

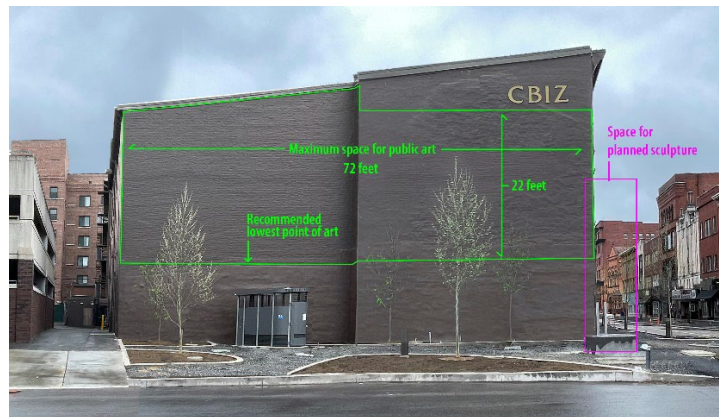


Request for Proposal from Maryland Artists

The Allegany Arts Council is seeking proposals for artful treatment of a building wall which is located at the intersection of Baltimore and Mechanic Streets in downtown Cumberland. The Request is limited to artists who reside in the state of Maryland as a condition of grant funding.

The artwork may be developed using a wide variety of materials including metal, paint, tile, wood or lighting. As the building wall is multiple stories high, it is not required for the work to cover the entire wall, rather it could include a series of separate pieces, or a large piece clustered towards the upper right-half of the wall, as noted in the image above.

The selected work should not be representational, but rather abstract, such that it would complement, and not detract from, a major piece of sculpture anticipated at the corner of parklet.



Concept



The City of Cumberland is investing nearly \$17 million in a revitalization project of its historic commercial corridor and downtown business community. The plan also includes above-ground improvements including a newly-designed streetscape, landscape plan and public art master plan. The project broke ground in April 2023 and is scheduled for completion and dedication in November 2024.

The intersection of Mechanic and Baltimore Streets serves an important function in linking visitors and residents to the commercial hub of Cumberland. The wall in question has dimensions of 72'x44' and is currently painted in a deep chocolate brown. The building is key to the project as it frames the entrance to what will be the newly-renovated downtown business district. As you can see in the above rendering, the "parklet" located at this intersection is flanked by tree plantings, and features a Portland Loo in the corner, which offers pedestrians and cyclists a public restroom option. The area will also have shade sails forming overhead and a plinth to house a major piece of sculptural public art in the future.

We seek an artful treatment that will signal the excitement and vibrancy which the downtown will have, ushering in its future.

Proposal

During this phase of the project, which is being funded by a planning grant through the Maryland State Arts Council's Public Art grant program, artists or artist teams are asked to submit a proposal which includes:

1. Concept narrative
2. Project description and concept sketch
3. Resume
4. No more than six images of prior work in PDF or jpeg format

Once received, proposals will be reviewed by an art panel consisting of several participants, including local artists, the site location property owner, representatives from the city of Cumberland, the Arts Council and public users. The panel will select three artist/artist teams to

advance. Proposals should be sent to Julie Westendorff, Executive Director, at jwestendorff@alleganyarts.org, and should be submitted in one PDF document of no more than twenty pages total.

Each of the three advancing artists/artist teams will receive a stipend in the amount of \$2500 and will be encouraged to visit the site in person in order to prepare a more comprehensive design concept. The revised design concepts will require inclusion of material types and methods of fabrication to be used, dimensions, as well as a detailed drawing of the expected resulting project.

Public Input

Once the three concepts are finalized, they will be displayed at the Allegany Arts Council, as well as the site location. A public meeting will be held to discuss the proposals with the artist/artist teams present.

Finalist

At the conclusion of the public input session, the art panel will select a finalist who will be awarded an additional \$2,000 to finalize the proposal with specific materials, engineering review, a detailed budget, timeline and installation information.

The final project budget will be \$40,000 and will be the total budget for the final preparation and installation of the work. No additional funds will be granted. The artist/artist team will be required to include all design fees, materials, labor costs, preparation costs, installation fees, insurance, as well as a contingency, in the final budget submitted.

Once selected, the artist/artist team will enter into contract under supervision of the Allegany Arts Council, who will serve as the grant and project administrator. The Arts Council will manage payment of invoices related to the project, will require project updates from the artist team and will oversee the final marketing, promotion and announcement of the project.

Project Timeline

June 7, 2024	Request for Proposals made.
July 5, 2024	Deadline for submission of Request for Proposals.
July 26, 2024	Selection of up to three finalists to advance with \$2,500 stipend.
August 23, 2024	Deadline for submission of final designs.
August 24-September 27	Public input period and final
September 30, 2024	Final artist team selected