

## CALL FOR ARTISTS

### Request for Qualifications Utility Box Project

#### INTRODUCTION

Sanctuary Art Center and the U District Partnership have been awarded a grant from the City of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods to Design and Install art pieces on 20 utility boxes in the U District Neighborhood (See Attached Map).

#### SCOPE OF WORK

The artist will work with a project manager, a steering committee, youth artists and the public to design and install art onto 20 utility boxes in the U District. The final deliverable is the design and installation of art works for 20 utility boxes.

#### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Utility boxes are a necessary part of the urban streetscape as they provide the essential controls to our traffic lights, however, they are simply there for "Utility" and to a passer-by amount to nothing more than a large grey obstruction. This project aims to build community through the transformation of the Utility Boxes in the U District from ordinary obstructions into community assets that contribute to both placemaking and wayfinding. The guiding theme in this project is to enhance the U District as an *Urban Center in motion specializing in human connectivity*.

The project will be a highly visible and prominent series of artworks in one of Seattle's Urban Centers. The design will need to be approved by SDOT based on their evaluation criteria can be found at [http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/stuse\\_signalboxart.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/stuse_signalboxart.htm).

#### TIMELINE

March 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Statement of Interest and Portfolio examples Due

March 29<sup>th</sup> - Interviewees Notified

April 19<sup>th</sup> - Proposals Due

May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Artist or team selected

May 17<sup>th</sup> - Design Completion

May <-> June - Artwork Installed

### **ELIGIBILITY**

The call is open to professional artists or artist teams residing in the City of Seattle. Artists will be required to incorporate three youth artists into their process for the completion of this project. Youth artists will be supplied by Sanctuary Art Center. The Selection Committee will entertain mixed media proposals, printed wrap for the boxes, hand painting for the boxes, etc.

### **YOUTH ARTISTS**

All proposals must articulate ways in which they will incorporate youth participants from the Sanctuary Art Center. The age of these youth will range from 18-24 and will be hand selected by staff from the art center. They will be selected based on reliability, skill set and a passion for the project. They may be used in any facet of the project including conceptualizing, designing and or installation. Sanctuary Art Center will assist with introduction and communication throughout the project and will make computers and Adobe design software available to youth if necessary. If you have questions about these participants you may contact Troy Carter at [troy@sanctuaryartcenter.org](mailto:troy@sanctuaryartcenter.org)

### **BUDGET**

The budget for the design, installation and materials is \$1,000 per utility box, this project aims to complete 20 boxes for a total \$20,000. The steering committee for this project anticipates the \$1,000 per box given to the selected artists to be broken \$600 as a design fee per box and \$400 for materials and installation per box. If material and installation cost exceed the \$400 figure the additional cost is taken out of the design fee. The \$1,000 per box is to be spent at the artist's discretion. The \$20,000 figure is the total amount supplied to the selected artist(s) this covers the design fee, materials and installation of the entirety of this project.

Costs for materials can be estimated with the below resources.

- <http://www.supergraphics.com/>
- <https://www.ppgpaints.com/store-locator/us/washington/seattle/ppg-paints-21453>

Painted signal box examples can be found on our partner Urban Artworks website <http://urbanartworks.org/works/signal-boxes-broadway/>

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

All applications must be submitted to: [eliot@udistrictpartnership.org](mailto:eliot@udistrictpartnership.org) by 5PM March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

All applications must be submitted digitally by 5PM March 8<sup>th</sup> by emailing: [eliot@udistrictpartnership.org](mailto:eliot@udistrictpartnership.org)

Applications must include:

- Statement of Interest (not to exceed 2,000 characters). Please provide a statement describing your interest in improving the public realm, urban design, and community engagement along with familiarity with the neighborhood.
- Resume
- Portfolio

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Artist(s) will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Quality of concept, design, and craftsmanship of past works
- A proven ability to collaborate in design teams, with design professionals and with community stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to complete projects on time and within budget.
- Experience with integrated design and urban infrastructure.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

The selection will take place in two parts. During the first round of the project, steering committee members and SDOT staff will review the applicants' Portfolio, Qualifications and Statement of Intent. The panelists will identify up to three finalists to submit full proposals consisting of full design and specifications for installment of three of the twenty utility boxes.

### **NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION**

Applicants will be notified of the panel's decision by e-mail in late April 2017. The project Steering Committee reserves the right to not select any of the applicants.

### **PROJECT CONTACT**

Please contact Eliot Muetting at the U District Partnership with any questions or concerns. E-mail: [eliot@udistrictpartnership.org](mailto:eliot@udistrictpartnership.org) or call: 206-547-4417.