

ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a regular meeting of the Arts & Culture Commission will be held in Conference Room 2A at City Hall, 420 N Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744 on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 3:45 PM.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Public Input
3. Setting the Agenda
4. Correspondence
5. Approve minutes: January 14, 2020 Regular meetings.
6. Financials: Current revenue/expenditure report
7. Artist in Residence
8. Old Business
 - Discuss Northbank mural project, Grant discussion and Kiosk
 - Review and recommend nominations for Mayor's Art Award
9. New Business
 - Discuss organizing public forum hosted by Forecast Public Art
 - Review and recommend RFQs for 2020 Public Art
10. Announcements
11. Set Agenda For Next Meeting:
12. Adjourn



CITY OF
GRAND RAPIDS
IT'S IN MINNESOTA'S NATURE

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof the regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission was held in Conference Room 2A of the Grand Rapids City Hall, 420 N. Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 3:45 PM.

Call of Roll: On a call of roll, the following members were present: Anne-Marie Erickson, David Marty, Jessie Siiter, Gail Otteson, Tom Sippola, Kayla Aubid, Kari Hedlund, Myrna Peterson (virtual presence) and Ed Zabinski (arrived at 4:06 PM). Absent: None.

Others: Sonja Merrild

Staff Present: Tom Pagel, Kim Gibeau

Administrator Tom Pagel called the meeting to order.

Public: None.

Setting the Agenda:

Motion by Aubid, second by Smith to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Election of Officers:

The first meeting of the year requires election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

Motion by Erickson, second by Otteson nominating Ed Zabinski as Chair for 2020. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Marty, second by Aubid nominating Anne-Marie Erickson as Vice-Chair for 2020. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Marty, second by Erickson nominating Jessie Siiter as Secretary for 2020. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Vice-Chair Erickson presided over the meeting in the absence of Chair Zabinski.

Correspondence: None.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Marty, second by Hedlund to approve the minutes for December 3, 2019 as presented. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Financials: Reviewed financials for end of 2019. Noted that the new operating budget for 2020 is \$7,500.00.

Artist in Residence: There is currently one new applicant for the next series. Possibility for current residents to apply for next series.

New Business:

Chair Zabinski arrived at 4:06 pm and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Discuss organizing public forum on Public Art:

Sonja Merrild reviewed work with Forecast Public Art and final piece of contract to hold a public forum with the community. Discussed possible collaboration with Grand Rapids Arts Fair in July 2020 or combining with a First Friday Art Walk. Commissioner Aubid will look at different options and come back to group with suggestions.

Old Business:

Discuss Northbank mural project, Grant discussion and Kiosk:

Still working on these items. Changemaker Retreat grant was approved for \$1200. John Thunder, Artist, is interested in working with MacRostie and Thisledew, Department of Corrections on a project working with incarcerated individuals, connecting them with surrounding communities prior to release.

Mayor's Arts Award: Has been publicly announced and accepting applications. Discussed selection process and concerns about possible conflict of interest with members associated with nominees. Questions regarding criteria and need to clarify the policy. Staff will follow up. The Commission has a budget of \$300 earmarked for the award and this will be presented in April 2020 to the recipient. Deadline is set for January 31, 2020 and nominations received will be brought to the February 4th meeting for review.

New Business (continued):

Discuss recommendations for 2020 Public Art: Subcommittee consisting of Commissioners Aubid, Hedlund, Zabinski and Administrator Tom Pagel present recommendations. Following discussion, Mr. Pagel will draft a request for qualifications for consideration. If approved, the request will be forwarded to the City Council for authorization. The process will follow the map set out by Forecast Public Art in the search for sculptors and muralist from last year. Members overall preference is for one large sculpture opposed to two smaller pieces.

Items for next agenda:

- Northbank mural project, Grant discussion & Kiosk – Katie Marshall, MacRostie
- Request for Qualifications for Public Art sculpture
- Poetry Contest
- Mayor's Art Award

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION**

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 2020**

With Comparative Totals for the Period Ending December 31, 2019

	<u>Actual 1/31/2020</u>	<u>Actual 12/31/2019</u>
Arts & Culture Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,000
Supplies	-	32
Seminar/Meetings/School	-	-
Mayor's Art Award	-	308
Facility Rent	-	-
Utility Box Wraps	-	768
Art Mapping Project	-	1,000
Operating Transfer to Capital Proj 418	-	1,550
	<u>7,500</u>	<u>1,550</u>
Balance Available	<u><u>7,500</u></u>	<u><u>1,342</u></u>

The Mayor's Arts Award

The *Mayor's Arts Award* will be granted to a Grand Rapids area business, organization, or an individual that supports and promotes local arts organizations, programs or individual artists through funding, advocacy and/or community outreach in the Grand Rapids area.

Eligibility Guidelines:


- Businesses, organizations, or an individual may be nominated or may nominate themselves by sending a letter of nomination to the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission, 420 N. Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids MN 55744 as described below.
- Businesses, organizations, or individuals must be located in, or a resident of, the City of Grand Rapids.
- The Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Committee will identify a winning nomination, or more than one nomination if the Committee deems fit, and forward their recommendation(s) to the City Council for their consideration at a February City Council Meeting.
- Winners will be personally notified prior to the award ceremony.
- Telephone nominations will not be accepted.
- Questions concerning this award may be directed to Amy Dettmer (adettmer@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us), or the City Clerk in her absence.

Timeline and Selection:


- A press release calling for nominations will be advertised by January 1st of every calendar year. Notice of the same will be advertised in the *Grand Rapids Herald Review*, or other designated legal publication, at least twice prior to the nominations deadline closing. The notice will also be posted on the City's website and physically placed upon the public notice board at City Hall during the same timeframe.
- Deadline for nominations are February 1st of every year.

- Letters of nomination will be reviewed at the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Committee's February meeting.
- The Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Committee will identify a winning nomination, or more than one nomination if the Committee deems fit, and forward their recommendation to the City Council for their consideration at a February City Council Meeting.
- The award will be presented at the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner.
- The award will consist of a donated item of art or other item of artistic significance, or a physical award highlighting the Mayor's appreciation of the business's, organization's, or an individual's efforts in promoting the arts in the City of Grand Rapids.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, this 26th day of March, 2018.


Dale Adams, Mayor

Attest:


Kim Gibeau, City Clerk

Project Free Care

&

Pam Dowell, Coordinator

Mayor's Arts Award nomination letter

January 14, 2020

Dear Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission,

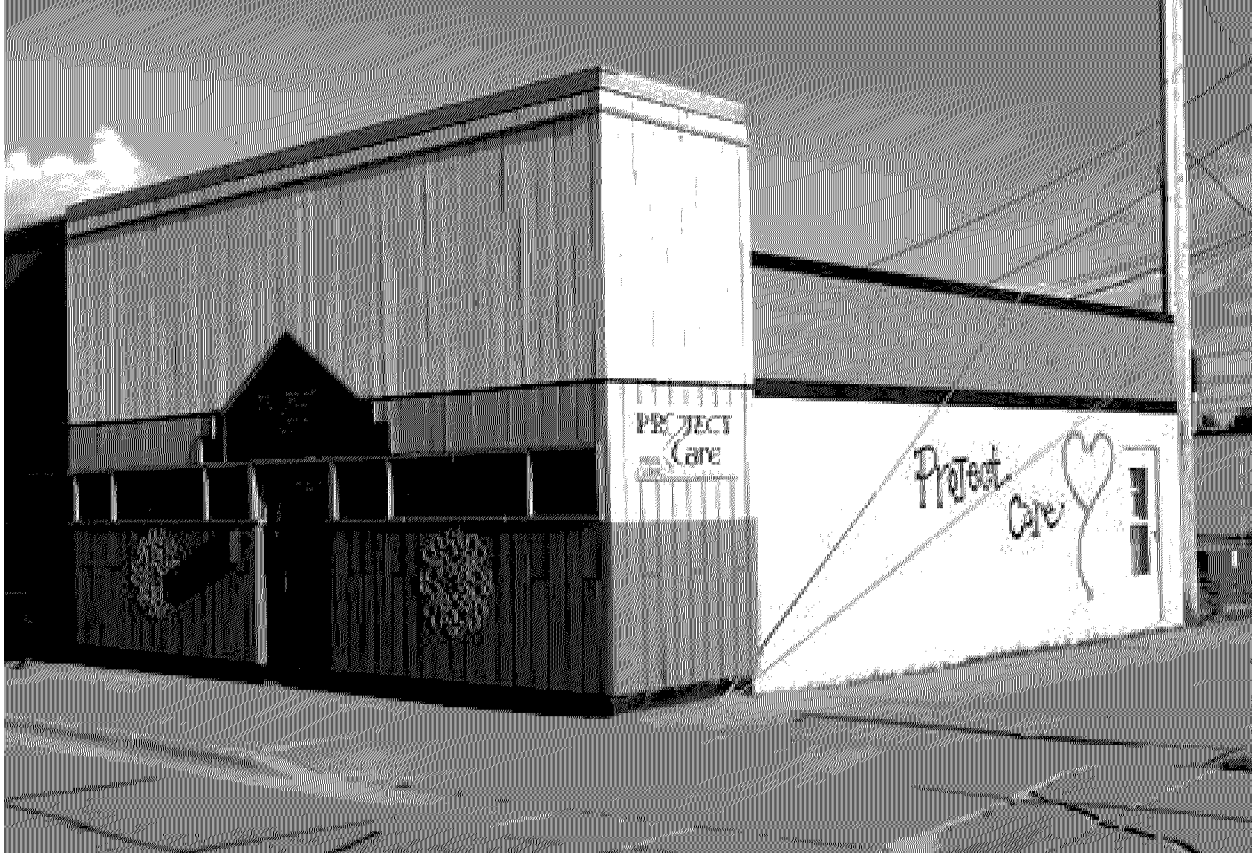
I would like to nominate Project Care Free Clinic of Grand Rapids and Site Coordinator Pam Dowell for consideration for the Mayor's Arts Award. I work as a paramedic in Grand Rapids and I am an enthusiastic volunteer for Project Care Free Clinic.

About eight years ago, I ended up in this northwoods milltown, mostly by accident. Since then I have found a real feeling of home here, and have become engaged in the community on a number of fronts, including with the homeless and the uninsured. It's easy to see the effect that the arts have on making Grand Rapids one of the brightest places on the Iron Range and in Minnesota's north woods and lakes more broadly. From my point of view, Pam Dowell's work at Project Care Free Clinic has been marvelous addition to the arts, culture and health of Grand Rapids. As someone involved in healthcare, and with an interest in being part of healthy communities, it's not hard to see the benefit that living in a place where art and creativity are valued and encouraged, provides to all segments of the community.

Pam became the manager of the local branch of Project Care Free Clinic about four years ago. One of her first initiatives was to have Project Care become a stop in the First Friday Art Walk. This way Pam was able to support the arts locally by bringing in little known local artists to exhibit at the downtown clinic. I recognize that awards and recognition often go to large benefactors and agents who have significant financial resources to contribute. While such major financial commitments are laudatory and are often a factor in supporting local art, I think it is also vital to recognize the significant contributions of time, resources and energy that are put forth by enthusiastic backers of the arts who are of more limited financial means.

Under Pam's direction and leadership, multiple and varied artists who were otherwise little known in this area have found a venue to gain exposure and display their work. On many First Fridays, several artists are presenting their works at Project Care Free Clinic. Sometimes, additional tent space had been needed to house the variety of artists and musicians presenting/performing at Project Care Free Clinic, who couldn't be contained inside the clinic building itself.

When Pam was new to her role at Project Care, she was concerned about the façade of the Free Clinic, and before several large grant funded projects aided in the downtown beautification, Pam, with her own funds and time, went to work enhancing the clinic façade with bold, bright colors and a hand-painted logo applied by local folk artist and former New Orleanian Patti Farrell.



Pam has been a huge supporter, & often benefactor for Patti Farrell. Patti moved to the Grand Rapids area in 2015 from New Orleans and knew very few people here. Pam saw Patti's art and encouraged her to reach out to the local arts community. Patti quickly became an artist in residence at the Central School. Project Care has hosted Patti as a consistent artist and exhibitor. Patti's clientele has grown and she has been able to exhibit her work at a number of Grand Rapids locations, and as a result has had a number of pieces commissioned. Pam herself has commissioned Patti to do special art pieces, including a memorial piece that was dedicated to the family of Bernice Kane, a nurse practitioner and volunteer at Project Care, who passed away two years ago in a tragic accident. Patti is now an artist assistant with Itasca Life Options coaching and instructing clients in art exercises and activities.



“Bernice-Afterlife”

Project Care Free Clinic is a non-profit free clinic that receives no state or federal funding. It runs on donations and grants, with an extremely limited budget, and is staffed by volunteers who are committed to providing service to the uninsured in our community. Pam’s mother, Jackie Dowell, pays the First Friday fees and Pam supplies all the added advertising, food, refreshments and marketing for the events out of her own pocket. Pam is very conscious of human rights issues and health care advocacy, so part of the art awareness will often be centered on social justice causes. The first Project Care open house introduced the area to the artworks of Shephard Fairey, a well-known street graphic artist based out of California. Pam was able to secure many prints from his series, including an autographed piece. She was also able to get some added pieces from his apprentice Ernesto Yerena.

See this story:

https://www.grandrapidsmn.com/news/project-care-open-house-celebrates-the-works-of-shepard-fairey/article_fca0e040-2c18-11e7-b2b6-f70c156102a0.html

In another exhibit, Project Care went out to the community, Kiesler Wellness Center and a local daycare and asked for children and adults in a wellness class to contribute art for an exhibit called, "The Healers." Pam provided the canvases and papers for the artists, and a wonderful body of work was created that focused on children's interpretations of "the difference makers" in their community. Each Kiesler participant painted or created a piece that spoke to art as healing.



See this story: https://www.grandrapidsmn.com/free_press/project-care-free-clinic-celebrates-the-healers/article_9576d55a-642a-11e8-9e01-af6e2dbb4904.html

This past year Pam happened upon two octogenarian home artists and offered them the opportunity to exhibit. These ladies were thrilled as they never thought of themselves as "artists." They were both very unassuming and knew little about the local arts in Grand Rapids. After their exhibits at Project Care, both women have been invited to show in other locations. It is heartwarming to see these initiatives by a local small business/individual result in increased energy, excitement and AWARENESS of local arts in the downtown area. Pam typically purchases a piece of art from the clinic 1st Friday artists, and has created a permanent collection at Project Care Free Clinic. It has been gratifying to see patients come in and admire the art on the clinic walls. It has also been a great way to learn about unknown artists. It is

often a patient or patient attendee who will tell Pam about a little known artist in the area, and Pam will reach out to them.

I also think the clinic is a particularly comfortable location for the exhibiting artists, as it is not a retail establishment and hence, the focus is solely on the artist's work. Each exhibitor has their own room and space, which creates a more personal venue for the public to engage with the artists. I am a regular attendee and supporter of the First Friday Art Walk. I appreciate that Project Care Free Clinic supports the downtown arts and promotes art as an avenue for better health and a stronger community. So, I present this nomination of a small, non-profit, free healthcare clinic, because I believe that art and creativity undoubtedly help the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the community the clinic serves.

Sincerely,

Simon Gretton
212 NE 3rd Avenue, Apt. 8
Grand Rapids, MN
Phone 218.491.3713
Email: simongretton@gmail.com

Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital

Tyler Waller
28791 River View Drive
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

January 22, 2019

Subject: 2019 Mayor's Arts Award

Grand Rapids Art and Culture Commission,

I would like to nominate Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital for the 2019 Mayor's Arts Award.

My name is Tyler Waller and I am the Inpatient Pharmacy Manager at Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital. I have had the great pleasure of working at Grand Itasca for nearly 9 years and was able to participate in the planning and development of Grand Itasca's new Infusion and Cancer center. We are an incredibly lucky facility to have such a beautiful space to work and take care of our patients in. While the space and infrastructure are amazing- it was apparent early that the space would need art to bring it warmth and truly make it a space for healing.

The first installation put in this new space was the 2017 "Close to Home" capital campaign donor wall, designed and constructed by local artist Aaron Squadroni. This piece immediately brought the lobby to life and provided a way for donors to memorialize their loved one(s) and their commitment to cancer care. The artist continued and showcased the earth-tone theme that Grand Itasca is known for.

As an employee in this space, I noticed that it wasn't long before Grand Itasca had other beautiful pieces installed for our patients (*and employees*) to enjoy. Pieces by local artists such as: Charles Beck, Bob Carls, John Connelly, Dorothy Hall, Glenna Olson, Mike and Kathy Jasper, Reuben Patnaude, Karlyn Berg, Susan Clandon, Jane Latimer and Keith Thompson. It is my understanding that Grand Itasca invested nearly \$25,000 to bring this space to life and it shows.

While the Infusion and Cancer Center has been the most recent commitment to art, it is certainly not the only example. Grand Itasca's Professional Building annually adds art created by our pediatric patients to its clinic lobby. This art is created as part of the annual collection created to be auctioned off at the Burggraf's ACE Hardware Caring Fore Kids Charity Classic. What a wonderful way to have this population represented in our community.

As I walk the hallways of my work-place, I am so grateful for the time and effort put into making it a beautiful place. Our patients come to us during some of the hardest days of their life- this organizations commitment to making this space a beautiful place to heal is just another way that Grand Itasca strives for patient-centered excellence.

Thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

Tyler Waller, PharmD.

January 23, 2019

Tara Makinen
1114 NW 2nd Ave
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Re: Nomination of Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital for Mayor's Arts Award

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission
c/o Amy Dettmer sent via email to adettmer@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us

Dear Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission:

I am writing to nominate Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital (GICH) for the Mayor's Arts Award. GICH is well deserving of this award for many reasons including:

- All artwork at Grand Itasca is high quality work from Minnesota artists with an emphasis on local artists.
- GICH entire facility has design elements that support a healing environment; the art collection is an additional investment in demonstrating commitment to art as a part of GICH's healing philosophy.
- Through GICH's permanent art collection, Grand Itasca has invested significant dollars in our community's creative economy by paying working artists for their work. Most recently spending \$25,000 to purchase over 40 new pieces for GICH's newly remodeled space including: Unit 5 in the clinic, the Oncology clinic and the infusion center.
- All artwork is also framed locally, again investing in local business.
- Local artists on display at Grand Itasca include: Charles Beck, Bob Carls, John Connelly, Dorothy Hall, Glenna Olson, Mike and Kathy Jasper, Reuben Patnaude, Karlyn Berg, Susan Clandon, Jane Latimer, Aaron Squadroni, and Keith Thompson. Among these names you will find artists recognized by the McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board, and the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council.
- At Grand Itasca, the facility and artwork have been designed and selected to represent nature and the significant role it plays in the art of healing. When acquiring artwork, GICH has engaged a panel of community members with knowledge, experience and differing viewpoints in artwork to assist in the selection process.
- The GICH donor walls also demonstrate Grand Itasca's passion and investment in local art.
 - The 2005 "My Health, Our Future" donor wall recognizes donors who generously supported the original build of this new campus on Golf Course Road. The donor wall was designed and constructed by local artists with the intention to support and honor local donors along with local resources. Elements used on this donor wall include: wood for forests, glass for water and beautiful copper for local metals and resources found in our community.
 - Annually, Bob Carls and Amy Sharpe design and hand engrave the Foundation Fever – Employee Giving Campaign donor wall. On its 9th year of existence, this campaign allows for an annual addition to the recognition of donors and growth of Grand Itasca's art collection.
 - And most recently, the 2017 "Close to Home" capital campaign donor wall, designed and constructed by Aaron Squadroni, continues GICH's legacy of honoring the earth tones of our region all while recognizing community donors who helped bring a new cancer clinic and infusion center to our community. This donor wall is another symbol of Grand Itasca's significant commitment to the beauty of artwork throughout our entire facility.

- Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital has a continued commitment to the arts in our community: The plan for 2019 is to bring an outdoor labyrinth and healing garden to the campus. This project is being led by Grand Itasca Foundation in partnership with a community committee who are committed to expanding Grand Itasca's commitment to art and nature. The healing garden will be an outdoor space built as an extension of GICH's indoor artwork collection.
- Located at Grand Itasca's Professional Building, artwork created by Grand Itasca pediatric patients is annually added to that clinic lobby collection. Each year this original artwork is created by the pediatric patients who help Grand Itasca Foundation promote their largest fundraiser, the Burggraf's Ace Hardware Caring Fore Kids Charity Classic. The artwork project was created and is led annually by Foundation Board Member and Burggraf's Ace Hardware Store Owner, Amber Burggraf. The artwork is designed by pediatric patients and auctioned off at the event each year. Since the project began three years ago, the highest bidder who won the artwork at the charity event has then donated it back to the clinic & hospital to be displayed in the lobby at the Pro Building for all of GICH pediatric rehab patients to enjoy.

I am in my second term serving on the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, in the past years I have spent a lot of time reviewing grant applications, projects and resumes. Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital sets the bar high when it comes to the thoughtful process used to select art for its campuses, the investment in quality artwork and for creating beautiful healing spaces.

Sincerely,

Tara Makinen

January 28, 2019

Ms. Amy Dettmer,

Arts and Culture Commission,

City of Grand Rapids

Dear Amy and Commission Members,

Please accept the following as a support letter for the nomination of Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital for the current Mayor's Award through the Arts and Culture Commission. I note that in your Arts and Culture Commission Roadmap you state that Grand Itasca promotes "links between art and healing." It is this art of healing work at Grand Itasca that I am supporting for this award.

I have had the pleasure of working on this program at Grand Itasca as a volunteer community member before the new facility was built and through the current new remodeling for the cancer and infusion center. I was co-chair of the building committee for the new hospital and a board member of the facility so had a role in decisions about the selection of final furnishings for the new facility. We put together a small team of volunteers to work with area artists to bring art and healing together. We knew that beautiful architecture, natural lighting and the creative work of area artists could and would create an atmosphere for healing in the new hospital and clinic. More than 30 local and regional artists answered our call for original art. Patients and their families who spend time at Grand Itasca have told me many, many times through the years that their stay has been positively impacted by being surrounded by beautiful art as they journeyed through the healing process.

So when the new cancer and infusion center was completed this past year, once again it was a natural process to encourage local artists to submit original art in a variety of forms for the new healing space. Our team of community volunteers and Grand Itasca staff strongly believe that people heal when they are surrounded by caring people, good medicine and beauty, both through art and nature. We once again had a total art budget of \$25,000 for the purchase and framing of local art. The number of artists and quality of their work was exceptional and will once again help future patients, families and caregivers work together for better healthcare outcomes. Our next projects will be to complete a healing garden and labyrinth project at Grand Itasca in the next few months to continue these art of healing outcomes.

This ongoing partnership between local artists and the health care community is yet another example of art working to build a more caring, healing community. Thank you for your consideration of Grand Itasca for the this Mayor's Award this year.

*Barb Sanderson
1501 SW 3rd Ave.*

To Whom it May Concern:

We would like to add a brief email of support to previous nominations for Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital to be considered for the Mayor's Art Award. As supporters of art in the community, we continue to be appreciative of the art displayed at GICH. Every unit and hallway is adorned with art from local artists, often people we know, work with, and care for. We have both been a part of choosing some of this art, and we also appreciate that GICH is willing to take some risks and display eclectic art that may garner differing aesthetic responses from the viewer.

Because we both think that art is an important part of overall health, we commend the group for creating this award and hope that the work done at Grand Itasca will be recognized.

Sincerely,
Anne Tofte, MD
Bill Rutherford, MD

Amy,

This letter is to nominate Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital for the 2019 Mayor's Arts Award. When I read the award criteria in the newspaper, I thought, "This is exactly us!" By "us" I mean the community of Grand Itasca. I would like to highlight a few examples of arts support that have stood out in particular to me.

Grand Itasca supports performing arts in our community. It has done this by sponsoring shows at the Reif Center, being host to members of the Minnesota Orchestra, and recently serving as a venue for the Grand Rapids High School Brass Ensemble during the Christmas season.

At Grand Itasca, I have had the opportunity to see art produced by and performed by several people I have seen as patients. The same can be said by most of my colleagues. This has enhanced the relationships we have with these artists as we can appreciate each others' talents.

I have the honor of having a piece of my own artwork displayed at Grand Itasca. This is an example of Grand Itasca supporting emerging artists. In regards to the artwork displayed, a photo of a placenta, I like to point out that not only is there the art of medicine, but there is also art in medicine.

I spend many hours a week at Grand Itasca, and am fortunate that they have invested, and plan to continue to invest, in making it a beautiful place to work and visit. I'm particularly excited about the plan for this year to bring an outdoor labyrinth and healing garden to our campus. The healing garden will be an outdoor space built as an extension of our indoor artwork collection, and a great place to hang out on call!

Thank you for reviewing this nomination,
Patty Carlin-Janssen, MD

KAXE Northern Community Radio

January 23, 2019

Dear Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission,

It is with great pleasure that we nominate KAXE Northern Community Radio for consideration for the 2019 Mayor's Art Award. In addition to playing a vast variety of music daily that caters to a wide-ranging audience of listeners, KAXE has a longstanding commitment to and history of highlighting, promoting, influencing and supporting local art.

As listeners and members of KAXE, we have come to rely on the station for information and promotion of arts in our area and value the fact that they intentionally do so in collaboration with other area non-profits that are also committed to local art.

For example, KAXE, in collaboration with MacRostie Art Center, provides monthly promotion of the 1st Friday artists which includes a variety of art mediums such as authors, potters, painters, musicians, and more. They also partner with the Reif Center on a program called CenterStage Minnesota – a monthly concert, which is open to the public and showcases the talents of Minnesota musicians. Also, the station provides on-air art interviews at least twice per week.

Every summer, KAXE organizes and hosts the KAXE Riverfest, bringing talented musicians to perform in their outdoor amphitheater for two days of fun. The Riverfest is family friendly and you will often find people both young and old enjoying the festival.

We also highly value the fact that KAXE is intentional about highlighting local Native art and artists through their radio interviews, website and other social media platforms.

In addition to the support and promotion of the local art scene on air, KAXE has local art displayed in the radio station and on the station grounds.

We believe KAXE has a proven track record for recognizing and honoring the importance of local art to creating a vibrant community and is a perfect candidate for the 2019 Mayor's Arts Award.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John & Laura Connelly

From: eric mann <ericmann218@gmail.com>
Date: January 30, 2020 at 3:48:46 PM CST
To: Tom Pagel <tpagel@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us>
Subject: **Mayors art awards**

I nominate KAXE for bringing so much music to our area for years.

Eric Mann

Sam & Katie Miltich

From: Wilcox, Noah [<mailto:noah.wilcox@grsb.bank>]
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 12:54 PM
To: Amy Dettmer <adettmer@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us>
Subject: Mayor's Arts Award

PLEASE NOTE: My email address now ends in GRSB.BANK. Please update my email in your address book.

Hello Amy,

It has come to my attention that it is that time of year, where the nominations are open for this year's Mayor's Art Award.

As the recipient of the first Mayor's Arts Award, I want to acknowledge the prestige and honor associated with being recognized with this special award.

I would like to nominate Sam and Katie Miltich for this year's award. Sam has done so much work to create a vibrant music scene in Grand Rapids over the years and has brought many very talented professionals to the area from around Minnesota and the nation to help grow our local arts culture. Katie, as you know, is the Executive Director of the Macrostie Art Center which curates shows by artists from the local area, other parts of Minnesota and around the country in addition to hosting educational and instructional offerings as well as providing merchandise for sale that area residents can purchase to bring that culture home or spread as a gift to others.

Together Sam and Katie have invested themselves in helping to create a visible and growing very vibrant arts culture here in Grand Rapids. We are blessed to have their talents as a part of our community.

Please let this letter serve as my strong nomination for Sam and Katie Miltich to receive the next Mayor's Arts Award.

Thank you for your consideration.
Noah

Janna Salmela

The Loves

34999 Grimsbo Road

Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Mayor's Arts Award

The Loves would like to nominate Janna Salmela for the Mayor's Arts Award. Mrs. Salmela has offered her studio to budding young artists such as my daughter Dixie during the Friday Art Walks many times. She has modified her space and others in the vicinity to cater to these artists expelling both her time and energy. Her passion and enthusiasm for art shine clearly through her expressions and cannot be replicated. The kindness she shows, speak greatly for her character. She does all this, not for profit or clients, but to offer a chance to help others shine. Please consider Janna, as she quietly builds the cornerstone of our diverse community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeff Love

Aimee Love

Dixie Love

Brier Love



GRAND RAPIDS, MN

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Pavement Art
Public Art Opportunity

Request for Qualifications

About Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids is a unique blend of small-town hospitality and character with big city conveniences and opportunities. Grand Rapids offers an excellent quality of life to residents of the region with outstanding educational opportunities, excellent medical care, exceptional cultural, natural, and recreational amenities, and a vibrant sense of community spirit. Grand Rapids provides residents safe, friendly, affordable housing and inclusive neighborhoods that retain and enhance nature in the City. Residents and visitors can move around the City with equal ease by car, bicycle, or walking. Grand Rapids welcomes and supports a diverse mix of thriving businesses and industries that provide quality jobs, promising careers, and economic vitality. Grand Rapids is a welcoming gateway to Minnesota's Northwoods tourism.

Grand Rapids, MN, population 10,869 (U.S. Census Bureau 2010), is located in Northeastern Minnesota on the banks of the Mississippi River and is the Itasca County seat. It's situated in the midst of numerous lakes and forests. A small city known for logging, regional services, the arts, and its Native American and settler cultures — Grand Rapids is a place of many narratives. Grand Rapids is predominately white (96.5%), with Native American (3.1%), Latino (1.2%), Black (1.1%), and Asian (.9%) racial and ethnic minorities (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). Fifteen miles west of Grand Rapids lies the eastern edge of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation; Native Americans are the largest racial/ethnic minority in Itasca County (4.9%).

The City's name hails from its 3.5-mile stretch of rapids now hidden by a reservoir created by a hydroelectric dam. The hydropower generated by the rapids attracted UPM-Blandin's predecessor in 1902. The Mississippi also provided an optimal means of shipping logs to southern population centers. Whereas much of the northeastern Minnesota's "Iron Range" region historically focused on mining, Grand Rapids emerged as a logging town.

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission

The City Council established the Arts and Culture Commission in 2013. It currently functions as a volunteer commission, reporting to the City Council, with nine members and a City staff liaison. Commissioners are selected by the Council and serve a three-year term. The Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission envisions a community inspired by the power of its abundant arts and culture. They believe:

- the arts pave the way to a welcoming environment for all regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, gender or sexual orientation
- arts and culture combined with recreational opportunities define Grand Rapids as a regional creative destination for relocation, shopping, tourism and entertainment
- the arts contribute to health and well-being by creating aesthetically pleasing places to walk, bicycle, hike and play
- engagement in the arts helps vulnerable populations build confidence, cope with stress and aid with healing
- carefully planned and artistic street design contributes to a vibrant downtown and accommodates all modes of transportation, helping to make movement accessible to all
- the beauty of the natural environment of the Mississippi River, lakes and forests is a defining and valued characteristic of our community
- accessible, quality arts educational opportunities, cradle through career and on through retirement, are essential to the development of a creative community
- communities with robust arts and culture are more prosperous and attract large and small businesses, reward entrepreneurship, and provide meaningful careers to residents

The Pavement Art Project

In 2019, the Arts and Culture Commission installed *The Memory of Water* by Milligan Studio. The artists inspiration was to return the “rapids” back to the center of town. It consisted of three water sculptures located throughout downtown Grand Rapids. For more information visit:

<https://www.themilliganstudio.com/the-memory-of-water/cmjf05m7afek8w35xpdcv5pldlyhpu>

This year the Arts and Culture Commission will commission temporary pavement art that will last two to four years and will highlight storm and sanitary sewer catch basins/manholes and enhance traditional crosswalks and future curb “bump outs.” The pavement art should connect in some thematic way to the sculptures commissioned in 2019. **This Request for Qualifications is for the Pavement Art.**

The Arts and Culture Commission project will consist of pavement art with a theme of *Indigenous Peoples and Lands*. Fifteen miles west of Grand Rapids lies the sovereign nation of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The commission believes that history and public art can? should amplify and highlight the culture, voices, and stories of Native people – past, present, and future. Several signs around town use Anishinaabe language, and projects such as this will continue to strengthen the connections between citizens of Grand Rapids and of the Leech Lake reservation. **This Request for Qualifications is for the Pavement Art related to the concept of Indigenous Peoples and Lands.**

One artist will be commissioned to create the pavement art that will generally be located on 1st Avenue NE between 2nd and 3rd Street NE [see following pages for location maps].

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

The Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission is facilitating the design and creation of pavement art to

be located in downtown Grand Rapids. Artists are hereby invited to submit qualifications to be considered to participate in the design phase for the public art opportunities described below.

The Arts and Culture Commission will review eligible applications and select a group of up to three finalists/finalist teams to invite to Grand Rapids for an in-person interview. Each artist/team will receive a stipend of \$750 to cover fees associated with design and travel to in-person interviews.

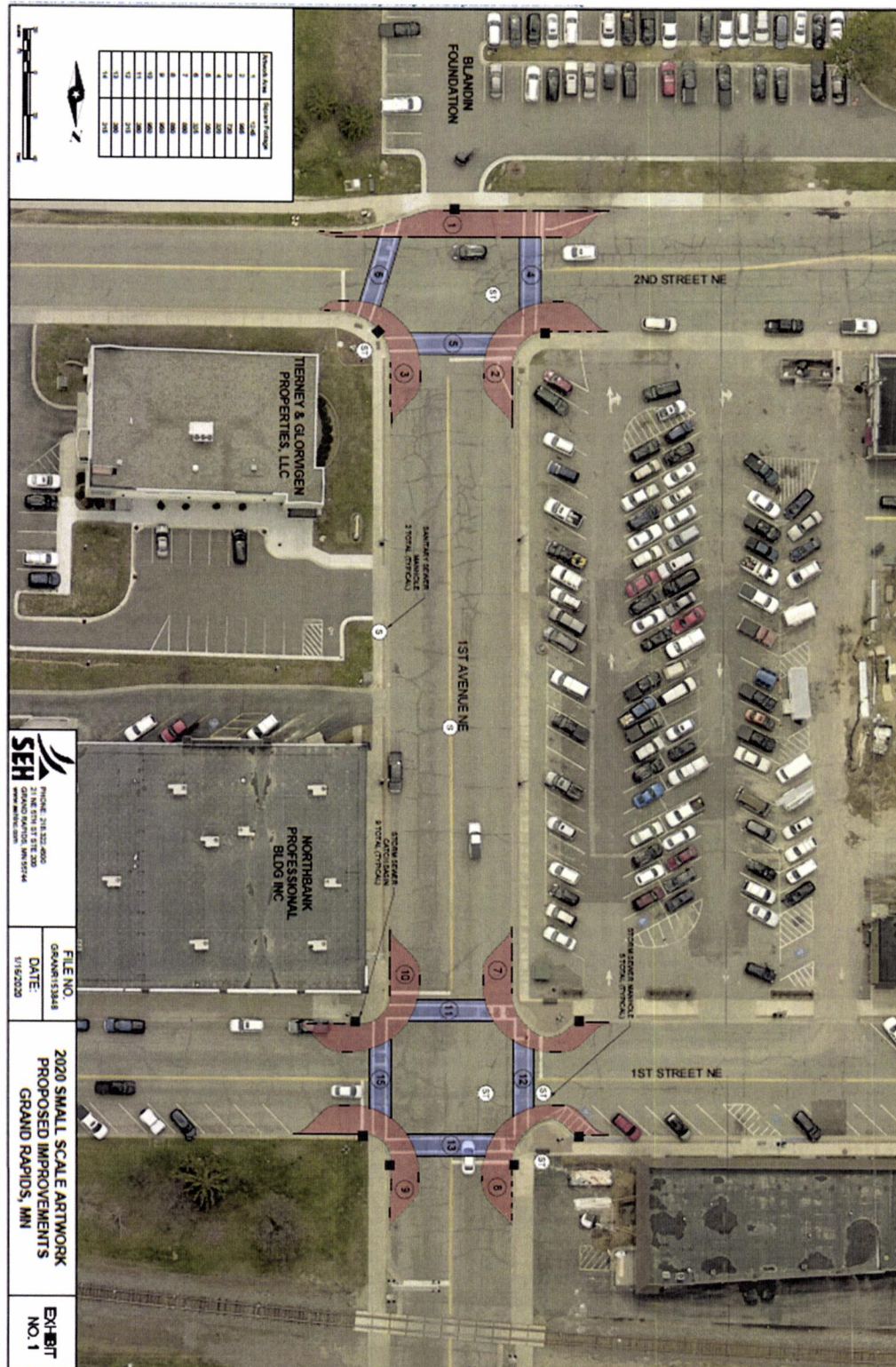
Upon completion of an in-person interview, one artist/artist team will be commissioned to develop and install pavement art. Additional requirements will be outlined in instructions to finalists. Please see the following timeline for further details.

Budget: \$28,250

The budget for the pavement art project is \$28,250. This do-not-exceed amount must include all fees, materials, transportation, installation, storage, permits, and insurance. More information about the site will be made available to the selected artist[s].

Site Information

The pavement art will be located in the areas identified in the following drawing.



Selection Criteria

Phase 1: Selection of artists/designers will be based on the following criteria:

- Quality of introductory letter.
- Quality of work samples.
- Ability of artist/team to successfully complete projects based on resume and prior work experience.
- Experience with creating and appropriately generating Native American artwork.

Phase 2: Design concepts must meet the following criteria:

- Design concepts are engaging, interactive in some way, and evoke curiosity of passers-by either through color, movement, material, whimsicality, or other considerations.
- Artwork advances Indigenous people and their history and connection to the Mississippi River, either physically or spiritually, and consider natural processes in some way.
- Artwork should take into consideration all seasons in Minnesota, and should be safe and low maintenance.
- Artwork conveys artistic excellence and innovation.

Additional considerations:

- Art should be welcoming, accessible and appropriate to the site.
- Artists should address how they would work with the Arts and Culture Commission to engage the community in some way.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be experienced visual artists or artist-led teams residing in the state of Minnesota, with special preference given to artists from Northern Minnesota who have experience in creating Native American artwork.
- Applicant must provide evidence of producing at least two commissioned public art projects of a similar scale and budget within the past ten years.

We are committed to a policy of providing opportunities to people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, veteran status, or physical ability.

Selection Process Overview

The Arts and Culture Commission will review applications and select up to three artists or teams to participate in the design phase. Each artist/team will be paid a stipend of \$750 to prepare design concepts. Deliverables include graphic depictions of the proposed artwork and a brief narrative description. Artists/teams will have approximately **seven weeks** to prepare preliminary concepts, including the presentations to the Arts and Culture Commission.

Schedule

- February 14, 2020 – RFQ announced
- March 20, 2020 – Deadline for RFQ submission; all required materials must be received by 4PM CST.
- April 7, 2020 – Committee review and selection of 3 finalists
- April 13, 2020 – City Council approves contracts with selected artists/teams for preliminary designs
- June 2, 2020 – Preliminary design concepts presented to Arts and Culture Commission

- July 13, 2020 – City Council approves final contract with selected artist or team. Commence design development.
- August of 2020: Pavement art painting begins
- September of 2020: Projects completion

Required Submission Materials (in digital format only)

Please provide the following text in 12-point font, in a single PDF document:

- Contact information for lead artist and, if applicable, all team members
- Three references (contact information only) for recently completed projects
- One-page letter describing interest in project and approach to design; please include statement addressing eligibility criteria
- One-page listing of each work sample; please provide a brief description and budget for each work sample
- One-page biographical information or resume; if you have multiple team members, please keep biographical information for each team member to one page
- Work samples: Up to 10 digital images of your recent and relevant projects. Individuals and teams are limited to 10 images maximum. Save all images as standard JPEG and label each with applicant's full name and number in sequence corresponding with list of work samples.

NOTE: Do not submit a proposal for artwork at this time.

Please submit all RFQ materials via email to: tpagel@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us. All materials must be received by **4 p.m., CST, Friday, March 20, 2020**. No RFQs will be accepted after this time. If you need clarification or further information, contact Tom Pagel, City Administrator at: tpagel@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us or 218.326.7626



GRAND RAPIDS, MN

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Indigenous Peoples and Lands

Sculpture

Art Opportunity

Request for Qualifications

About Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids is a unique blend of small town hospitality and character with big City conveniences and opportunities. Grand Rapids offers an excellent quality of life to residents of the region with outstanding educational opportunities, excellent medical care, exceptional cultural, natural, and recreational amenities, and an unequalled sense of community spirit. Grand Rapids provides residents safe, friendly, affordable housing and inclusive neighborhoods that retain and enhance nature in the City. Residents and visitors can move around the City with equal ease by car, bicycle, or walking. Grand Rapids welcomes and supports a diverse mix of thriving businesses and industries that provide quality jobs, promising careers, and economic vitality. Grand Rapids is a welcoming gateway to Minnesota's Northwoods tourism.

Grand Rapids, MN, population 10,869 (U.S. Census Bureau 2010), is located in Northeastern Minnesota on the banks of the Mississippi River and is the Itasca County seat. It's situated in the midst of numerous lakes and forests. A small City known for, logging, regional services, the arts, and its Native American and settler cultures — Grand Rapids is a place of many narratives. Grand Rapids is predominately white (96.5%), with Native American (3.1%), Latino (1.2%), Black (1.1%), and Asian (.9%) racial and ethnic minorities (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). Fifteen miles west of Grand Rapids lies the eastern edge of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation; Native Americans are the largest racial/ethnic minority in Itasca County (4.9%).

The City's name hails from its 3.5-mile stretch of rapids now hidden by a reservoir created by a hydroelectric dam. The hydropower generated by the rapids attracted UPM Blandin's predecessor in 1902. The Mississippi also provided an optimal means of shipping logs to southern population centers. Whereas much of the northeastern Minnesota's "Iron Range" region historically focused on mining, Grand Rapids emerged as a logging town.

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission

The City Council established the Arts and Culture Commission in 2013. It currently functions as a volunteer commission, reporting to the City Council, with nine members and a City staff liaison. Commissioners are selected by the Council and serve a three-year term. The Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission envisions a community inspired by the power of its abundant arts and culture. They believe:

- the arts pave the way to a welcoming environment for all regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, gender or sexual orientation
- arts and culture combined with recreational opportunities define Grand Rapids as a regional creative destination for relocation, shopping, tourism and entertainment
- the arts contribute to health and well-being by creating aesthetically pleasing places to walk, bicycle, hike and play
- engagement in the arts helps vulnerable populations build confidence, cope with stress and aid with healing
- carefully planned and artistic street design contributes to a vibrant downtown and accommodates all modes of transportation, helping to make movement accessible to all
- the beauty of the natural environment of the Mississippi River, lakes and forests is a defining and valued characteristic of our community
- accessible, quality arts educational opportunities, cradle through career and on through retirement, are essential to the development of a creative community
- communities with robust arts and culture are more prosperous and attract large and small businesses, reward entrepreneurship, and provide meaningful careers to residents

The Sculpture Project

The Arts and Culture Commission projects will consist of one sculpture with a concentration on *Indigenous Peoples and lands*. Fifteen miles west of Grand Rapids lies the edge of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe reservation. The commission believes that history and public art could amplify and highlight the culture, voices, and stories of Native Americans including tribal citizens – past, present, and future. Additionally, that Indigenous artists should lead public art projects throughout the city. Many signs around town have Anishinaabe language on them, and projects such as this will continue to strengthen the connections between citizens of Grand Rapids and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. **This Request for Qualifications is for the one sculpture project related to the concept of Indigenous Peoples and Lands.**

One artist will be commissioned to create the sculpture that will be sited at a Mississippi River Park, located at the NE corner of the intersections of Pokegama Avenue (TH 169) and SE 1st Street (River Road). [see following pages for location maps].

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Artists are hereby invited to submit qualifications to be considered to participate in the design phase for the public art opportunities described below.

The Arts and Culture Commission will review eligible applications and select a group of up to three finalists/finalist teams to invite to Grand Rapids for an in-person interview. Each artist/team will receive a stipend of \$750 to cover fees associated with design and travel to in-person interviews. Further information will be provided to the finalists.

Grand Rapids, MN | **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LAND THEMED - SCULPTURES** |
Public Art Opportunity

Upon completion of an in-person interview, one artist/artist team will be commissioned to develop, fabricate, and install the permanent artwork. The City will cover the expense of site/base preparation for the sculpture. Additional requirements will be outlined in instructions to finalists. Please see the following timeline for further details.

Budget: \$38,000

The budget the sculpture is \$38,000. More information about the sites will be made available to the selected artist[s].

Site Information

Sculptures will be located at three pre-selected sites in Downtown Grand Rapids.

Location: Mississippi River Park



Selection Criteria

Phase 1: Selection of artist/designers will be based on the following criteria:

- Quality of introductory letter.
- Quality of work samples.
- Ability of artist/team to successfully complete projects based on resume and prior work experience.
- Experience with creating and appropriately generating Native American artwork.

Phase 2: Design concepts must meet the following criteria:

- Design concepts are engaging, interactive in some way, and evoke curiosity of passers-by either through color, movement, material, whimsicality, or other considerations.
- Artworks advances Indigenous people and their history and connection to the Mississippi River, either physically or spiritually, and consider natural processes in some way.
- Artworks should take into consideration all seasons in MN, and should be safe and low maintenance.
- Artworks convey artistic excellence and innovation.

Additional considerations:

- Art should be welcoming, accessible and appropriate to the site.
- Artists should address how they would work with the Arts and Culture Commission to engage the community in some way.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be experienced visual artists or artist-led teams residing in the state of Minnesota, with special preference given to artists from Northern Minnesota who have experience in creating Native American artwork.
- Applicant must provide evidence of producing at least two commissioned public art projects of a similar scale and budget within the past ten years.

We are committed to a policy of providing opportunities to people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, veteran status, or physical ability.

Selection Process Overview

The Arts and Culture Commission will review applications and select up to three artists or teams to participate in the design phase. Each artist/team will be paid a stipend of \$750 to prepare design concepts. Deliverables include graphic depictions of the proposed artwork and a brief narrative description. Artists/teams will have approximately **seven weeks** to prepare preliminary concepts, including the presentations to the Arts and Culture Commission.

Schedule

- February 14, 2020 – RFQ announced
- March 20, 2020 – Deadline for RFQ submission; all required materials must be received by 4PM CST.
- April 7, 2020 – Committee review and selection of 3 finalists
- April 13, 2020 – City Council approves contracts with selected artists/teams for preliminary designs
- June 2, 2020 – Preliminary design concepts presented to Arts + Culture Commission
- August 10, 2020 – City Council approves final contract with selected artist or team. Commence design development.

- September of 2020: Based on approval of final design, artist/team commences with fabrication
- May/June of 2021: projects installed/project completion

Required Submission Materials (in digital format only)

Please provide the following text in 12-point font, in a single PDF document:

- Contact information for lead artist and, if applicable, all team members
- Three references (contact information only) for recently completed projects
- One-page letter describing interest in project and approach to design; please include statement addressing eligibility criteria
- One-page listing of each work sample; please provide a brief description and budget for each work sample
- One-page biographical information or resume; if you have multiple team members, please keep biographical information for each team member to one page
- Work sample: Up to 10 digital images of your recent and relevant projects. Individuals and teams are limited to 10 images maximum. Save all images as standard JPEG and label each with applicant's full name and number in sequence corresponding with list of work samples.

NOTE: Do not submit a proposal for artworks at this time.

Please submit all RFQ materials via email to: tpagel@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us. All materials must be received by **4 p.m., CST, Friday, March 20, 2020**. No RFQs will be accepted after this time. If you need clarification or further information, contact Tom Pagel, City Administrator at: tpagel@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us or 218.326.7626