



CALL FOR ARTIST

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC SCULPTURE PROJECT

DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING SUBMISSIONS

Friday, October 18, 2024

PROJECT CONTACT:

Megan Barber, Executive Director
Community Arts Partnership
110 N Tioga St
Ithaca, NY 14850
director@artspartner.org
607-273-5072

SECTION I- PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Community Arts Partnership with support from the Town of Enfield is requesting qualifications from professional artists to collaborate with the community to design a public art project centered around the community's culture and values related to food, including celebrating the food culture of the people indigenous to this place, the Gayogohó:nq? (Cayuga). The Enfield sculpture will be the first of a countywide sculpture trail centered around the same theme, funded by the Tompkins County Tourism Department. This artwork will be located on the land in front of the Town of Enfield Highway Department, at 475 Enfield Main Rd, Ithaca, NY and will be part of a larger community park envisioned by the town.

The mission of the Community Arts Partnership is to strengthen the arts in Tompkins County by supporting artists and arts groups, ensuring equitable access to the arts, and cultivating a creative culture that reflects our community's diversity. We affirm that our community includes Gayogohó:nq? people, who have not just a history, but a presence and a future here. We recognize an opportunity for our community's public art to raise visibility of the presence of Gayogohó:nq? people on this land, and we are grateful to coordinate this public sculpture project in collaboration with Gayogohó:nq? people.

The theme of the artwork centers around food and food's centrality to the human experience, its connection to culture, and its ability to unify. The project should communicate a sense of Indigenous place, raising visibility of the presence of Gayogohó:nq? people on this land. It should communicate Gayogohó:nq? culture related to food in ways that resonate with and support non-Indigenous residents' values around food as a small, rural, historically agricultural community.

Taking the lead from the Two Row Wampum, as a guide for honoring the experiences of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, the successful piece will be a place of interest for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous visitors and residents. As more and more members of the Gayogohó:nq? diaspora return to their homeland, the sculpture will serve as a point of pride and visibility - something to come here for that is about Gayogohó:nq? presence and future. As a reflection of local culture and residents' hopes and dreams for their food future, it will evoke pride for Enfielders. For everyone it will encourage reflection and learning.

The project offers artists the opportunity to be part of something new, something that hasn't been done here before - an intentional collaboration among Indigenous and non-Indigenous people from the beginning of the project. The hope is that this project will serve as a model, not just for the creation of additional sculptures to be part of the Tompkins County sculpture trail, but also for how local Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and organizations can work together, honoring the Two Row.

Artists will have the support of a project team including a Black Consciousness-based expert educator, a community-engaged public art specialist, Gayogohó:nq? culture bearers, and

Community Arts Partnership leadership. The project team has already begun community engagement work with Enfield, and will continue with that work in preparation for the arrival of the artist. The community engagement work is based on a Black consciousness curriculum. It centers the experiences of local Black women farmers, and engages Enfield's children to reflect and imagine through a lens of Black Joy. The community engagement work includes building the relationship among Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, polishing the Silver Covenant Chain of Friendship.

Artists will be expected to lead a community-build process and collaborate with a project working group to help hone a scope of work. The working group will include the project team as mentioned above, Enfield residents and elementary school students, and representatives from the Enfield Town Board and Enfield Food Pantry.

The ideal project is envisioned as a community-build sculpture for prominent display that relates to the natural space it inhabits. The project should include strategies for "keeping the sculpture alive", such as interactive elements like QR codes, food plantings, or seed storage.

The artwork must be fabricated to withstand the upstate New York weather, be low maintenance, theft and damage resistant, and demonstrate an awareness of public safety concerns.

This RFQ is open to all. Individual artists or a collaboration of artists are welcome to apply. Familiarity with working with large scale art construction, assembly, installation and materials is required. Experience in community-build projects is preferred. Indigenous artists and artists based regionally to Central New York are especially encouraged to apply.

SECTION II - RESPONSE INFORMATION

1. Requirements and Deadlines for Submitting a Response to Call

- a. Deadline: Friday, October 18th, 2024, 11:59 PM
- b. Submissions will be accepted via this application link:
<https://forms.gle/ex5QKSGssaQP86YH9>
- c. Questions about the project or submittal should be directed to Megan Barber via email (director@artspartner.org) or phone at 607-273-5072.

2. Scope of Work

Selected artists will collaborate with a working group to develop design ideas for this project. The selected artist will be expected to work with a project team and the community to generate a final design concept and incorporate a strong community build component in production. The desired work should be responsive to its immediate environment / situated in place. In addition to the collaboration with the committee, the design(s) will be considered by the Enfield Town Board.

Estimated Budget

The budget available for the project is not expected to exceed \$25,000. This amount is to cover the artist fee, all costs associated with the design process (insurance, mileage, research, community engagement, materials, etc.), site preparation (including construction of a foundation) and fabrication.

3. Estimated Timeline of Project

August 19, 2024	Call is open for submissions.
October 18, 2024	Application Deadline 11:59 pm (local New York time)
October - November 2024	Selection panel recommends finalist(s) for the project. Finalists will receive further information about the project.
January 2025	Finalized Scope of Work
February 2025	Project launch
May 2025	Project Build window begins

SECTION III - EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Submitted Request for Qualification (RFQ) materials will be collected by the Executive Director of the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County. Final determinations will be made by a review panel consisting of the project team and a working group including Enfield community members. The panel will review the work of all applicants before recommending a finalist. Selection will be based on the evidence of capability to successfully complete a large scale community-build public art installation. The alignment of an artist's previous work with the goals of this commission will also be considerations. The finalist will work with the review panel to create a finalized scope of work. The final recommendation of the selection panel will be reviewed by the Enfield Town Board prior to the award of the contract.

SECTION IV -TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CALL

Any Respondent that submits a response to this Call shall be deemed to agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. Reservation of Rights by Town

- a. Selected artist(s) must sign an agreement with the Town of Enfield and the Community Arts Partnership prior to beginning installation. Finished pieces will be the property of the Town of Enfield and subject to a contract approved by the town's attorney. The Town of Enfield reserves the right to reproduce finished work for promotion and archival purposes

in both print and / electronic form. The Town of Enfield will not sell reproductions of the work without written consent of the artist(s). The artists) shall waive his/her rights under the Visual Rights Act of 1990 and Section 14.03 of NYS Cultural Affairs Laws, to the extent that such rights would preclude or constrain the right of the Town to remove any accepted artwork. Submission of a proposal for this call implies acceptance of all conditions here stated.