

Floodplain Creative Education Display at Crabtree Creek

Call for Creatives | Request for Qualifications



Summary

- A creative installation that educates residents about the floodplain at Crabtree Creek
- The project budget is **\$35,000**
- Qualifications must be submitted by **Monday, August 24 (10:00am)**. There is no fee to submit qualifications.
- Up to three semi-finalists will be selected for interviews. Artists will interview remotely via Zoom and be paid a **\$250** stipend.
- **Apply Online:**
<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/55303>

Eligibility:

1. This opportunity is open to individual artists and other artist teams.
2. Applicants must be either a United States citizen or a permanent legal resident, 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 arts/design through the creation of high-quality work.
5. Lead applicant cannot be enrolled in an undergraduate course of study as of January 1, 2020.

Budget

The budget for the project is **\$35,000** inclusive of all expenses including: community engagement meetings/strategies, design, fabrication, installation, travel, taxes and fees.

Project Overview

The creative educational display or artwork structure can be stand-alone or integrated into the site. Potential opportunities include data-responsive installation or LED display in the greenway tunnel or a stand-alone sculpture / display near the creek. The design will ideally include a virtual component that residents can access online. The artwork will be situated next to a well-loved greenway and should take into account interaction on a pedestrian scale.

The artwork will incorporate a visual representation of water levels, with an emphasis on both current and historic data. The goal is to show how water levels naturally rise during major storms and hurricanes. Topics to explore include historic flood levels, why water levels rise in a stream during flooding events and the natural benefits of creek flooding.

Stream Level Data for Crabtree Creek

You can access current stream level data for the Crabtree Creek site from the [US Geological Survey](#). This data pulls directly from an already installed on-site sensor. This could be an interesting resource for an interactive element of the artwork.

The chart below lists historic stream level data for major hurricanes in North Carolina to show how high the water gets in and around the floodplain. This information is specific to Crabtree Creek near Blue Ridge Road and Crabtree Valley Avenue. The flood elevation will change depending on the site of the art installation.

The City will provide field survey support as needed to mark water elevation.



Hurricane	Date	Max. Elevation (ft.) - Above Sea Level <i>Use this to mark the water level</i>	Max. Stream Level (ft.) - Above the bottom of the creek (From the stream gauge location) <i>Use this to post the gauge height after the elevation is marked</i>
Agnes (1973)	6/29/1973	230.53	27.69
Fran (1996)	9/6/1996	230.12	27.28
Floyd (1999)	9/16/1999	224.34	21.50
Dennis (2005)	7/10/2005	214.91	12.07
TS Alberto (2006)	6/14/2006	226.61	23.77
Matthew (2016)	10/8/2016	225.54	22.70
Alberto (2018)	5/30/2018	210.45	7.61
Florence (2018)	9/15/2018	216.30	13.46
Michael (2018)	10/11/2018	216.68	13.84
Dorian (2019)	9/5/2019	209.28	6.44

Creative Educational Exhibit - Goals and Opportunities

- The artwork will educate residents about the floodplain.
 - The area directly next to a river or creek that floods during a storm. Heavy rain causes creek levels to rise quickly and water to go over streambanks into the floodplain
 - The floodplain is expected to flood during a storm.
 - We cannot completely prevent this flooding.
 - Because of this, our priority is making people aware of how the floodplain works and keeping them safe.
- The artwork must be flood proof as it is expected to be sited in a floodplain and withstand floods
- The artwork can include a virtual/online component in addition to the physical installation.



- The artwork can examine ecological positives and impacts of flooding and/or historical narratives by residents around flooding of the Crabtree Creek area.
- The artwork will be sited near a greenway and should take into account interaction on a pedestrian scale.

About the Floodplain

Floodplains are an important part of the creek system. They help improve the quality of Raleigh's waterways by cleaning and storing stormwater runoff. Floodplains also provide a place for rainwater to flow when streams cannot handle any more water. This can cause flooding in areas near Crabtree Creek. Flooding also happens when heavy rainfall overwhelms stormwater pipes near the creek. This can cause the infrastructure to fail affecting roads, properties, and the stormwater system as a whole.

There are a few important messages to convey to people about the floodplain:

- The floodplain is expected to flood during a storm.
- We cannot completely prevent this flooding.
- Because of this, our priority is making people aware of how the floodplain works and keeping them safe.

To help [prepare for storms](#):

- Crews clean out debris from stormwater pipes so that the system is clear and can carry as much water as possible;
- We track stream gauges and flood monitoring cameras to assess flooding risk;
- We activate flood warning signs that flash when water is at risk of reaching the road; and,
- We notify first responders to close flooded roads. The signs are used too so that people do not drive through flooded roads.

Location:

The work is proposed to be located in a greenway underpass that lies beneath a road next to the creek. We'd like the work to teach people about the floodplain while they are walking, biking, or using the greenway.





The concrete wall under the Crabtree Creek greenway off Glenwood Ave. (Located near Crabtree Mall.)

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. The Panel may include: a member of the Public Art and Design Board, 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 with data or environmental issues. The Artist Selection Panel will identify up to three finalists to invite to Raleigh for interviews.

Finalists selected for the Stage 2 interviews via video-conference and will receive a stipend of \$250. 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, but artists will be evaluated on their potential ability to educate about stormwater concepts and historical data through their artwork.**



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

RFQ Application Deadline:	August 24, 2020
Semi-Finalists Selected and Notified:	August 2020
Semi- Finalists Interviewed:	September 2020
Project Awarded:	September 2020
Concept Design:	November 2020
Final Design:	January 2020
Construction Documents:	February 2021
Fabrication:	February-May 2021
Installation:	May 2021

How to Apply

Apply online using this link:

<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/55303>

Artists wishing to be considered must submit the following materials:

1. **Statement of Interest**

A 1000 word (or less) statement outlining in general terms how your artwork might translate to this specific project, experience you have working on creative projects, and how you foresee engaging with the community.

2. **Professional Résumé**

A résumé of no more than two pages that includes information regarding public 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: including name, title and affiliation, phone number and email address. References should be able to speak to your ability to provide services for a creative 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: title, year, media, location, project budget, dimensions, commissioning agency, and collaborators or design professionals (if applicable). *File titled Lastname Firstname__list*

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 Monday, August 24.** 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>

