



Beale Street Archway Design Contest: Call for Entries

The Downtown Memphis Commission (DMC) and Beale Street Management are excited to announce the Beale Street Archway Design Contest.

This contest follows an original RFP and serves as notice that the DMC would like to add two archway signs at the major entrances to the Beale Street Entertainment District, which are the intersection of Fourth Street & Beale Street and Main Street & Beale Street. (See technical drawings for more information.)

This design competition is an opportunity for designers, architects and/or engineers to help Downtown Memphis invite visitors and tourists onto Beale Street, one of our greatest cultural assets, by creating archway art/signage to affix to one of two steel structures on Beale Street.

Participating in the Beale Street Archway Design Contest is an opportunity to help shape the visual direction of Downtown Memphis and Beale Street.

DMC is seeking a qualified applicant to design exterior archway art/signage (building identification signs, regulatory signs and directional wayfinding signs). The goal is to have the archway signs designed, fabricated and installed by April 30, 2018.

Project Goals/Requirements:

- Archway/Signage should
 - Create visual impact for Beale Street
 - Be attractive and exhibit a professional quality of workmanship
 - Leverage the spatial organization of the district and utilize architectural design features, destinations zones, landmarks, shape, color, lighting, etc.
 - Affix to the steel arch in Exhibit A and not hang below lower threshold indicated on Exhibit A
 - Meet all wind load and other requirements of the City of Memphis
 - Be easy to recognize, consistent, clear, distinctive, and easy to read
 - Use the words "Beale Street"
 - Use a visible lighting component. Marquee lights are not allowed.
 - Be compliant with 2017 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
 - Be in accordance with and approved by the DRB.
<http://www.downtownmemphiscommission.com/boards/design-review-board/>

- Archway/Signage can be one or two-sided.
- The Applicant should have a primary goal of ensuring that signage works in unity with the work of other consultants in order to generate a well-coordinated district.

CONSIDERATIONS:

DMC is seeking an applicant to prepare conceptual designs in sketch form to determine design direction and review, with the design team, considerations for materials, finishes, color, typography, lighting and scale.

COSTS FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION

Any costs incurred in preparing or submitting a proposal shall be the Applicant's sole responsibility.

DISQUALIFICATION OF PROPOSALS

DMC reserves the right to consider as acceptable only those proposals submitted in accordance with all requirements set forth in this contest and which demonstrate an understanding of the scope of the work. Any proposal offering any other set of terms and conditions contradictory to those included in this contest may be disqualified without further notice.

An Applicant shall be disqualified and the proposal automatically rejected for any one of the following reasons:

1. The proposal shows any noncompliance with applicable law
2. The proposal is conditional, incomplete, or irregular in such a way as to make the proposal indefinite or ambiguous
3. The proposal has any provision reserving the right to accept or reject award, reserving the right to enter into a contract pursuant to an award, or contrary to those required in the solicitation
4. The proposed archway/signage will not properly affix to the steel archway structure (Exhibit A)
5. The proposed archway/signage is too heavy or will not bear the wind load sufficiently

Prizes:

The following prizes will be awarded as a result of this design contest:

First Prize:	\$1,500
Second Prize:	\$750
Third Prize:	\$500

Eligibility:

This design competition is open to all graphic designers, engineers, architects, and students. Participants may enter as individuals or as teams.

It should be noted that selecting an Archway Contest winner does not obligate the Downtown Memphis to ultimately undertake the Beale Street Archway project. The ultimate decision to produce the archway will be based on a variety of factors and. If the project does move forward with the winning design, the DMC reserves the right to use vendors other than the designer to complete the work.

Timeline:

Design Challenge Issued
Submissions Due

March 6, 2018
March 19, 2018

Selection Process:

A selection committee consisting of Downtown stakeholders and Beale Street will review and evaluate the submissions.

Evaluation Criteria:

The evaluation shall be based on the factors set forth below. The selection committee comprised of DMC staff may select an Applicant from these submissions, or conduct a second tier in-person interview with selected Applicants from the initial offerings. In the event of a second stage, the selection committee will notify the selected Applicant of interview dates and times. This notification shall include the interview evaluation criteria.

Required Submission Materials:

Submit entries in digital or physical format, see below for mailing, emailing and delivery address. Please provide or upload the following:

1. Optional cover letter – Include applicant's name, contact information and a brief introduction to as it relates to the Beale Street and the project.
2. Indication if your proposal is for the 4th and Beale or Main and Beale location or both. Note that the archway dimensions differ for each location.
3. Design images
4. Suggested materials for fabrication
5. All Dimensions of sign/art
6. Weight estimate of sign/art
7. Cost Estimate (Fabrication and Installation, if possible)
8. Applicant is allowed to submit examples of previous work or similar projects.

DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE CONTEST

The deadline for written questions is 4:00 PM, CST on March 12, 2018. Send questions to Jon Shivers, Director of Beale Street by email at jshivers@bealestreet.com. Jon Shivers is the only person authorized to provide a formal response to any questions. No other DMC employee is authorized to make any statement that would bind the DMC with regard to this contest.

SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTION

No other public disclosure will be made until after the award of the contract. Any proposal received after the due date and time shall be rejected. Applicant may withdraw its proposals at any time prior to DMC contracting with fabricator.

Find application portal online at DowntownMemphis.com.

[Submission link here.](#)

Questions:

Contact Jon Shivers, Director of Beale Street, jshivers@bealestreet.com or 901-526-0115