



## **ART COMMISSION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**THE ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA AND THE ALBERTA FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A LIMITED, TWO-STAGE COMPETITION FOR A PUBLIC ART COMMISSION IN THE ATRIUM OF THE ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA.**

### **1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Art Gallery of Alberta is working in partnership with the Alberta Foundation for the Arts to undertake a limited, two-stage competition to commission a new work of art for temporary public display (10 year lifespan) in the Entrance Atrium of the AGA.

Designed by Los Angeles architect Randall Stout, the 85,000 square foot building, celebrates the duality of Edmonton's urban grid layout and the winding contours of the North Saskatchewan River. The building's square design components are accented by the 190 meter (625 feet) swirling ribbon of a steel Aurora Borealis that weaves in-between the interior to exterior of the structure.

The commissioned atrium artwork will become part of the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and will be displayed at the Art Gallery of Alberta for a minimum of 5 years. Re-location or removal at that time will be at the discretion of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts in consultation with the Art Gallery of Alberta.

### **2. SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Entrance Atrium is used by the AGA for all large scale public events and programs including: AGA opening receptions, weekend family art activities, school tours, media conferences, lectures, special events and external facility rentals that include corporate receptions, dinners, weddings and other similar activities.

The AGA Atrium is the main gathering space at the AGA, and is not suited for a floor-based work. This commission is specifically aimed at a suspended work of art. The Atrium has an overall ceiling height of 52' vertical feet, and is equipped with an anchor and cable that are able to support a suspended weight of 1,200 Lbs.

### **3. DESIGN OBJECTIVES OF THE SITE**

Proposals should keep in mind the following design objectives:

- Sensitivity to the scale and materials of the surrounding architecture;
- Relationship to the overall architectural design vocabulary;
- Architectural specifics of the site and technical considerations
- Public safety, maintenance and exposure to vandalism and damage

### **4. TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The following technical considerations must be respected in all design proposals:

#### **Weight Load**

Allowable weight = 1,200 Lbs. Proposed designs should be reviewed by the artist to meet all engineering requirements.

#### **Lighting Availability**

General lighting of artwork is provided by architectural lighting in the ceiling and ambient light from the windows. Specialized lighting or lighting that is integral to an artwork must form part of the artwork proposal and installation budget and should be described in detail in the Stage One proposal.

#### **Security Requirements**

The works will be located in an indoor space with multi-functional use. Artists should address security and protection of the works of art as part of their design proposal and budget.

#### **Installation**

The installation of the artwork must be coordinated with the Art Gallery of Alberta. As the facility is open and available for bookings and public use, scheduled activities may impact the dates and times during which artwork assembly and installation can occur. This may limit installation activities to after-hour time periods or specific days. The Art Gallery of Alberta facilities will not be available for artwork construction or production activities.

#### **Physical Access**

Access to the site is limited to the size of the door leading from the loading dock:

#### **Loading Dock Doors (W x H)**

Exterior door dimensions: 90" x 114" OR 228.6 cm x 289.56 cm

Loading Dock height: 52"

## 5. PRE-SUBMISSION SITE ACCESS

Artists wishing to view the competition site can do so during regular public hours of the Art Gallery of Alberta.

Images of the site are posted on the Art Gallery of Alberta's web-site: [www.youraga.ca](http://www.youraga.ca)

## 6. COMPETITION CONDITIONS

### 6.1. General Selection Criteria

A jury appointed by the Art Gallery of Alberta will make recommendations on the final selection of proposals. General criteria established by the Art Gallery of Alberta will serve as a guideline for the jury in making a selection recommendation. In addition to technical considerations, the basic criteria in reviewing proposals will include:

- (i) The aesthetic and technical quality of the artist's work;
- (ii) The artist's previous experience in working on comparable projects of scope, scale and setting;
- (iii) The artist's ability to communicate ideas verbally and visually;
- (iv) The aesthetic, technical and conceptual strength of the artist's proposal as it relates to the site and potential audiences;
- (v) The proposed artwork's compatibility with the overall goals for public art at the Art Gallery of Alberta.
- (vi) An assessment of the proposed artwork's value compatibility given the scope of the competition budget.

The goal of this project will be to choose the best artist and artwork for the site. The mission of the jury will be to nominate and review artists based on the criteria listed above. Jurists will be specifically asked not to base their selections on the artist's gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity or race. They will also be asked not to eliminate from consideration artists who have received past commissions or who have completed other public art projects within the Edmonton region.

### 6.2. Budget

In preparing a budget for the proposal, competitors should formulate their proposals based on an overall project budget of **\$150,000**.

The budget for the project should include the following components: a commission fee and the allowance for all production costs. The production budget is inclusive of all materials, fabrication, shipping, supply expenses, installation, engineering studies, commissions and all disbursements including consultant's fees and applicable taxes. (Note: 10% of the total project budget equal to \$15,000 will be with held until the completion of the project.)

## 7. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

### 7.1. Stage One

The first stage of the competition is open to all artists who are residents of the Province of Alberta.

The jury will review all Stage One proposals and will recommend a short list of the most promising submissions for the site. Successful Stage-One finalists will be notified by phone and mail, while unsuccessful proposals will be notified by mail only.

Stage One proposals should include the following material:

- A written description of the proposed concept(s) not to exceed 500 words, describing the artist's approach to the project and conceptual intention of the overall proposal;
- A maximum of four (4) sketches, drawings or computer renderings of the proposed concept, in digital format or printed (not to exceed 11" x 17" in dimension each);
- a current Curriculum Vitae;
- A maximum of 20 images of current and/or related works. These can be submitted as a USB stick with a PowerPoint presentation or JPGs;
- The total production budget for the proposed artwork. Including all fees and disbursements.
- Information on the time required for the installation of the artwork.

No additional visual presentation material is required or is to be provided. The review of supplementary materials submitted in addition to those listed above will be at the discretion of the jury.

Failure to meet any or all of the above requirements may result in disqualification.

Stage One submissions should be sent to the Competition Coordinator at the address below.

Stage One submissions will be accepted no later than **5 pm on Friday, June 1, 2018.**

Postage, shipping and return shipping of Stage One proposals are the responsibility of the artist.

## **7.2. Stage Two**

Stage Two finalists will be asked to submit more detailed information and descriptions of their concepts. In this respect, Stage Two finalists should submit:

- A maximum of four (4) presentation boards no larger than 2' x 3' (600mm x 900mm);
- A detailed production budget and installation schedule;
- A model / maquette and/or digital rendering are desirable but not required.

No additional presentation material other than as listed above is required or is to be provided. Failure to meet any or all of the above requirements may result in disqualification.

Stage Two submissions should be delivered to the Art Gallery of Alberta at the address below.

Stage Two submissions will be accepted no later than **5 pm on Friday, July 6, 2018.**

Postage, shipping and insurance of Stage Two proposals are the responsibility of the Stage Two finalists.

Stage Two finalists will receive a fee of **\$2,500** upon submission of Stage Two material in accordance with the foregoing terms.

Stage Two finalists may also be invited to make a presentation to the jury. These presentations will be organized at a time that is suitable to the finalists and jury members on a day to be scheduled on **July 11, 12 or 13, 2018.**

Following the Stage Two adjudication, the jury will make a recommendation of a proposal for final approval.

The jury reserves the right to reject any or all Stage Two proposals if the jury determines that they do not meet the requirements or budget of the competition.

The implementation of selected proposals will be subject to approval by the Art Gallery of Alberta for budgetary considerations, operational and maintenance review and engineering consultation.

## **8. OWNERSHIP AND USE OF MATERIALS SUBMITTED**

The Art Gallery of Alberta and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts reserve the right to exhibit and/or reproduce any and all submissions made to the competition.

No provisions will be made to ship or mail any submissions back to applicants. Submissions that are not accepted may be retrieved in person for a period of 30 days following the jury review and

notification. All entries not claimed within this period may be destroyed to minimize the possibility of future unauthorized use or submission. Except in cases of gross negligence or willful default, the Competition Coordinator shall not be responsible for any unauthorized use. The Competition Coordinator is not responsible for any damage or loss that may occur to submission materials.

The successful artist(s) will be required to enter into a formal contract with the Art Gallery of Alberta for the production and sale of the artwork. The final commissioned artwork will be owned in totality by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and will be displayed at the Art Gallery of Alberta for 5-10 years. Re-location or removal at that time will be at the discretion of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts in consultation with the Art Gallery of Alberta.

In consideration of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts acquiring the commissioned artwork, the artist will be asked to irrevocably grant to the Foundation (and any successor thereto), for the full period of copyright in the Work, permission to:

1. Reproduce the artwork in any medium (whether now known, or subsequently invented including but not limited to any electronic media for:
  - 1.1. for research and education purposes by curators, scholars and the general public which are non-profit making;
  - 1.2. for publication and promotion purposes in connection with the Art Gallery of Alberta's exhibitions and the Foundation's art collection; and
  - 1.3. for cataloguing purposes;
2. Display and present the Work at public exhibitions (including travelling exhibitions);
3. Display the Work at public buildings and offices for the enjoyment of the general public;
4. Transfer a copy of the Work to the Internet; and
5. Lend the Work to such entity as the Foundation sees fit.

## **9. COMPETITION SCHEDULE**

**Release of Request for Proposals:** April 6, 2018

**Stage One Submission Deadline:** 5 pm, Friday, June 1, 2018

**Announcement of Stage Two Finalists:** By Friday, June 15, 2018

**Stage Two Submission Deadline:** 5 pm, Friday, July 6, 2018

**Awarding of Commissions:** By July 20, 2018

## **10. COMPETITION COORDINATOR**

Art Gallery of Alberta  
2 Sir Winston Churchill Square  
Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2C1