

DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS COMMISSION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

The Artery: Stereo to Escape

Location: Maggie H. Isabel St. + Rendezvous Alley

CALL FOR PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS

The Downtown Memphis Commission (DMC) is making improvements to the alley known as Maggie H. Isabel Street and Rendezvous Alley in Downtown Memphis. Over the next four months, the DMC will repave the alley with stamped asphalt and add string lighting above.

In addition to repaving and new lighting, the DMC is issuing a call for public art installations. Our goal is to commission artists to add interesting and high-quality public art to the alley.

We aim to curate a diverse collection of public art. Eligible medium include, but are not limited to, sculpture, artistic lighting, murals, video projections, interactive, and kinetic pieces.

See map on page 5 for more information about the sections of the alley this project will focus on.

PROJECT GOALS

- Establish the alley as a destination with visually interesting and memorable artwork.
- Improve the quality of the pedestrian experience in the alley.
- Artwork should be suitable for outdoor display (minimum life expectancy of 3 years).

DEVELOPMENT TERMS & CONDITIONS

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the proposals and select artists:

1. The artwork is visually interesting, memorable, and helps establish the alley as a destination.
2. The artwork is complimentary to its context and site.
3. The artwork is high-quality and demonstrates proficiency in design and composition.
4. The artwork is appropriate for public display.
5. The artwork is durable and will require no maintenance during the 3-year display period.
6. The artwork is unique, original, and does not infringe upon any copyright or the rights of any person or entity.
7. The artwork will not be a danger to adjacent buildings or property, pedestrians, or automobile traffic.
8. The artwork will not damage the building or site where it is located during installation, display, or de-installation.
9. The selected artist has examples of previous work that demonstrates excellence in design.
10. The selected artist has relevant experience with public art projects of similar scope.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selected pieces will be determined by a selection committee which will review and evaluate proposal submissions.

Artists and/or teams may submit more than one proposal, if desired.

Deadline for project submissions is October 8, 2018 at 4 pm. Late submissions will not be considered. Artists are required to submit a proposal based on guidelines outlined in the Submission Application ([add link](#)).

PROJECT BUDGET

Our goal is to select projects of varying medium, scale, and budget. For example, funding for mural projects may range from \$10,000 to \$500, depending on factors including size, location, and materials. Our goal is to commission at least four murals.

We also plan to commission at least one sculptural installation at a budget of approximately \$20,000 - \$30,000.

INSTALLATION OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE

The DMC reserves the right to retain ownership of the artwork at the end of the initial display period and/or to keep the artwork on public display for a longer period of time. If the DMC elects not to retain ownership, the artist is responsible for removing the artwork at the end of the display period. Artists are responsible for any required maintenance of their installations during the first 24 months on display.

PROJECT SITES

Artists are encouraged to think creatively about potential sites along the alley. Artists should indicate a preferred installation site and an alternate site in the sections of the alley shown on map on page 5. Please provide photos of your two preferred sites.

Property owner approval is required for all projects. DMC Staff will assist each selected artist request property owner approval.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Please note the following deadlines and project milestones.

Request for Proposals Issued: Monday, August 27

Apply online using this link: <http://www.downtownmemphis.com/theartery/>

Alley Exploration Walk: Thursday, September 13 (5:30 PM – 6:30PM)

Walk, talk and collaborate with artists and designers about potential art installations for the alley. Downtown Memphis Commission staff will be on hand to address feasibility and location questions. Free beer and snacks provided. Meet at the Brass Door, 152 Madison Ave.

Applications Due: Monday, October 8 by 4:00 PM

Applications must be submitted no later than 4 PM on Monday, October 8, 2018.

Artist Selection: Early December

Selected artists and installations will be announced in early December.

Art Installation Deadline: April 15, 2019 by 3:00 PM

Art installations may begin as soon as selected pieces are announced and property owner approval is received. All work must be installed completely by April 15, 2019.

The Artery Launch Party: Mid-April 2019

Projects will be officially unveiled at an alley launch party in mid-April. Details TBA.

IMAGE GALLERY OF PROJECT SITE(S)



HOW TO APPLY?

Please submit your application at the link below. The application is organized in three parts. Please note that Section 1 (About You) and Section 3 (Your previous relevant work) are both required.

Section 2 (Your proposed projects) provides an opportunity for you to submit a project sketch, description, and proposed budget. While this section is not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged. The more information you provide, the better chance we have of being able to select you for this project.

Application and more information can be found at: <http://www.downtownmemphis.com/theartery/>

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

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THE ARTERY: STEREO TO ESCAPE MAP

