- anticipated artwork installation: July/August 2023

Art in Public Places Vision Statement

Art in Public Places 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.

Due date and time: Friday, May 7, 2021, 4PM (Pacific)

Applications through [Submittable](#).

If you do not have an account, you will need to create one (there is no cost).

To avoid technical problems, please submit well in advance of the deadline.

Late submittals will not be accepted.