



Request for Expressions of Interest
Public Art Opportunity - City of Burlington
Exterior Public Artwork - Burlington Performing Arts Centre

Deadline April 13, 2012
Budget \$95,000 CAD (maximum, all inclusive)

For more information: (905) 515-9334 | publicart@burlington.ca
www.burlingtonpublicart.com

Artist Opportunity

The City of Burlington invites professional artists to submit Expressions of Interest to create a permanent public artwork for the exterior of Burlington Performing Arts Centre (located at 440 Locust Street, Burlington, ON). This competition is open to all Canadian and International artists.

An artwork proposal is not requested at this time. Artist applications will be reviewed on the basis of artistic merit, professional qualifications, and experience. Short-listed artists will be required to submit a detailed Concept Proposal and will be provided with a full package containing site parameters, renderings, and artwork location details.

Background: Burlington Performing Arts Centre

The mission of The Burlington Performing Arts Centre (BPAC) is to provide the people of Burlington with a broad range of excellent performance opportunities that both inspire and delight. The Centre delivers diverse, world-class arts and entertainment and showcases Burlington and its arts community to the world.

History

The Burlington Performing Arts Centre is the product of extensive community consultation and study that took place between 2003 and 2008. The results of these studies indicated that Burlington has a substantial performing arts community that was reaching its creative and productive capacity in terms of scope, quality and volume of programs and performances it could deliver to the community. Today there are more than 60 commercial and community groups that provide arts experiences to thousands of participants and tens of thousands of patrons.

In March of 2007, the City of Burlington purchased the site of a former Halton Region Police Station at the corner of Locust and Elgin Streets. In September 2007, the City of Burlington retained Diamond and Schmitt Architects Inc. to design The Centre. March 2009 saw the official groundbreaking and The Burlington Performing Arts Centre opened its doors in the autumn of 2011.

The Architecture

Designed by Diamond and Schmitt Architects Inc., the Burlington Performing Arts Centre is the only freestanding green (LEED) performing arts space in Canada and houses three principle spaces: a 730-seat main stage theatre, a 225-seat studio theatre, and family lobby. The property also includes an event patio and six-storey fly tower, allowing BPAC to host a wide variety of productions and events.

Artwork Goals

Short-listed artists will be requested to develop a full Concept Proposal. The proposed artwork should be responsive to both the architecture of the BPAC building and the role this facility plays in the community. In particular, the artwork should:

- Capture the sense of anticipation, movement and energy that attracts the public and artists to live performance;
- Symbolize the momentum exemplified in the development of the Burlington Performing Arts Centre, Burlington's vibrant downtown core, active lifestyle and the growing contemporary culture celebrated by its citizens;
- Ignite the community's imagination and engagement in public space

Artwork Design Parameters

The artwork must adhere to the following design parameters:

- Fabricated using materials that are highly resistant to theft, vandalism and weathering
- Does not pose a risk to public safety (i.e. no sharp points, does not allow climbing to restricted areas, no slip hazards, etc.)
- Does not interfere with sightlines of outdoor performance space
- Artwork should compliment the design aesthetic of the architecture
- Meets all Ontario building code standards; selected artist will be required to submit drawings certified by an engineer licensed to operate in Ontario)
- Will not use light, video or sound as the predominant medium (i.e., lighting may be a component of work but should not be exclusively light-based piece)

Budget

\$95,000 CAD is the total amount available for all related expenses of this public art project. This includes (but is not limited to) artist fees, site preparation, technical consultation, fabrication, insurance, installation fees, storage, permit fees, travel, all applicable taxes, etc.

Eligibility

This competition is open to professional artists* (Canadian or International). Artist collectives and/or artist-led teams are also encouraged to apply. The selected artist must be able to travel to Burlington, Ontario, Canada for a minimum of two visits: one technical consultation meeting, and one visit to manage the installation of the artwork and to engage in public dialogue (i.e. artist talk / public engagement event).

** A professional artist is an individual who has specialized skills and/or training in his/her artistic discipline (not necessarily in academic institutions), has a history of public presentation and is critically recognized as an artist.*

Selection Process

An independent selection panel comprised of project stakeholders, community members and arts professionals will review all applications.

Selection Criteria

The selection committee will review applications based on the following criteria:

- Qualifications and professional experience of artist(s)
- Artistic merit of previous work (as expressed in digital images submitted)
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines, budgets and success in executing projects of the scale outlined in this document.
- The artist(s)' responsiveness to the site and approach to the project (as outlined in the Expression of Interest Statement submitted)

Original Work: The artist must guarantee that the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

Two-Stage Process

This competition is a two-stage process. In **Stage One**, the selection committee will review the applications based on the Selection Criteria outlined in this document. Artists may be requested for an interview at this stage. The selection committee will then recommend a short-list of three to four artists (maximum) to move on to Stage Two.

The artists selected for **Stage Two** will be asked to develop a Concept Proposal for the artwork consisting of: artist statement, preliminary design drawings and/or maquettes, draft budget and implementation plan. An honorarium of \$1500 will be paid upon completion of the Concept Proposal. Short-listed artists will have approximately 8 weeks to complete the Concept Proposal. The proposals will then be presented to the public for comment and feedback.

At the end of Stage Two, the selection committee will recommend the successful artist based on the merits of the Concept Proposal, technical feasibility and public feedback. The successful artist will then enter into a contract with the City of Burlington for the artwork creation and installation phase of the project.

CoBALT CONNECTS (formerly the Imperial Cotton Centre for the Arts) manages the City of Burlington's Public Art Program. Guided by the Public Art Policy, CoBALT CONNECTS works in cooperation with City staff to develop and implement the Public Art Master Plan.

Please note, the Selection Committee, CoBALT CONNECTS, and the City of Burlington reserves the right to choose to not recommend any application, proposal or finalist and to terminate or re-advertise any project.

Estimated Project Timeline (2012-13)

Deadline	Activity
March 1, 2012	Expression of Interest document released
April 13, 2012	Deadline for Stage One: Expression of Interest
April 16 - 20, 2012	Selection Committee reviews applications, selects short-listed artists for Stage Two: Concept Proposal
April 23 – June 15, 2012	Short-listed artists develop Concept Proposals
June 18 – 29, 2012	Selection Committee and Technical Review Committee reviews Concept Proposals
July – August, 2012	Concept Proposals are presented to public for comment and feedback
September 2012	Selection Committee makes final recommendation for artist selection. Successful artist enters into contract with City of Burlington
October 2012 - June 2013	Detailed design, fabrication and installation
June / July 2013	Artwork installation and launch (or sooner by agreement)

Application Deadline and Receipt

All applications are due on or before **Friday April 13, 2012 at 4:00 PM**. Incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be accepted. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

All applicants will receive notice via email or mail that their application has been received. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that his/her application has been received by CoBALT CONNECTS. If you do not receive verification within one week of submitting your application, please contact publicart@burlington.ca or 905-515-9334.

Loss or Damage: While every precaution will be taken to prevent loss or damage, the City of Burlington, CoBALT CONNECTS and Selection Committee shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.

Application Requirements

Applications are due on or before April 13, 2012 at 4:00 PM.

Please submit **FIVE COMPLETE COPIES** of all written materials on letter-sized paper (8 ½ X 11"). Please do not bind, staple or use cover sheets / folders / binders. Only 1 copy of materials submitted on CD/DVD is required.

1. **Application Form:** Signed application form (page 7)
2. **Expression of Interest Statement:** submit a brief statement outlining your interest in this project (**2 pages maximum**). Please include the following information:
 - Your approach to creating artwork for the public realm
 - How the goals of this project align with your artistic practice
 - How your specific skills and experience bring value to this project
3. **Curriculum Vitae:** outline recent qualifications and artistic activities.
4. **Visual Documentation:** CD/DVD of up to **20 images** of artwork, depicting a minimum of two completed projects. Please note the following:
 - All images must be in JPEG format, minimum of 150 dpi for an image that is approximately 6" X 9"
 - Do not embed images in documents such as Word or PowerPoint or compress files (i.e. WinZip, Stuffit, etc.)
 - Clearly label files and do not use any special characters, symbols, periods, etc. (i.e. \$, %, &) in the file name
 - Original artwork or slides will not be accepted
5. **Documentation List:** A list of all visual documentation. Please include: title of artwork, materials, dimensions, date and location of artwork (if applicable).
6. **References:** name, address, phone number and email for **3 references** who have been directly involved with your artistic practice and/or past public art projects.

OPTIONAL Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope: if you would like your application materials to be returned. Please ensure to include sufficient packing materials and postage.

Application Form

All applications are due on or before **April 13, 2012 at 4:00 PM**. Incomplete applications or those submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____

Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____

Email _____ Website _____

CHECKLIST

Submit **FIVE COMPLETE COPIES** of all written materials on letter-sized paper (8 ½ X 11"). Please do not bind, staple or use cover sheets / folders / binders. Only 1 copy of materials submitted on CD/DVD is required.

- Signed application form (this page)
- Expression of Interest Statement
- Curriculum Vitae
- CD/DVD of Artwork Samples
- Image List
- References

Please check one:

- I have included a self-addressed stamped envelop for return of support material
- I do not want my support materials returned

- I would like to receive notice of future Calls For Artists and program updates. Please add me to the Burlington Public Art mailing list (optional)

The applicant is in agreement with the Eligibility and Selection Criteria, as outlined in this document:

Signature of applicant _____

Date _____

Send Submissions to:

CoBALT CONNECTS
ATTN: BPAC Public Art Project
195 James Street North, Unit 317
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2L2

Contact Us

Kim Selman,
Public Art Manager
T: 905-515-9334
E: publicart@burlington.ca
W: www.burlingtonpublicart.com