



CALL FOR ARTIST

Community Art Project With Oskāyak High School, 2023
Broadway Ave and Main St, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Intro

The City of Saskatoon invites visual artists and/or teams who specialize in sculpture to submit proposals for a community art installation. The community art will feature a permanent sculpture and optional sculptural lighting on an empty plinth at the corner of Broadway Avenue and Main Street in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan next to Oskāyak High School. The design process will be collaborative and conducted in the spirit of truth and reconciliation. The process will be documented by Oskāyak student body who will produce a written documentation of the process and outcome.

Background

At the SE corner of Broadway Avenue and Main Street a corner bulb out has been identified for a public realm improvement project in partnership with Oskāyak High School and associated Indigenous community including staff, students, Parent Council, and Elders (Oskāyak Community), the Broadway Business Improvement District (BBID), and City of Saskatoon (City). Abutting the corner is Oskāyak High School - an Indigenous high school with a long and established history within the Broadway area.

Purpose

The purpose is to carry out the project program in the spirit of truth and reconciliation with a final community art installation that reflects this spirit and theme as described below. Therefore, the artist/team will work with Oskāyak Elders, participate in ceremony, and collaborate with the Oskāyak community to produce community art that is reflective of this process and theme. Equal emphasis will be placed on outcome (sculpture and optional lighting) as well as the journey towards this outcome. As such, the process must at all times be conducted in the spirit and intent of truth and reconciliation.

Through a collaborative design process with Oskāyak Community, the artist/team will lead the design and development of the community art to be installed on the empty plinth. Site furniture will be installed as a separate component from the community art and will be led by Oskāyak Community, the BBID, and the City.

Thematic Function

Within a conceptual framework of “ethical space” as expounded by Willie Ermine, a theme of “fire” shall be explored for the community art installation. Sculpture design should artistically represent “fire” in a permanent form and will be developed by the artist/team in collaboration with Oskāyak Community.

The final installation and space should encourage gathering and dialogue between cultures. This theme and framework have been developed in advance with Oskāyak Community. The artist/team should be prepared to work within this thematic framework while allowing for further thematic evolution through the collaborative process with Oskāyak Community.



Scope

The scope of the project will involve the following:

- Develop and provide a project methodology for collaborative design process. Methodology should be included in the submission. Methodology should include:
 - details on how the artist/team envisions the collaborative process between artist/team and Oskāyak Community. As a minimum, student participation in the sculpture design is required and it is expected that students will heavily contribute to the overall design or, at a minimum, significant aspects of the design. Maximum student size will be approximately 25 students.
 - details on design process with lighting expert (see last bullet and “Budget” section).
- Lead collaborative design process in partnership with Oskāyak Community to develop and finalize sculpture design concept. The selected artist must ensure that student contribution to the final design outcome is significant and a result of collaborative process.
- Present concept design to Selection Committee (see “Selection Committee” section) at midway point of design process for comment and feedback.
- Present refined concept to Selection Committee at conclusion of design process for comment and feedback.
- Lead PAAC and CPTED review processes including presentation of sculpture design to PAAC and CPTED committees for approval.
- Finalize sculpture design that incorporates lighting (if included) as well as outcomes from PAAC and CPTED recommendations.
- Oversee development, fabrication, and construction of sculpture including detailed

design and specifications for relevant approvals and ensuring sculpture design fits within design parameters (see “Design Parameters & Other Considerations” section).

- Allow access to Oskāyak High School students to document the overall process which will culminate in a final written piece that could be shared publicly.
- Provide regular updates to the City and Selection Committee on status of project.
- Provide guidance and/or recommendations for consideration to the City on furniture design or selection to compliment the sculpture.
- Provide the City with maintenance manual for the sculpture in order to ensure long term durability of the sculpture.
- Participate in ceremony related to the unveiling of the sculpture to the public.
- Agree to waive copyright to submitted materials for use by the City, Oskāyak High School, and/or BBID for publicity purposes.
- Optional Lighting: If optional lighting is approved, collaborate with lighting expert to incorporate lighting feature into sculpture which can include using lighting as a way to emphasize finalized theme. Selected artist/team will be required to participate in RFQ evaluation to select lighting expert.



View of empty plinth in summer season.

Budget

The artist/team will be provided with a budget of **\$32,500** to develop and carry out the project program, which includes sculpture, while ensuring the project theme and scope are fully met - doing so in partnership with Oskāyak Community. The artist will be required to coordinate and remunerate any structural or other required services or contractors for the development, fabrication, and construction of the sculpture. **Lighting option will be pursued via a separate RFQ led by the City.** As such, submissions should include optional price for time spent collaborating with lighting expert only. The City will retain and pay for lighting expert, lighting design, materials, installation, and electrical connection. The artist/team must account for collaborative time spent working with Oskāyak Community and other required project scope functions. Oskāyak High School and the City of Saskatoon will host consultations and required meetings and the artist/team will not be responsible for honorariums.

Selection Committee

A special selection committee (Committee) will be created to evaluate and select the successful artist/team. The Committee will be comprised of members from Oskāyak Community, Public Art Advisory Committee, BBID, and Nutana Community Association.

The Committee will review all artist/team submissions based on evaluation categories below and select the winning artist/team shortly after the proposal deadline.

The selected artist/team must provide a concept design of the sculpture to the Committee at the midway point of the design process for comment and feedback. A refined concept must be presented at the end of the design process for review and comment by the Committee prior to PAAC and CPTED reviews. The Committee will evaluate the concept design based on evaluation categories in Appendix "A".

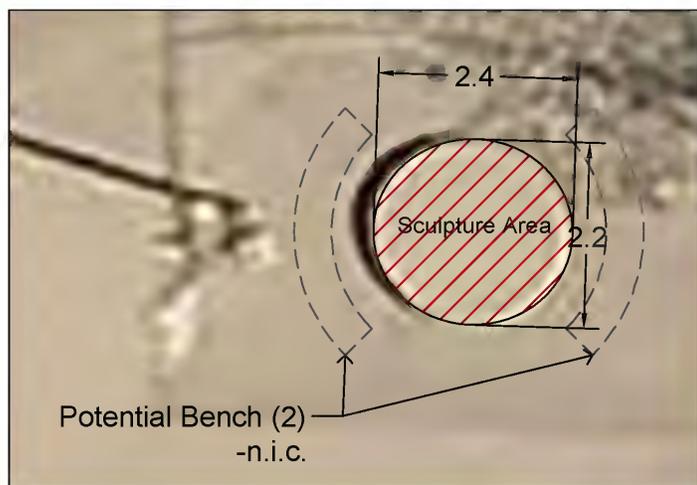
“Community Art - public art that is created as a result of a collaborative creative process between a professional practicing artist(s) and a community. It is a collective method of art-making, engaging artists and self-defined communities through collaborative, artistic expression.”

- Public Art Policy, C10-025



Design Parameters & Other Considerations

- **Sculpture** - should fit within approximate diameter of 2.3m. The height and mass of the sculpture should ensure a certain degree of visibility through the sculpture in order to enable interaction and/or conversation through the other side of the plinth. The sculpture must achieve overall visual prominence within the streetscape.



Plan view of plinth area - n.t.s.

- **Materials** - sculpture should include materials that do not rust, are not easily damaged, and are covered in an anti-graffiti coating. Long term durability (20+ years) of materials must be considered.
- **Safety** - sculpture should not include any sharp edges or elements that would be dangerous to pedestrians.
- **Structural** - a structural engineer must review and sign off on sculpture design.
- **Optional Lighting** - lighting options can include but are not limited to: projection light (optional gobos) to be installed on nearby street light, uplighting to be installed on the plinth, or lighting to be fastened to the sculpture. Lighting should consider winter conditions and the possibility snow will not be removed from the plinth and sculpture during winter months. See "Scope" and "Budget" sections for more information.



View of empty plinth in winter season.



View of empty plinth in summer season.



View of empty plinth at night.

Submission Requirements and Evaluation

SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE 5 PAGES MAXIMUM IN LENGTH.

Proposal submissions will be evaluated based on the following categories:

CATEGORY	POINTS
Describe understanding of project purpose and ability to carry out project program in alignment with project purpose. (1-2 paragraphs)	5
Describe understanding of thematic function and project scope. (1-2 paragraphs)	5
Demonstrate connection to local First Nations or Métis community of lead artist and/or team members. (1-2 paragraphs)	25
Describe project methodology to be followed for collaboration with Oskāyak Community, and in particular, student involvement. Provide detail collaborative design process and how the process will play out. Describe ability and approach to working within the spirit and intent of truth and reconciliation. Include tentative collaboration schedule that aligns with Timeline. Collaborative design <u>must</u> take place during school hours. (1-3 paragraphs)	30
Provide detailed, line item, cost break down of how budget will be utilized in line with proposed project program. Line items should include pricing for collaborative design process, structural design, manufacture, and installation of final community art. Note: Honorariums will <u>not</u> be the responsibility of the selected artist/team.	15
Outline ability to meet schedule including: collaboration design process, structural design, manufacture, and installation of final community art. If timeline cannot be met, explain why and propose alternative timeline. (1-2 paragraphs)	5
Provide information demonstrating suitability of artist/team to lead project including: samples of past similar work (link to or attachment of portfolio is accepted), references from past similar projects, proof of membership in CARFAC (Canadian Artists Representation, Le Front Des Artistes Canadiens), description of experience on past similar collaborative and/or commissioned art projects. (1-2 paragraphs)	15
TOTAL	100
OPTIONAL LIGHTING: describe approach and methodology to lighting design and the role the lighting expert will play in overall project design process. Consider time requirements for lighting design (1-2 paragraphs). Estimate time and cost for lighting collaboration. Time spent on RFQ evaluation will <u>not</u> be covered.	

*Selected artist and/or team members will be required to provide a criminal record and vulnerable sector check at cost of artist/team and other related documents in accordance with Oskāyak High School policies prior to contract award.



Timeline

Timeline may be subject to change.

September 15th, 2023	Call For Proposal made public
September 29th, 2023	Deadline for questions* (answers via email by October 3rd, 2023)
October 6th, 2023, 2pm	Proposal deadline (late proposals will <u>not</u> be accepted)
November 13th, 2023	Notify successful applicant
November 22nd, 2023	Project start up <u>and</u> RFQ Lighting Evaluation.
December through January 2024	Collaborative design process. Note: collaborative design process must occur during this time to align with Oskāyak High School scheduling.
March 7th, 2024	CPTED Review (first Thursday of the month)
March 15th, 2024	PAAC Review (second Friday of the month)
March through June, 2024	Sculpture manufacture
June/July, 2024	Sculpture installation, maintenance manual submitted

***Questions on this Call for Artist must be sent to brendan.garritty@saskatoon.ca. All questions will be compiled and answered at the same time via email only by October 3rd, 2023. Prospective applicants that wish to receive answers to questions must email brendan.garritty@saskatoon.ca and indicate they wish to receive answers.**

Proposals should be submitted electronically in PDF format to:

**Brendan Garritty
Planner 16 (Urban Design)
email: brendan.garritty@saskatoon.ca**



Appendix “A”

The community art sculpture design will be evaluated by the Selection Committee at the midway point and at the culmination of the collaborative design process for comment and feedback prior to PAAC and CPTED reviews. The following categories and criteria will be used to review the sculpture design:

CATEGORY
Sculpture is reflective of thematic function (i.e. how well does the sculpture incorporate the theme of fire and ethical space?)
Student contribution is significant (i.e. to what extent is the student contribution manifested in the sculpture?)
Visual aesthetic (i.e. how well does the sculpture enhance the space? how prominent is the sculpture in the streetscape? If lighting is included, how well does the lighting enhance the sculpture? How well does the lighting function in the space and take into account existing lighting from street lights?)