

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)
Deadline: October 30, 2017



Call for Artists:

Wilmington Waterfront Promenade Project

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), Public Art Division, is seeking professional artists interested in creating permanent public art for the new Wilmington Waterfront Promenade (“WWP”), a project of the Port of Los Angeles. This public art opportunity for the WWP is administered by DCA, in compliance with the City’s Public Percent for Art policy and in partnership with the Port.

The WWP will be located at the southernmost end of Avalon Boulevard and extend to the north and west of Water Street in LA’s Wilmington neighborhood within the City’s 15th Council District <la15th.com/district_map>. The WWP will be a total of 363,000 square feet and its design includes a combination of passive and active outdoor spaces such as walking trails, picnic areas, and playgrounds. The WWP is the second phase of the Port’s implementation of the *Wilmington Waterfront Master Plan* adopted in 2007. The WWP was designed to connect local residents and regional visitors to the water, and it aligns with the core goals of the Mayor’s 2015 *Sustainable City Plan: Environment, Ecology, and Equity* <plan.lamayor.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/the-plan.pdf>.

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CRITERIA

This RFQ is open to professional artists with the capacity to design, fabricate, and install permanent art projects in outdoor open spaces. Artists may apply as individuals or as teams. Interested artists must submit an application to this RFQ (refer to the “How to Apply” section) that demonstrates the experience and/or capacity to oversee and deliver projects while working in collaboration and consultation with other professionals and project teams of architects, landscape designers, engineers, fabricators, and general contractors. Artist teams should demonstrate this experience and/or capacity for individual members of the team as well as the team as a whole. Commissioned artists must be available for multiple meetings with the project team and/or principals of the project, City representatives, public bodies, and the general public.

If awarded a commission through this RFQ, throughout the life of the commissioned project, artists and artist teams will be required to comply with various codes pertaining to safety, accessibility, seismic and/or other issues as specified by the City.

Successful artists will have conveyed in their application to this RFQ their qualifications to design, fabricate, and install permanent public art as well as their specific interest in the Wilmington Waterfront Promenade project. Applicants should not include any specific proposal(s) for public art as part of the new WWP; any such elements will be redacted from the application prior to review by the selection committee (refer to the “Selection Process” section), or the application may be deemed disqualified and not be considered reviewed.

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ELIGIBILITY

This RFQ is open to professional artists based in Southern California, defined as the region comprised of Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura counties. DCA strongly encourages applications from qualified artists in the City's 15th Council District, particularly in the Wilmington neighborhood, to apply. Artists currently pre-qualified for other DCA-administered public art project opportunities, and artists currently working on public art projects with DCA, are not prevented from applying to this RFQ.

Artists shortlisted through this RFQ will be advanced as finalists for the WWP public art project opportunity but are not guaranteed a public art commission. Commissioned artist teams may not change over the life of the project. Employees of the City of Los Angeles are ineligible to apply.

Applicants are encouraged to register on the City of Los Angeles Business Assistance Virtual Network (BAVN). If your organization has previously received commissions, grants or contracts from the City of Los Angeles, then you have already registered on BAVN. If you are a new applicant, go to labavn.org to register to bid for a City of Los Angeles business commission, grant or contract. **Technical support for BAVN may be requested by emailing ita.bavn@lacity.org.**

Sometime thereafter you may receive requests from BAVN to verify your location, the percentage of your workforce that lives in the City of Los Angeles, your status as a minority owned/operated business, and your status as a women owned/operated business. We encourage you to respond accurately so that individual artists are understood as a significant contributor to equity.

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BUDGET

The budget for a permanent public art project at the new Wilmington Waterfront Promenade may range from \$150,000 to \$300,000. Commissioned project budgets are all-inclusive and therefore must cover all expenses associated with the design, fabrication, and installation of the project, including any concept refinements, presentations, project approvals, engineering services, and/or City permits as required. Public art for the new WWP is funded by the Port of Los Angeles' Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget and is approved by the Board of Harbor Commissioners.

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SELECTION PROCESS

DCA will convene a selection committee, comprised of independent arts professionals, WWP design principals, Port of Los Angeles representatives, and/or community members to review all eligible applications received in response to this RFQ, and shortlist up to five (5) artists and/or artist teams as finalists. DCA will invite finalists to attend a mandatory onsite orientation and develop site-specific, original art project proposals for the WWP. Finalists will present their proposals and interview with the selection committee, and up to two (2) finalists will be awarded a public art commission for the new Wilmington Waterfront Promenade.

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HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted online, via SlideRoom:

culturela.slideroom.com.

Deadline to apply is Monday, October 30, 2017.

Late applications will not be accepted and incomplete applications will be deemed disqualified and not be considered.

A complete application* must include:

1. Artist's Contact Information including name, business name (if applicable), mailing address, telephone, and email. Teams must provide this information for all members of the team, and one artist must be identified as DCA's primary contact for the team.

2. Statement of Interest in creating public art for the new Wilmington Waterfront Promenade.

3. Curriculum Vitae: teams must submit one team CV as well as a CV for each artist on the team.

4. Ten (10) Images of completed art projects. Each of the image files must include the title of the image, year, size, materials, and brief description. For any commissioned project(s), also include the client, budget, and location.

*Any additional materials submitted other than the materials requested above will not be reviewed.

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RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

DCA reserves the right to decline all applications to this RFQ and/or cancel this RFQ, or any roster of pre-qualified artists, at any time. This RFQ is subject to the City's Campaign Finance, Contractor Responsibility, Equal Benefits, Equal Opportunity, Living Wage, Minority/Women Business Enterprise and Slavery Disclosure Ordinances, as well as any other ordinances in effect in the City of Los Angeles.

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ABOUT DCA

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles' vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

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QUESTIONS

Please contact **Martica Stork**, Arts Manager, at 213 202-5532 or martica.stork@lacity.org.

Visit DCA's website to download this RFQ document: culturela.org/grants-and-calls