



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

To create: Temporary Public Artwork

To be presented at: MMA Block Party, April 15, 2023

Project Summary

Project Name: MMA Block Party - Interactive Public Art Installation, April 15, 2023

Commissioning Organization: Monterey Museum of Art

Geographic Eligibility: Open to established professional artists in Monterey County or surrounding counties (Santa Cruz, etc.)

Application Deadline: December 5, 2022

MMA Block Party Overview:

The Monterey Museum of Art (MMA) supports our region's arts ecosystem by creating participatory arts experiences that bring our vibrant and diverse community together. On April 15, 2023, the Museum will launch the **MMA Block Party**, a new public arts festival, hosted in and around our Pacific Street location in Monterey's historic downtown district.

In partnership with artists and community organizations as well as businesses and sponsors the Block Party will feature a wide range of art experiences for families and adults, including temporary art installations, art-making activities, live music, and entertainment. The theme for the Block Party this year is **"Transformation and the Natural World."** A major feature of the Block Party will be the creation of a commissioned, large-scale temporary public artwork.

Project Description –Interactive Public Art Installation

MMA seeks an artist(s) to create a site specific and interactive temporary public artwork along with participatory art activities for children and families for its first annual Block Party. The work should incorporate the theme "Transformation and the Natural World" and resonate with the exhibition *Flora Fauna*, on view at the Museum.

The work will be installed outdoors in Francis Elkins Park, adjacent to the Museum, which is located 559 Pacific Street in Monterey, CA. The project must include simple, artistic elements that the public can make onsite and then contribute to the completion and/or transformation of the artwork. The work must also have the ability to be re-installed at a neighboring MMA event the next day.

The vision for the site-specific artwork/installation is to:

- Embrace the theme of "Transformation and the Natural World."
- Create a sense of delight, wonder, inspiration.
- Provide the public with an experience of transformation and transition from day to night.
- Offer the public ways to move through the work.
- Include an art activity to contribute to the completion and transformation of the work.

The site-specific artwork/installation should:

- Be temporary and non-destructive of the site.
- Be large-scale and highly visible to the public.
- Be easily installed and de-installed from the site (maximum 4 hours each).
- May incorporate light and/or sound (MMA to provide access to power).
- Use recyclable or reusable materials (preferred).



Expectations

- The artist(s) will be the creative lead on the public art project and has the expertise and skill to conceive, fabricate, install, and deinstall the work.
- The artist(s) will design, fabricate, and lead the interactive art making during the Block Party.
- The artist(s) will be onsite for installation, throughout the Block Party public hours, and for deinstallation.
- The Museum will advise and support the artist(s) throughout the public art creation process, provide logistical and technical support for installation and deinstallation, and provide volunteers and/or staff to support the interactive art making during the Block Party.

Artist Fee and Project Costs Covered

- A \$3,000 commission will be awarded to the artist(s) selected; and up to \$5,000 will be awarded to realize the work based on an approved budget.
 - Artist commission is reserved for primary artist and/or collaborators.
 - Allowable costs to realize the work include supplies, materials, fabrication, engineering, rentals, transport, documentation, temporary labor for installation or deinstallation.

Site Description and Immediate Surroundings

Site function: Francis Elkins Park is a public park owned by the City of Monterey, and functions as a public pathway from Pacific Street to Calle Principal. It is the display site for five large sculptures as well as an outdoor gathering space for MMA events.

Note: General lighting will be provided for the outdoor site, however lighting needed for the effective display of the artwork should be included in the proposal, budget, and fabrication. Artwork should be visible in both daytime and evening conditions. **See Appendix for photographs of space*

Eligibility

- This opportunity is open to established professional artists in Monterey or surrounding counties.
- Artists with experience interacting with the community and large groups are encouraged to apply.
- Monterey Museum of Art is an equal opportunity employer that is committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other protected characteristics as outlined by federal, state and local laws.

Project Timeline Overview

- **Proposal Workshop and Site Tour:** 12:30pm Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 559 Pacific Street
- **Submission Deadline:** December 5, 2022
- **Panel Review:** December 16, 2022
- **Finalist notification:** December 19, 2022
- **Interviews:** January 6, 2023
- **Artist selection:** January 13, 2023
- **Fabrication:** January 13 – April 13, 2023 in coordination between Artist and MMA
- **Installation schedule:** April 13-15, 2023
- **Event Dates:** April 15-16, 2023
- **Deinstallation Date:** April 17, 2023



How to Apply

Artists interested in this project must prepare and submit the following materials:

- Project proposal – No more than 7 pages
 - Artist(s) name and contact information (email, mailing address, phone number)
 - Project title and summary – 400 words or less
 - Include connection to theme “Transformation and the Natural World”
 - Conceptual design sketches sufficient to communicate the artist concept
 - Specifications related to materials, size, and installation requirements
 - Project budget
- Supportive Documentation
 - Artist website or Instagram page
 - Relevant body of work – 5-10 digital images with annotations
 - Annotations: Material, location, budget, commissioning organization, other relevant information
 - Artist(s) bio (200 words or less per bio) and resume/CV
 - 3 professional references
 - Name, title, current email, and phone number

Submission Process

Applications will be accepted starting Monday, November 21, 2022, and extending through Monday, December 5, 2022.

All materials must be submitted no later than **5pm Monday, December 5, 2022.**

Please send application materials to education@montereyrt.org, subject line (Block Party Artist)

Or mail to

Monterey Museum of Art
C/o Education and Public Programs
559 Pacific St
Monterey, CA 93940

Artists who submit complete and qualified applications will receive an honorarium of \$150 in recognition of their time.

Honoraria will be mailed after January 13, 2023.

Artist Selection Process

The Monterey Museum of Art and its selection panel will review all completed submissions, interview finalists via Zoom, and select an artist(s) and award the commission by January 13, 2023. A public announcement will be scheduled following the award date.

Selection Criteria

- Proposal is complete
- Project concept reflects the RFP’s stated vision, theme, and project elements
- A clear connection to the theme of “Transformation and the Natural World”
- Budget does not exceed \$5000
- Artist’s body of work demonstrates artistic excellence and community impact
- Experience working in the field of public art and community settings
- Experience fabricating and installing work suitable for outdoor environments
- Finalists: Your references will be contacted for feedback prior to final selection.

Appendix



