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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications are requested from an artist and/or artist team interested in creating site specific public artwork(s) for the Remodel of Saunders Multi-Use Facility on the Mesa State College campus in Grand Junction, Colorado.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL: November 2, 2009, 11:59 p.m. MST
TOTAL ART BUDGET: Up to $75,000
NAME OF INSTITUTION: Mesa State College, Saunders Multi-Use Facility
This call is open to COLRADO ARTISTS ONLY.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Saunders Multi-Use Facility houses programs in recreation, athletics, nursing and kinesiology. The current 70,000 sq. ft. will be increased by 180,000 sq. ft. with additions that will enhance and upgrade all the facilities including a new 50 meter

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natatorium with spectator seating. This facility is used by the students and many community activities take place at the facility. The Art Selection Committee will consider all mediums inasmuch as there are a variety of spaces for art in the Saunders Multi-Use Facility. Opportunities include but are not limited to a graphic panel or mural on the exterior of the facility, a hanging sculpture in the main interior glass atrium entryway, a clock tower and as well as areas for 2-dimensional work. It is important that the artwork is welcoming and related to sports or southwestern Colorado.

MISSION

Mesa State College's mission, established by the Colorado Legislature, is contained in Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 23-53-101:

"There is hereby established a College at Grand Junction, Colorado, to be known as Mesa State College, which shall be a general baccalaureate and specialized graduate institution with moderately selective admissions. Mesa State College shall offer liberal arts and sciences programs and a limited number of professional, technical, and graduate programs. Mesa State College shall also maintain a community college role and mission, including vocational and technical programs. Mesa State College shall receive resident credit for two-year course offerings in its commission-approved service area."

In accomplishing its mission, the commission-approved (CCHE) service areas are:

*For its role as a baccalaureate and graduate institution - the entire State of Colorado.
*For its role as a community college - Mesa, Delta, Montrose, San Miguel, and Ouray Counties.
The College cooperates with Adams State College in providing two-year programs for Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties.
*For its role providing vocational programs - Mesa County.

HISTORY

On April 20, 1925, Grand Junction Junior College was established by statute. In the fall of that year there were 36 enrolled students and classes were held at the Courthouse, YMCA, and school administrative offices. In 1940, the college moved to its present location on the North Campus. A single building (later named Houston Hall) housed all college activities. Enrollment exceeded 1,000 for the first time in 1960 and by 1967 it doubled to over 2,000 students. In 1999, the first ever MBA was awarded by Mesa State College. In September 2007, enrollment topped 6,000 students. Mesa State College is a comprehensive, liberal arts college offering programs at the master, baccalaureate, associate degree, and certificate levels.

Mesa State provides western Colorado residents with the opportunity to enjoy the kind of world-class art and entertainment normally found only in urban areas. More

than 20,000 people visit the campus for cultural events, including art receptions, theatre performances and vocal and instrumental music concerts.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Settlers arrived in Mesa County in 1881. The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad reached town in November, 1882 and was a major boost to the success of Grand Junction. The population of Grand Junction now has a population of over 55,000.

Grand Junction is at the junction of the Colorado and Gunnison Rivers on the Western Slope of the Rocky Mountains. Grand Junction is at the center of a fertile valley that is surrounded on three sides by mountains and mesas climbing to heights of 9,000 to 10,500 feet. Grand Junction is the largest community in western Colorado (referred to also as the Western Slope). Encompassing 13,935 square acres at a mean altitude of 4,592 feet, the city was recognized as a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in 1995. Grand Junction is located within Mesa County which reports a population of over 126,000. Much of the land is owned and controlled by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Libraries, museums, theaters, restaurants, coffee shops, shopping mall, downtown shopping district, music clubs, and a variety of businesses offer considerable opportunities for learning and recreation.

Grand Junction is characterized by its wealth of green spaces, including numerous city parks. Within a couple hours, one can drive to the mountains and ski at resorts such as Vail, Aspen and Telluride, or drive to the desert areas of Moab and the Canyonlands for mountain biking and exploring. Grand Junction has a long history of supporting art in public places, notably its Art on the Corner program, which features pedestrian-scaled sculpture placed on sidewalks and in small plazas along Main Street in the downtown district.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Saunders Multi-Use Facility houses programs in recreation, athletics, nursing and kinesiology. The current 70,000 sq. ft. will be increased by 180,000 sq. ft. with the addition that will enhance and upgrade all the facilities including a 50 meter natatorium with spectator seating for 750. This facility is used by the students and many community activities take place at the facility. The new recreation center will include a new entry hall that faces the green belt and is visible from the south end of the campus. There is a large curved wall with glass and very high ceilings in the addition. Currently there are 16 sports programs and it is anticipated that will increase to 19 within two years. High school competitions will use the spaces in the facility.

BUDGET

$75,000 is available for all related expenses of this Public Art commission including artist fees, fabrication, insurance, shipping, travel, installation, documentation, etc.

COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON THE ART

The Art Selection Committee will consider all mediums inasmuch as there are a variety of spaces for art in the Saunders Multi-Use Facility. Opportunities include but are not limited to a graphic panel or mural on an exterior precast concrete wall of the facility, a hanging sculpture in the main interior glass atrium entryway with views from inside the space as well as from the main campus axis and public parking entrance, a Clock Tower and many areas for 2-dimensional artwork. After the committee reviews the submissions they will determine if they will spend the funding on one piece or divide the money to place artwork in more than one location. It is important that the artwork is welcoming and related to sports or southwestern Colorado.

COLORADO ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

In 1977, the Colorado General Assembly passed the Art in Public Places Act requiring that 1% of the construction costs of new or renovated state-owned buildings be used to acquire works of art for permanent installation at the project site. The Colorado Council on the Arts (CCA) is responsible for implementation of the law. Upon installation, all purchased or commissioned works of art become the property of the State and form the state art collection, developed and administered by the CCA. The AIPP program has successfully commissioned or purchased over 430 works of art for the enhancement of state buildings and the enjoyment of the citizens of Colorado.

By uniting artists, architecture, and the host community, the Art in Public Places Program (AIPP) acts as a formal mechanism for integrating the art experience into the built environment and civic spaces. The CCA, in conjunction with the client agency, appoints a different art selection committee for each project. Each committee has at least the following members: the project architect, an agency representative, a building tenant, a member of the host community, an artist, a member of the board of the CCA, and one member each from the State Senate and the House of Representatives. The Director of Art in Public Places facilitates the process and the CCA board reviews selection committee recommendations for final approval.

ELIGIBILITY

The Colorado Council on the Arts is committed to ensuring the broadest possible impact of its limited resources. This project is open to COLORADO ARTISTS ONLY. An artist with an existing public art contract with the Colorado Council on the Arts is not eligible to for another Art in Public Places project until the current contract is over 50% complete.

SELECTION PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

The Art Selection Committee will review all complete submittals. A short list of semi-finalists will be selected and invited to interview and submit an in-depth proposal to the committee for a small honorarium. Final selection (s) will be made from the semi-finalists. The schedule follows:

Deadline for receipt of submittal: November 2, 2009, 11:59 p.m. MST
Semi-finalists notified by: December 2009
Semi-finalist presentations to the committee: Spring, 2010
Installation of Artwork: Summer, 2010

APPLYING FOR THESE OPPORTUNTIES
The Colorado Council on the Arts, Art in Public Places Program is contracting with CaFÉ™ (callforentry.org) to manage the submittal process for this RFQ. The applicant will be asked to submit six digital images, a resume, and an artist statement of no more that 2,000 characters. There is no application fee to apply or to use the CaFÉ™ online application system. Applications must be submitted through CaFÉ™ to be considered.

***Digital Images*.** In order to be considered for this project, the applicant must submit 6 digital images of previously completed artworks electronically through the CaFÉ™ system. Artists who wish to submit kinetic, sound, video or other multimedia works must submit a complete CaFÉ™ application including 6 still images and written materials and then send an additional DVD of no more than five minutes, by November 2, 2009, 5 p.m. to:

Colorado Council on the Arts
Art in Public Places Program
1625 Broadway, Suite 2700
Denver, CO 80202

Instructions on how to format images to CaFÉ™ specifications can be found at http://www.callforentry.org/imaging_tips.phtml. Assistance in using the CaFÉ™ system is available during regular business hours by e-mailing cafe@westaf.org.

Statement of interest: A statement of interest (2,000 characters) that briefly outlines your interest in this specific project and your experience working on projects of this scope should be submitted via CaFÉ™.

Resume: Submit a one to two page current résumé, via CaFÉ™, that outlines your professional accomplishments as an artist.

Questions: Questions posted on CaFÉ™ related to this project must be answered.

LEGAL COMMENTS
The Art Selection Committee and the Colorado Council on the Arts reserve the right to reject any or all applications, proposals, applicants, or projects, and to modify or terminate the application process or the selection process for any reason and without prior notice.

QUESTIONS
If you required more information or clarification please contact the Art in Public Places Program at 303-892-3724 or jil.rosentrater@state.co.us.

ADDITION SOURCES OF INFORMATION
Mesa State College Website
http://www.mesastate.edu/
History of the City of Grand Junction Website
http://www.gjhistory.org/
City of Grand Junction Website
http://www.gjcity.org/