Call for Artists

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) in Portland, Oregon, invites artists living in the Portland Metropolitan Area producing graphic art & text to submit qualifications for Intersections an Artist-in-residence (AiR) project at the City of Portland Archives and Records Center (PARC).

This is the third in a series of residencies for Archives. The selected artist/team will create work in any media that engages and/or is a result of working with the collections and staff at the facility.

Project budget is $15,000.

Portland Archives & Record Center
Located on the campus of Portland State University, the City of Portland Archive & Records Center holds 56,000 cubic feet of archival records, maps and photographs that represent the activities of city bureaus and elected officials and document the social and infrastructure history of Portland. Included in these records are reports, studies, correspondence, project records, policies and other documentation of how the city operates.

Focus of this residency:
Information plays an important role in decision making, which is why good information with context is vital for a healthy society. Archives document the past and can have a direct impact on current actions, concerns, or movements. City government intersects daily with people’s lives in large and small ways, just as people participate in the governance of a city in numerous modes of civic engagement. The record for many of those interactions are held in the City’s Archives and Records Center.

This artist-in-residence project will explore ideas of civic engagement and recurrent themes of civil rights, housing, and public works projects using the archival collections at the Portland Archives and Records Center (PARC). The artist(s) chosen for this project will collaborate with PARC staff, work with the historical collections, and serve as PARC ambassadors to the community. PARC ambassadors help build bridges between archives and new audiences, encouraging a deeper understanding of how archives are integral to the processes of understanding, identifying, empowering, rectifying, and evolving.

The selected writer and artist team or individual will create 2-3 pieces of graphic work that engages and collaborates with the City of Portland Archives and Records Center staff and collections. The outcome will include limited edition printing of 2-3 graphic works (comic book, poster, zine, etc.), and a PDF of the work for reproduction by PARC. Presentations or engagements with the community is desirable, but not mandatory.

Following the completion of the work, the team will provide high-quality documentation of the project for inclusion in the City of Portland Public Art Collection. Documentation include the print materials, selected objects created/exhibited as part of the project, or other appropriate documentation agreed upon between RACC and the artistic team.
Budget and Length of Project

The all-inclusive budget for the project is $15,000. This covers a proposal fee, artists’ fees, fabrication/production costs, travel, insurance, documentation, and any installation costs. The selected artist(s) will be required to carry general liability insurance for the duration of the project.

The project will run for a maximum of one year.

Selection Process/Criteria

The panel will review applicants’ materials and identify no more than four artists/teams to be interviewed. A tour of the facility will be scheduled prior to the interviews.

One artist/team will be selected to develop and execute a project in collaboration with the staff and collections of the PARC.

Selection will be based on:

- Statement of interest.
- Clarity of conceptual approach.
- Quality of past work.
- Evidence of past collaborative work.

Following selection, the artist/team will be paid a fee to develop a scope of work, proposed outcome(s), project calendar and budget.

During this planning phase, there will be opportunities to learn more about PARC and its collections and services.

There is a strong interest on the part of the panel for the awarded artist to reveal their ongoing process, either through blogging or other means.

The selection panel is not required to select a team from among submitted applications and reserves the right to invite artists who do not apply.

Visit Archives before applying

1800 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 550

Artists interested in applying are encouraged to come to a guided tour of Archives at one of the times listed below. The tours will be limited to 30 people each. Send reservation request to intersections@racc.org with subject line “Visit Archives”. In the body please say how many are in your party.

Tour Dates

Thursday, September 7, 2017, 11:00-12:00 p.m.
Email reservations needed by Tuesday, September 6, 2017

Friday, September 8, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Email reservations needed by Wednesday, September 7, 2017.

Required Application Materials

If applying as a team, please designate one team member as the primary contact and provide email/phone contact information for that person on each page of the application materials.

Please compile a PDF which includes the following:

1. Statement of Interest. In one page, address the conceptual approach of the project; aspects of the site that are of interest; how you would engage the public; and, how the project will contribute to your existing body of work.

2. Résumé that outlines professional accomplishments (maximum 2 pages per person). Include three professional references (name, affiliated organization, email address and phone number).

3. List of up to 6 Past Work Samples that includes title, location, date completed, media, brief description of the project/conceptual information, and budget (if applicable).

4. Thumbnails of up to 6 Past Work Samples. Submit full work samples in one or more of the formats listed below, either via email link to a third party site such as Dropbox or Google Docs, or deliver them on CD or flash drive.

Application Deadline: Monday, September 25, 2017

Applications must be received in the RACC office by 5:00 p.m.

Links

Portland Archives
www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/archives

RACC
www.racc.org
Working Calendar

- Tours – September 7 & 8, 2017
- Application Deadline – Monday, September 25, 2017
- Interviews – November 2017
- Contract - December 2017
- Project completion – December 2018
- Panel Review- mid to late October 2017

Questions? Contact:
Kristin Calhoun, Public Art Manager
503-823-5401
kcalhoun@racc.org
www.racc.org

Selection Panel
Luann Algoso, Artist & Activist
Diana Banning, City of Portland Archivist
Pollyanne F. Birge, community activist
Amisa Chui, Librarian & Zinster organizer
Mary Hansen, City of Portland Assistant Archivist
Garrick Imatani, Artist & educator

Regional Arts & Culture Council