



## CALL FOR ARTISTS: FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC ART PROJECT: COVID-19 MEMORIAL

### BACKGROUND

Fairfax County, Virginia is a roughly 400-square miles jurisdiction that is home to a very diverse population of approximately 1.2 million people. During the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately 243,000 cases of COVID-19 were reported in the County resulting in (to date) approximately 1,620 deaths. This scale of disease and its impact to the communities of Fairfax County, as well as the impact to a County workforce that responded to the public health emergency, are worthy of memorialization. The County has identified a location for a significant public artwork that will commemorate the suffering of people in the pandemic as well as the heroism of the people who responded to the emergency.

More information about the demographic characteristics of Fairfax County, VA can be found here:  
[Fairfax County General Overview | Demographics](#)

### LOCATION AND SCOPE

An existing memorial plaza will be utilized for the placement of a central artwork that commemorates the experience of COVID-19 in Fairfax County. The plaza is located at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA and is comprised of a circular brick plaza, benches, and a small stone fountain.

The scope of work shall be confined to a sixteen-foot (16') diameter circle (MEMORIAL PLACEMENT ZONE) in the center of the existing circular brick plaza as shown in the included diagram. The existing brick paving within the Memorial Placement Zone can be displaced but should be replaced with the installation of the artwork. The use of water as a feature of the memorial is encouraged. Any modifications should not interfere with the plumbing or function of the existing stormwater feature. Structural footings shall be coordinated with the Fairfax County Facilities Management Department to secure all necessary design drawings and permits. Additionally, any disturbed areas outside of the perimeter of the plaza will need to be restored to their original state. As-built drawings of the plaza area and fountain are included as part of this package.

The center rock at the site is an existing memorial which may be relocated for the new memorial.

The contract and scope of work will be managed by Fairfax County Facilities Management Department. The artist/artist team shall regularly meet with key stakeholder groups, including the Fairfax County Park Authority, ArtsFairfax, and other stakeholders as determined in consultation/coordination with the County, throughout the design development process.

The selected installation must meet all applicable Fairfax County ordinances and Commonwealth of Virginia building codes, including stormwater and [Health Department regulations](#). The selected artist or artist team will be required to coordinate with Fairfax County Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) to accommodate the existing stormwater site elements. All required permits and/or plans shall be submitted and coordinated with Land Development Services (LDS) for approval prior to commencing any work.

### Applicable Commonwealth of Virginia Building Codes

The selected artist/artist team will be able to consult this site for any applicable code elements or guidance:

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/codes/virginia>

Depending on the nature of the proposal, additional guidance may be found here:  
2008 National Electrical Code | <http://www.nfpa.org>

## **Applicable Fairfax County Codes**

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has enacted various code requirements that affect land development activities. For more information see

[https://library.municode.com/va/fairfax\\_county/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances](https://library.municode.com/va/fairfax_county/codes/code_of_ordinances).

## **BUDGET**

The \$200,000 artist fee includes design, materials, fabrication, insurance, travel, packing, shipping, installation and a maintenance plan for the artwork. Site preparation will be provided by Fairfax County. Fairfax County reserves the right to make modifications to the site preparation requirements if the costs exceed the County's capabilities

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Will be managed by the Fairfax County Arts Committee

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Application Opens:** January 23, 2023

**Application Deadline:** April 12, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.

**Artist Information Session:** February 1, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. Via Zoom. Register [here](#). Interested artists will sign on to a link provided by email.

## **ELIGIBILITY AND REVIEW CRITERIA**

This opportunity is open to all artists who are eligible to work in the United States, including artists whose practice is poised for an opportunity in the public realm, and who fulfill the review criteria below. Priority will be given to artists living and working in the metropolitan corridor encompassing Richmond/Washington/Baltimore.

## **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Experience in public artwork design and fabrication

Experience with government commissions and/or contracting

## **OTHER ELIGIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:**

Artists from minority or marginalized communities are encouraged to submit proposals.

Artists with experience in community engagement processes are encouraged to submit proposals.

## **ARTIST REVIEW CRITERIA**

Artists will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Past work shows a strong and clear artistic voice
- Experience working collaboratively, either in artistic practice or other experience
- Interest in working in the public realm with community members and stakeholders, as demonstrated in the responses to the Artist Questionnaire
- Strength of past work in the self-selected areas of expertise and media indicated in the application
- Responses to the Artist Questionnaire

## **HOW TO SUBMIT:**

Interested artists must apply via online application at [ArtsFairfax.Submittable.com](https://ArtsFairfax.Submittable.com). Applicants must supply the following information and materials in their entirety for an application to be considered complete:

### **Artist Information:**

Please provide the following:

- Name and pronoun(s)
- Racial and/or ethnic identity
- Business or studio name (if applicable)
- Email address
- Phone number

- Mailing address
- If applying as a team, the above information must be submitted for each member (up to two others), as well as a brief description of each member's role on the team.
- If applying as a business, the above information must be submitted for the business owners (primary contact plus up to two others).
- Primary Website/Social Media URL
- Secondary Website/Social Media URL (if applicable)

#### Artist Questionnaire

Please answer all of the following questions.

If applying as a team or business, please be sure that the key members are represented in the responses, and that their roles are indicated.

- 1. Why do you want to create this artwork (150 words suggested max)?**
- 2. In what ways do you engage with communities in your work as an artist or otherwise? Why is community engagement important to you? (100 words suggested max)**
- 3. Please describe your vision for the public artwork you propose to make (500 words suggested max):**

#### Additional Key Details

Applicants are asked to identify their areas of expertise and primary media. Applicants who select more than the indicated maximum will have their applications returned to them for revision. When making your selections, please keep in mind that your self-identified categories should be further demonstrated in your responses to the Artist Questionnaire and/or project/artwork samples provided in your application.

- 1. What are your areas of expertise and artwork types? (select no more than three)**
  - Community engagement and social justice
  - Digital / lighting / projection art
  - Environmental and landscape art
  - Sculptural art
  - Site-specific and integrated art
  - 2-D art, including murals, mosaic, photography, etc.
- 2. What are your primary media? (select no more than three)**
  - Assemblage, including found objects, multimedia
  - Audio / sound recording
  - Sculpting, including wood, stone, other materials
  - Ceramic / glass
  - Digital
  - Fabrication, including wood, metal, glass
  - Illustration / comics / graphic novels
  - Kinetic art
  - Landscape design
  - Photography/Videography
  - Site-specificity determines materials used
- 3. Are you a teaching artist?**
  - Yes
  - No
- 4. If yes, what age range(s) or specific audience(s) do you teach?**
- 5. Do you provide fabrication services for other artists or designers? E.g., have you worked for hire to implement another artist's or designer's vision.**

- Yes
- No

6. Do you work in a cooperative or collaborative studio?

- Yes
- No

7. Do you have any accreditations, certifications, notable experiences (formal or informal), or awards that are relevant to this opportunity?

- Yes (please list, including the year received)
- No

8. If selected, do you grant permission for the Fairfax County Government to include all the material provided within this application in your profile as part of project information sharing?

- Yes
- No

9. If you are selected for consideration, you may be requested to travel to a location in Fairfax County, VA to present your proposal and a maquette in person to a selection committee. A stipend of \$1,000 will be provided to finalists selected to present proposals to cover costs of travel and maquette production.

[check] I understand

#### **ARTWORK SAMPLES**

##### Five (5) Project/Artwork Samples

As part of your application, you may submit up to five (5) project/artwork samples. These work samples should clearly demonstrate your experience and skills in the self-identified areas of expertise and primary media that you selected in this application. Your submissions should be jpg or PDF to represent each sample.

If applying as a business or team, it is recommended that you submit samples of artwork that were created collaboratively.

Please name files using the following naming convention: Artist Last Name\_Artist First Name\_Name of Artwork1 (for example, "Kahlo\_Frida\_Self Portrait1.jpg")

##### Project Sample Descriptions

Within the application form, you will be prompted to enter descriptive information for each work project sample, including the title, medium, dimensions, year, budget estimate and a brief (50-word max) description of each to share any critical contextual information that is not already evident in the work sample.

##### References

Please provide three professional references. References must be affiliated with projects completed within the past five years.

**MEMORIAL LOCATION DIAGRAM**

SCALE: 1"-10'-0"



