

Artist in Residence

Public Art on Bus Rapid Transit Stations

Creative Community Engagement

Artist Call | Request for Qualifications

Summary

- This Artist-In-Residence (AIR) program places an artist as a creative strategist and art maker to assist the City of Raleigh's Transportation Department with art integration into the Wake Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) program. It will start as a **year-long** program with opportunities for future extensions.
- The artist will **organize community events** and **gather feedback from the communities near each station**, with the goal of including the shared history and experiences of the community in the BRT station artworks.
- The Artist-In-Residence will manage inclusion of other artists throughout the project, and create final designs/budgets for the proposed artworks.
- The artist will **identify unique and aesthetically pleasing elements** for the BRT Stations that **reference community character**, and advise on art integration during the design of **distinct but related stations with an overall identity** along the corridor of the route
- The selected artist should plan to commit **10-15 hours per week** to the project.
- The selected artist will work alongside planning/transit staff, project partners, community stakeholders and other artists in a collaborative process to develop, strategize, promote, and implement artwork into Wake County's new Bus Rapid Transit elements such as stations, signage, etc.
- After the first year the program will be assessed and evaluated with the opportunity to renew with the selected AIR for an additional two years.
- Up to three semi-finalists will be selected for interviews and paid a **\$100 stipend**.
- Qualifications must be submitted by Monday, **March 23** (10:00am). There is no fee to submit qualifications.
- Apply Online:
<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/53827>

Eligibility

1. This opportunity is open to individual artists and other artist teams.



2. Applicants must live, work, or go to school in the Triangle area, and be at least 18 years of age.
3. Applicants must have at least a three-year history of professional art or design practice.
4. Applicants must have demonstrated experience in the arts through the creation of high-quality work.
5. Lead applicant cannot be enrolled in an undergraduate course of study in the visual arts as of January 1, 2020.

Budget

The one-year residency budget is **\$30,000** inclusive of all expenses including: community engagement, concept and final designs, proposals, travel, taxes and fees. The budget for fabricating artwork, or conducting artist calls for additional artists/elements will come out of a separate budget.

Project Overview

In November of 2016, Wake County voters approved a plan for focused investment in public transit which includes building approximately 20 miles of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) lanes.

The Artist-In-Residence will **work closely with the BRT design team** (architects, engineers, planners, city staff) to identify opportunities for public art in the Wake Bus Rapid Transit stations along the Wake BRT corridors.

The first phase of this residency will focus in particular on the **New Bern Avenue Corridor**; however, it is important to **keep the entire BRT system in mind** for future art integration opportunities and consistent approach.

A major component of the residency is conducting community engagement sessions to **gather feedback from the communities near each station**, with the goal of **including the shared history and experiences** of the community in the station artworks. This Residency requires strong interpersonal skills and the ability to listen deeply and thoughtfully to community input.

The Artist-In-Residence will **identify placement areas for future artwork** in the stations (for example lighting, mosaic, or audio artworks) and create a cohesive vision for the overall corridor. The artist may design specific artworks for inclusion in the stations as well as work with other local artists on material and medium specific pieces. The Artist-In-Residence will also develop renderings, and establish project budgets and timelines.



After the first year the program will be assessed and evaluated with the opportunity to renew with the selected AIR for an additional two years. Additional Artists could also be brought into the project at this time. Proposals submitted under this RFQ will be effective for up to thirty six months from the submittal date.

Public Art Goals and Opportunities

- Create unique and aesthetically pleasing elements for the BRT Stations that reference community character
- A series of distinct but related stations with an overall identity along the corridor of the route
- Due to overlapping government regulations there is a preference for functional and integrated artworks. Examples might include:
 - Digital screens that display poetry, visual art, etc. in addition to bus arrival times
 - Mosaic elements
 - Artful windscreens and lighting
 - Loudspeakers that also play local music
 - Pillars that light up the side when the bus arrives or other unique lighting elements

About Bus Rapid Transit

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a flexible high capacity transit solution that combines physical and operational elements to increase service speed and reliability. BRT creates dedicated bus lanes on local roads so bus operators can bypass traffic and keep their routes on schedule. BRT stops will feature raised platforms, making it easier for passengers with wheelchairs, strollers, or bicycles to board the bus. Fares are collected on the platform so passengers can board without delay.

Selection Criteria and Process

Selection Criteria and Process Applications submitted in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by the City of Raleigh Public Art Director, who will then forward all complete and eligible applications received by the deadline to the Artist Selection Panel, appointed by the Public Art and Design Board. The Panel may include: a member of the Public Art and Design Board, a member of the Raleigh Transit Authority, professional artists and arts professionals, stakeholders from community groups, and representatives from city departments.



The selection process will consist of two stages: During the first stage, the Artist Selection Panel will evaluate qualifications of artists based on three criteria: artistic merit; appropriateness for the project; and how the applicants work engages the site on a social, physical, and cultural level. The Artist Selection Panel will identify up to three finalists to invite to Raleigh for interviews.

Finalists selected for the Stage 2 interviews will receive a \$100 stipend to cover expenses associated with the interview. In addition to reviewing qualifications, panelists will discuss with finalists their prospective approaches to the project. They will also respond to questions.

**A specific proposal is not expected at this interview.*

The Artist Selection Panel will choose the artist for the project and forward that recommendation to the Public Art and Design Board. Upon approval by the Public Art and Design Board, a scope of services and budget will be developed based on the artist's or artist team's approach to the project.

Project Timeline

<i>RFQ Application Deadline:</i>	Monday, March 23, by 10am
<i>Semi-Finalists Selected and Notified:</i>	Late-March 2020
<i>Semi-Finalists Interviewed:</i>	Early April 2020
<i>Project Awarded:</i>	Mid-April 2020

How to Apply

Apply online using this link:

<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/53827>

**If you have trouble with the online form, you may email your documents to jenn.hales@raleighnc.gov.*

Artists wishing to be considered must submit the following materials:

- 1. Statement of Interest**

A statement, of 1000 words or less, outlining your interest in this project and your experience working on public art projects, or relevant art experience. Include how your work and experience will complement this project.

- 2. Professional Résumé**

A résumé of no more than two pages that includes information regarding public art commissions, exhibitions, and installations, awards, special projects, community engagement, grants and education. If applying as a team, submit a single file containing separate résumés for each team member.

- 3. Three Professional References**



Contact information for three references should be submitted, including name, title and affiliation, phone number and email address. References should be able to speak to your ability to provide services for a public art project or artwork of a similar scope.

4. Previous Work, Digital Images

Ten digital images of recent previous work (created within the past ten years) Each image should include: image number, artist's name, title, year, media, location, project budget, dimensions, commissioning agency, and collaborators or design professionals (if applicable).

5. Pre-Selected Pool

Please use the check box on the online application to indicate if you would like to be included in a pre-selected pool of artists. Artists in this group will be considered for additional BRT and Transit opportunities.

Do not provide or submit any other materials with your application. They will not be reviewed by the panel and will not be returned.

Submission and Deadline

All RFQ materials must be received no later than **10:00am. EST on March 23, 2020**. Incomplete or late submittals will not be considered.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The policy of the City of Raleigh is, and shall be, to oppose any discrimination based on actual or perceived age, mental or physical disability, sex, religion, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial or marital status, economic status, veteran status or national origin in any aspect of modern life. The City of Raleigh Arts Commission strives for a diverse representation of voices, life experiences, views, and interests to reflect the collaborative community we have and wish to serve.

Additional Information

For questions, contact Kelly McChesney, Public Art Director for the Office of Raleigh Arts, at 919.996.5657 or Kelly.McChesney@raleighnc.gov.

For relevant information regarding the project, visit the Office of Raleigh Arts website at: <https://raleighnc.gov/services/arts/artist-calls>

