

BENICIA ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

PUBLIC ART REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

INFORMATIONAL OVERVIEW

BENCH DECORATING PROJECT

SPECIFIC 2021 PROPOSED FOR ACC/PAC APPROVAL

The City of Benicia's Arts and Culture Commission's Public Art Program is seeking artists to design and implement the following public art projects throughout the community:

Neighborhood Public Art on City-Owned Wood/Steel Bench Program

Project #1:

- Located on the Promenade at the end of First St., Benicia, CA 94510 (Note: this bench is located in the historic district and in close proximity to the bay.)
- One steel bench (6 ft length) is open for the artist to interpretation
- Both sides of this bench must be designed and painted
- The bench must be lightly sanded
- The Arts & Culture Commission will provide you with the Benicia Blue paint that you must use on the side rails and "feet." Do not use your own blue.

Project #2

Located at the front entrance of the Benicia Public Library, 150 E. L Street

- One wood bench (6 ft length) is open for the artist to interpretation
- Both sides of this bench must be designed and painted
- The bench must be lightly sanded
- The Arts & Culture Commission will provide you with the Benicia Blue paint that you must use on the side rails and "feet." Do not use your own blue.

GENERAL OVERVIEW:

This public art opportunity is for artists or teams of artists to create dynamic installations that reflect the identity of not only the historic downtown neighborhood, but also be considered for selected Benicia Neighborhood benches. This can be approached abstractly or literally. Both Benches are within the Historic District must meet and fit within the historical context of the surrounding area. You may submit up to and no more than two (2) ideas for the one Project application. If you submit more than 2 ideas, your application will not be considered.

Selection of Artists and Artwork:

Neighborhood Bench Public art submissions will be considered based on the following criteria:

- All visual art forms and materials will be considered.
- Style: Artwork reflecting any school, movement or method style will be considered.
- Range: Artwork may be conceptual or tangible;
- Character: Artwork must be appropriate in scale, media, style, and content to the project and environment to which they relate.

- Since both benches are in the Historical District they must meet HPRC Design Guidelines (currently in final stages of review)
- Permanence: Consideration should be given to structural and surface integrity, and must be durable and require minimal maintenance.
- Design Elements: In addition to meeting aesthetic requirements, public bench art may also be asked to serve as a means of defining architectural space, e.g. establish focal points, clarify, identify or indicate boundaries, modify and/or enhance specific spaces.
- Public Safety/Liability: Artwork and art places must be free of unsafe conditions or other factors bearing on public liability.
- Diversity: The Public Art program should strive for diversity, reflecting the social, ethnic and cultural fabric of the City.

Artist Selection Criteria:

1. Artistic quality, including excellence in the artwork's craftsmanship, originality and integrity of the material used.
2. The appropriateness of the artwork to the surrounding community to include its scale, form, content, and design.
3. The relationship of the artwork to the social and cultural identity of the community where the artwork will occur.
4. The artist's ability to successfully complete the project on time and within the proscribed budget.
5. The artist's proposed materials and their appropriateness to the project with regard to structural and surface integrity, protection against theft, vandalism, public safety and weathering, and an analysis of long-term maintenance needs.
6. The artist's proposed method of installation of the artwork and an evaluation of safety and structural factors involved in the installation.
7. The durability of the materials and projected cost of maintenance of the artwork.

DETAILS FOR DECORATION OF CITY-OWNED BENCHES

Background

Public Benches are located throughout the city of Benicia and can be considered as an opportunity for incorporating artwork in the highly visible First Street area as well as nearby Library and community park areas by showcasing the flavor of each of the city's many neighborhoods, both historic and non-historic, and various business and arts districts.

DETAILS

The City of Benicia Arts and Culture Commission is accepting applications from qualified artists for Public Art for the decoration of selected benches.

ARTIST QUALIFICATIONS AND SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Open to all Greater Bay Area residents
- Concept and imagery (50%)
- Artistic Excellence (30%)
- Previous Artwork Experience (20%)

ARTIST QUALIFICATIONS CONTENT AND REQUIREMENTS:

- General understanding and appropriateness of surroundings both in historic and non-historic districts
- Specific details of paints
- Compliance with community safety standards

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please read this section carefully. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications must be received by the end of the day **3/5/2021**. Artists must provide the following in an **electronic format and mail or deliver material to Benicia Library, 150 East L Street, Benicia, CA. 94510. For more information call Helaine Bowles at 707/746-4358 or email her at Hbowles@ci.benicia.ca.us.**

SUBMISSION TO INCLUDE:

- Completed Application Form;
- Current Resume/CV (PDF or Word format)-Note: if this is a group submission, submit a single resume for the entire team with individual resume integrated into one document;
- List of supplies used;
- **Concept Description & Design Mock-up—a description of the proposed installation drawn to scale with color using the provided image of the surface to closely represent the planned installation; no rough sketches;**
- Budget & Timeline—selected artists will be welcome to begin work as early as June 11, 2021;
- Examples of Previous Work—include 1-3 samples of past and recent work with descriptions. Include location, commission organization and budget for the work submitted as illustrative examples; you may submit up to 2 designs;
- Send or deliver all above materials (jpeg images, electronic documentation in PDF or Word documents) on a storage drive or CD to:

Benicia Public Library,
150 East "L" St., Benicia, CA 94510
Attention: "Public Art Submission"

COMPETITION AWARDS:

- Benches \$500 + \$50 for materials

TIMELINE:

- Submission Call for Artist period: 3/5/2021
- Joint Art Selection Panel Review & Public Art Committee Review: 3/18/2021
- Benicia Arts and Culture Commission Review: 4/18/2021
- HPRC Design Review: 5/20/2021
- City Council Review: 6/22/2021
- Notification to Artists: 6/23/2021
- Work Completion period: 8/31/2021 Weather Permitting

Finally, all submitting artists carefully review all of the information on these pages and submit questions or inquiries to Benicia Public Library, Attention: hbowles@ci.benicia.ca.us. **Please include email address and phone/text.**

Application Deadlines **3/05/2021**

Please note, the city reserves the right to limit the size and placement of the artist's signature and placement thereof.

Attachment: Application Form

The City reserves the right to reject any and all submissions.

*Thank you for your interest in becoming a part of
the art landscape of Benicia, California!*

R2Benches2021