



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
2021 Gallery 64 Pier Murals – Charleston, WV

The City of Charleston Office of Public Art (COPA) is requesting proposals and qualifications from artists for the design and implementation of a series of public art murals.

ABOUT THE CITY OF CHARLESTON OFFICE OF PUBLIC ART (COPA)

In 2017, the City of Charleston Office of Public Art (COPA) was established as a result of a comprehensive Public Arts Plan developed through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The focus of the department is the conservation, education, and creation of Public Art in Charleston, WV. COPA is committed to creating innovative opportunities for artists, engaging residents and visitors, and encouraging collaboration between the public and private sectors.

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Gallery 64 is a continuation of the project formerly known as the Peer to Pier Public Art Project. During the Spring of 2021, murals will be applied to the 6 interstate support piers under I-64 interstate.

Part of the ongoing revitalization and beautification of the City of Charleston through the arts, the goal of this project continues to be the enhancement of the connection between the West Side and the downtown. The project should achieve the following goals:

- improve the overall aesthetic look of Pennsylvania Avenue, N
- generate and continue interest in and awareness of public art in the City of Charleston

COPA is asking that this call for proposals be open-ended and without a specific theme to encourage individual artists aesthetic and unique point of view.

COPA will select 6 artists for the project; each artist will paint one pier. Artists who have participated in previous phases of the Peer to Pier public art initiative may apply. However, proposals submitted by artists who have not yet painted a pier may be given preference.

COPA asks that all details regarding the project remain confidential until an announcement is made to the public. A formal press release will be distributed once the artists have been chosen for the project.

Response to this RFP signifies confidentiality between the organizers and the artists involved in this process.

SITE INFORMATION:

- Piers measure 12'9" in circumference.
- Murals must wrap entirely around each pier between 2 and 12 feet off the ground.
- Some of the piers have a drain pipe attached to them and should be considered in the proposal.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- The City of Charleston will provide scaffolding.

BUDGET:

Artists will receive \$2,000 per interstate pier. It is the artists' responsibility to supply their own paints and other materials. Selected artists will receive 50% of funds upon signing a contract with the City of Charleston; the remaining 50% will be paid when the work is completed and necessary information is provided.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

March 1 2021: Proposals deadline

March 15 2021: Selected artists notified

April 1 2021 - May 31, 2021: Mural Execution*

(This time frame is estimated and may be subject to weather and minor adjustments at the request of the WV Department of Transportation, Division of Highways.)

Proposals will be accepted until **March 1, 2021**. A selection committee will consider proposals and notify selected artists by **March 15, 2021**. COPA will meet with the selected artists to discuss revisions, contracts and the overall breadth of the project. **The installation of the project may begin in April 1, 2021 and be completed by May 31, 2021.** (This time frame is estimated and may be subject to weather conditions and minor adjustments at the request of the WV Department of Transportation, Division of Highways.)

FINISHING:

Once the murals are completed and approved by the COPA office an anti-graffiti clear-coat must be applied. This clear-coat product will be supplied to the artist by the City of Charleston; the artist will be responsible for its application. Scaffolding will also be provided by the City of Charleston.

ARTIST PROPOSALS:

The request is for pro bono conceptual development and submission of proposals. Artists are required to submit a concept that is developed enough to provide the selection committee with a clear understanding of the nature and content of the mural being proposed. Proposals should reflect a concept that utilizes the entire space allocated.

In addition to the proposed concept, artists must submit the following information via **email**:

- ☒ A cover sheet including phone number, email address and mailing address.
- ☒ A brief written description of the proposed concept (to be used in printed materials and social media)
- ☒ Relevant qualifications concerning past experience with public art projects
- ☒ Examples of previously completed large-scale works
- ☒ Additional imagery, drawings, and sketches are acceptable.

FILE FORMAT

- Images should be formatted as jpgs *no larger* than 300 dpi
- Images should not be embedded in your email
- Please do not send your proposal as a single PDF. Each image should be a separate jpg.

Incomplete and/or late proposals will not be considered. Proposals including a commercial message, product, trademark, trade name, logo or otherwise advertising a product, service, or business will not be considered. Proposals containing obscene images or wording will not be considered.

Proposals may be emailed to:

jeff.pierson@cityofcharleston.org

QUESTIONS: call Jeff at 304-541-9284

