

CROSSROADS PARK PUBLIC ART

At today's meeting, staff will present information on an upcoming public art opportunity in Crossroads Park. Staff will seek a recommendation of the artist call from the Arts Commission.

Motion: A motion to recommend the artist call, titled "Jumping Scale," for a public art project in Crossroads Park.

Code and bylaw support: This item is supported by Bellevue City Code 3.56.070, Arts Commission Powers and Duties, Items E and F:

- E. Provide recognition and encouragement to local artists and arts organizations, both those established and those as yet unrecognized; and
- F. Develop recommendations for acquiring public artwork consistent with guidelines and priorities approved by city council.

BACKGROUND

In 2020, the City's Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) received a project idea from a Crossroads community member for a public artwork in Crossroads Park. While the project wasn't selected during the NEP process, Amazon offered \$100,000 to fund the project. This money was transferred to the City in 2021. There was a commitment to use their funding within 3-5 years, targeting completion of the project between 2024-2026.

Crossroads Park is a 34-acre park that features a wide array of amenities, including tennis courts, basketball courts, skate bowl, play areas, picnic shelters, and jogging paths. It's also home to the popular Crossroads Water Spray Playground, a full-service community center, a par-3 golf course, the Bellevue Youth Theatre, and seasonal community pea patch gardens. The diversity of the neighborhood is celebrated throughout the park, with recognition of many of the diverse places community members are from and Bellevue's Sister Cities in Hualien, Taiwan; Yao, Japan; Liepaja, Latvia; and Klando, Czechia (formerly Czech Republic).

Arts Program staff worked with the Parks department to come up with a scope for the art project that meets obligations to Amazon, Parks' operational needs, and the availability of staff capacity.

ABOUT THE CALL

Titled "Jumping Scale," this call is an opportunity for an artist seeking to expand their art practice into the field of public art. To support the selected artist in their professional growth, this call simplifies a traditional public art process by focusing on exploring an existing three-dimensional body of work at a new scale and possibly a new material. The selected artist will gain valuable experience in public art, with support from concept design through fabrication and installation from City staff. While this opportunity is about experiencing an artist's work in a larger scale, it's not intended to simply replicate an existing work, but to build on a current body of work. An example

could be an artist that typically creates ceramic works that a new design could be transformed with new durable materials and in a scale suitable for the outdoors. Interested artists will submit up to two current and distinct three-dimensional bodies of work for consideration by an artist selection panel. An example of a body of work could be artworks that are similar in aesthetics and style or art making practices and methods.

The artist's budget for this opportunity is \$75,000 which is inclusive of design, fabrication and installation. The artist will be mentored by the City's Public Art Specialist through all phases of this project. Utilizing the remaining \$25,000 in funding from the Amazon gift, the City will separately fund and coordinate, all foundation work and required permits as part of mentorship.

This call is open to three-dimensional artists that seek to expand their practice from the studio into outdoor public art. Eligible artists must have not completed a public art project with a budget above \$10,000 and must live in Island, King, Kitsap, Pierce, San Juan or Snohomish counties, in Washington State. The deadline to apply is September 3rd.

A selection panel, made up of one arts commissioner and two community members and arts professionals, will meet in September to review artist's submittals and identify three finalists for phone interviews by staff. Staff will present their findings from the phone interviews, along with their recommendation to the selection panel for their consideration in the final selection.

This is a unique project with specific constraints that help drive the scope of work. While this project is designed as an opportunity for an artist new to public art, by "jumping scale" of an existing body of work, staff can work with the artist to control for elongated design, engineering and permitting processes, in order to complete the project within the available timeframe. Please refer to "General Design Guidelines" in the attached artist call (Attachment A), for details on project controls.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the approval of the artist call, titled "Jumping Scale," for a public art project in Crossroads Park.

OPTIONS

Option 1: Commission motions to recommend approval of the artist call.

Option 2: Commission elects not to recommend approval of the artist call.

NEXT STEPS

If the commission recommends to approve the artist call, staff will work to immediately promote the online application. Staff will present the artist selected by the selection panel and provide their recommendation to the commission at the October arts commission meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

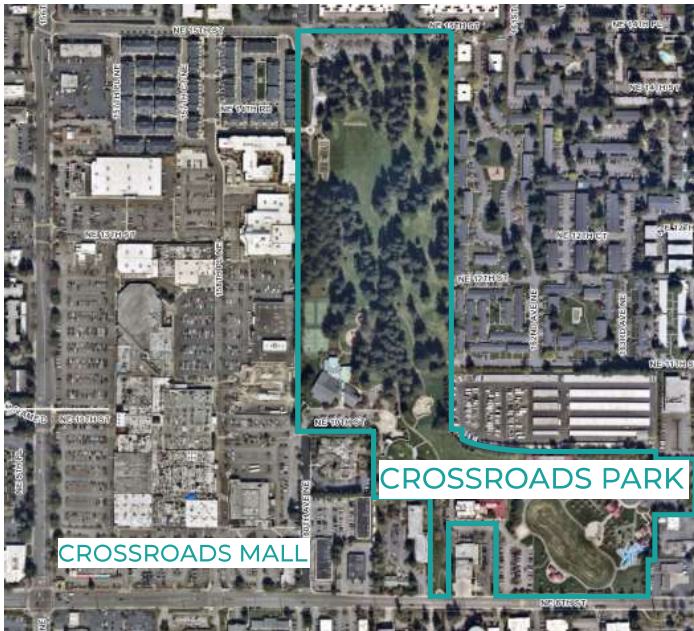
Attachment B: CALL FOR "JUMPING SCALE" ARTISTS

STAFF CONTACT

Scott MacDonald, Public Art Specialist
425-452-7897, smacdonald@bellevuewa.gov

CALL FOR “JUMPING SCALE” ARTISTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS | CROSSROADS PARK, BELLEVUE, WA



OPPORTUNITY: The City of Bellevue seeks an artist to design a permanent outdoor three-dimensional artwork (can include multiple pieces) for Crossroads Park in Bellevue, Washington. This opportunity is open to local artists that seek to expand their practice from the studio into outdoor public art. This opportunity, called “Jumping Scale,” is an opportunity for the selected artist to expand an existing body of work into a new scale and possibly a new material while gaining valuable experience in public art, with support from concept design through fabrication and installation from the City of Bellevue. The deadline for consideration is September 3, 2023.

BUDGET: \$75,000 Budget is inclusive of design, fabrication and installation. The City will separately fund and coordinate, with input from the artist, all foundation work and required permits as part of mentorship.

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. (PST). Please allow ample time to complete your application; applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. If you are experiencing technical difficulties, please reach out before the deadline. If you do not have access to a computer, arrangements can be made to submit paper applications; in this case, please contact us no later than August 18, 2023.

ELIGIBILITY: Eligible artists must not have completed a public art project with a budget above \$10,000 and must live in Island, King, Kitsap, Pierce, San Juan and Snohomish counties, WA. Artists must be able to travel to Crossroads, Bellevue, to visit the park and later to install their designs by the end of 2024. The selected artist must also meet the City’s mandatory insurance coverage by time of contracting, including Commercial General Liability coverage with limits not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$2,000,000 annual aggregate.

CONTACT INFORMATION: For more information about this Request for Qualifications, please contact City of Bellevue staff member Scott MacDonald, at 425.452.4852 or smacdonald@bellevuewa.gov

ABOUT THE CALL

This call aims to create a new artwork for the highly diverse community in Crossroads, Bellevue within Crossroads Park. While this opportunity is about experiencing an artist’s work in a larger scale, it’s not intended to simply replicate an existing work, but to build on a current body of work with a change in scale, possibly material, and in a new outdoor setting. An example could be an artist that typically creates ceramic works that could be transformed with new durable materials and in a scale suitable for the outdoors. Interested artists will submit up to two current and distinct three-dimensional bodies of work for consideration by an artist selection panel. An example of a body

APPLICATIONS DUE BY 11:59 PM PST ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

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of work could be artworks that are similar in aesthetics and style or art making practices and methods.

The budget for this opportunity is \$75,000 which is inclusive of design, fabrication and installation. The artist will be mentored by the City’s Public Art Specialist through all phases of this project. The City will separately fund and coordinate, with input from the artist, all foundation work and required permits as part of mentorship.

Crossroads is Bellevue’s most diverse neighborhood, with 57% of residents born outside the United States and 61% of residents speaking a language other than English at home. Representing diverse voices and perspectives in the City’s Bellevue Art Collection and in Crossroads is critical. Diverse artists are highly encouraged to apply.

Crossroads Park is a 34-acre park that features a wide array of amenities, including tennis courts, basketball courts, skate bowl, play areas, picnic shelters, and jogging paths. The Crossroads Water Spray Playground, a full-service community center, a par-3 golf course, the Bellevue Youth Theatre are also popular community destinations. The diversity of the neighborhood is celebrated throughout the park, with recognition of many of the diverse places community members are from and Bellevue’s Sister Cities in Hualien, Taiwan; Yao, Japan; Liepaja, Latvia; and Klando, Czechia (formerly Czech Republic).

ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

September 3, 2023: Call Closes

September 2023: Artist Selection

October 2023: Artist Presented to Arts Commission

October: Contracting

October – November: Development of Initial Design

December 2023: Staff Review

January – March 2024: Design + Fabrication Drawings

April – December 2024: Fabrication and Installation

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be submitted online:

ARTIST APPLICATION Please fill out all required fields in the online application, including your primary location, artistic medium, and items below.

ARTIST’S STATEMENT (not to exceed 150 words) Please write a brief description of how this opportunity is important to your progression as an artist.

ARTIST’S BIO (not to exceed 150 words) Please summarize your background and artistic influences, training and significant achievements. Please note any personal connections to Crossroads or its community.

UP TO FIVE IMAGES OF A CURRENT BODY OF YOUR ARTWORK Please submit up to 5 images of a body of three-dimensional artwork that you are interested in creating a new design of an artwork at a larger scale and suitable for the outdoors. Each applicant can submit up to 2 bodies of artwork (maximum of 5 images each, 10 total). This call is a request for qualifications, so please do not submit proposals. If the selected artist submits two bodies of current work, the selection panel will select one body of work for that artist to explore for this project.

BODY OF WORK AND IMAGE DESCRIPTIONS Please provide a short description of each submitted body of work (not to exceed 150 words each), with descriptions of all images to include: title of artwork, medium, year made.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the online application by midnight on September 3, 2023. Applications are collected through SurveyMonkey Apply.

Link to Call submission: https://bellevuearts.smapply.io/prog/crossroads_artist_call

SELECTION PROCESS

An artist will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit (Merit factors can include artistic vision, mastery of technique, originality, viability)
- Eligibility and Application Materials
- Artists residing in Bellevue, WA will be given additional consideration by the selection panel.

A panel composed of the Chair of the Arts Commission, or their designee, and two arts professionals and community members, will recommend three artists for selection. City of Bellevue staff will review and conduct phone interviews, before the selection panel makes their final recommendation. City of Bellevue staff will present the panel’s recommendations to the full Arts Commission for approval. Contracting with the artist will commence immediately following the Arts Commission’s voting and the selected artist will need to be available in October of 2023 to provide a certificate of insurance and final contracting.

The City of Bellevue reserves the right not to select any applicants.

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GENERAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

Since this is an opportunity for an artist to gain experience in public art, the artwork will need to comply with the following guidelines to support a streamlined project development process and quick timeline:

- The installed artwork can be no more than 7'11" tall and can't include anything that is powered or requires a water source.
- There can be multiple independent components to the artwork, although they must relate in scale, form and aesthetic treatment and located in the same general area of Crossroads Park.
- There should be no opening between 4-6" within the design of the artwork – this avoids hands or other body parts getting stuck.
- Artworks that require a wide or significant foundation will not be accepted. This controls the cost of foundation work.
- This is an opportunity for an artist to increase the scale of a body of work they are currently working in. The artist must supply an original design that is similar in form, expression or aesthetic treatment to the selected body of work. This controls for unknowns and simplifies the design process. Artwork designs that are clearly a new body of work not related to the selected body of work will not be accepted.
- The Parks and Recreation Department will have final say on siting of the artwork.
- The artist must own all rights to all content used in the artwork.
- The artwork must be appropriate for display in public spaces and viewing by a general audience, containing no text (including words, quotes, or letters), advertising or branding, or graphic depictions of violence and sexually explicit material (including nudity).
- The artwork will be considered a “permanent” artwork and will be included in the Bellevue Art Collection, the City of Bellevue’s public art collection. The fabricated and installed artwork will be considered to have a minimum lifespan of 25 years and will be designed accordingly. This time frame should be considered the general lifespan of the artwork; however, the City of Bellevue, with a vote by the Arts Commission, may elect to deaccession the artwork at any time for any purpose.

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM’S MISSION

The City of Bellevue seeks to be a vital platform for cultural exchange and creative inspiration. The City turns to living artists to enrich the collective experience of Bellevue’s public places through permanent commissions and a growing collection of movable artworks funded through the Public Art Program. A segment of the collection is devoted to artworks that raise the discourse on the defining aspects of Bellevue’s civic life, exploring the diverse identities of our residents, converging cultures, international connections, technological currents and interplay between nature and the urban experience that make Bellevue’s environment unique. Bellevue’s art collection helps document the dynamic moments and complexities of Bellevue’s cultural life and is an important resource for future generations.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

The City of Bellevue in accordance with the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing Tom Carroll at tcarroll@bellevuewa.gov or by calling collect (425) 452-6981.

TITLE VI

The City of Bellevue in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 USC 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all Consultants that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises as defined at 49 CFR Part 26 will be afforded full opportunity to submit submittals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex in consideration for an award.



CONTACT US

For questions regarding the call and how to apply, please contact Scott MacDonald at (425) 452-7897 or smacdonald@bellevuewa.gov