



Where the Heart Is: An Artistic Examination of “Home” in Pittsburgh Lead Artist RFP

WonderRoot and the Annie E. Casey Foundation invite visual artists to submit proposals to develop a site-integrated, semi-permanent public art project to be located throughout the Pittsburgh neighborhood. Successful applicants will be asked to submit a conceptual design proposal inspired by content generated at an earlier stage of the project (details below).

Entry Deadline

June 2, 2018 at midnight

Eligibility

This RFP is open to professional artists residing in metropolitan Atlanta who meet the following qualifications:

- Successful completion of at least two original public art projects commissioned for an outdoor environment.
- Aesthetic excellence in the design and execution of completed projects.
- Ability to design, fabricate, install, and oversee the installation of commissioned work.
- Experience working in a team environment and incorporating the ideas and talents of other artists and community members to create a finished work.
- Ability to work with Supporting Artists to complete the project.
- Connectedness (professionally, residentially, etc.) to Pittsburgh and/or to surrounding neighborhoods.

About the Project

Where the Heart Is: An Artistic Examination of Home is a community-led public art initiative that provides a platform for Pittsburgh residents to reclaim their shared spaces and the narratives that accompany them. Areas of residential value and civic interaction, such as barber shops,

convenience stores, recreation centers, basketball courts, churches, and even abandoned lots are publicly unsung as viable community assets and/or colloquial sacred spaces. *Where the Heart Is* allows Pittsburgh stakeholders the opportunity to affirm and commemorate the landmarks, symbols, and stories that reflect their collective identity via public art. Through an extensive community engagement process, WonderRoot and the project artist(s) will work collaboratively with residents to identify landmarks of local value, capture individual narratives, and conceptualize artistic markers that articulate the collective vision of the neighborhood. *Where the Heart Is* encourages the Pittsburgh community to reexamine their eminence as valued residents as they continuously shape their shared environment.

Public Art Budget

The total budget for the Lead Artist's role in *Where the Heart Is* is \$25,000 which will be broken down as follows:

- \$15,000 for Lead Artist commission
- \$10,000 for project materials and supplies.

The \$10,000 budget for materials and supplies includes all costs related to the artwork's final design, fabrication, transportation, delivery, and installation costs; subcontractor and consultant fees including any engineers or fabricators; permit and license fees; and all other costs associated with the art project.

Public Art Locations

The artworks will be installed throughout the Pittsburgh neighborhood. The exact locations are TBD.

Stage One: Request for Conceptual Proposal Designs

An Advisory Committee consisting of community representatives will review the applications and rank them according to the selection criteria defined below. All qualifications listed below must be met or the proposal will be removed from consideration:

- Lead Artist application completed through the [Where the Heart Is website](#) or picked up from, completed, and returned to the WonderRoot Community Arts Center (located at 982 Memorial Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30316). Applicants are asked to listen and review all files relating to the project and reference in all proposed designs.
- A curriculum vitae or résumé that places emphasis on your experience in the public art realm, including a minimum of two original, outdoor public art projects.
- The conceptual design proposal must indicate the artist's design intent, materials and fabrication processes, a preliminary budget based on actual cost estimates, and a project timeline. Conceptual design proposals should provide renderings and other visual materials to adequately illustrate the proposed artwork.

- Proposed budgets must include verifiable cost estimates for design development, fabrication and/or fabrication oversight, delivery, installation, professional consultants, required insurances, and all other costs associated with the art project. The evaluation of the proposed budgets will be an integral part of the selection process.
- Artists can collaborate with WonderRoot in developing their conceptual design proposal, including identifying initial ideas for artwork, content, and scale.

Selection Committee Selection Criteria

To select the Lead Artist(s), the Advisory Committee will take into account public comments in conjunction with the criteria listed below. The Committee will recommend a Lead Artist or Lead Artists to WonderRoot based on the following:

- Artistic excellence, creativity, and originality of the project's concept.
- The artist's response to the stated goals of the project.
- The technical feasibility of the proposed artwork, including maintenance requirements, resistance to vandalism, and appropriateness for public access.
- An evaluation of the proposed budget including:
 - The budget's feasibility for the scope of the project.
 - An analysis to determine if the artist has completed appropriate research and obtained viable cost estimates from subcontractors and suppliers.
 - Positive feedback from professional references.

Project Schedule

(may be subject to change)

RFP Application Deadline: **June 2nd, 2018**

Stage One:

Advisory Committee review of Lead Artist conceptual design proposal: **June 7th, 2018**

Stage Two:

Lead Artist selected and notified: **June 15th, 2018**

Stage Three:

Fabrication and Installation: **June 25th – August 5th, 2018**

Unveiling and Dedication Event: **Early August**

Questions? Please contact WonderRoot's Head of Creative Placemaking, Brandon Jones, at Brandon@wonderroot.org.