CALL FOR ARTIST

Project: NEA Artworks Grant for the US 550/US 160 Median
Deadline: December 15, 2017

PROJECT SUMMARY
The City of Durango, Colorado is in search of a lead artist to join our project team for the National Endowment of the Arts, Artworks grant. We invite all interested artists, or groups of artists, to submit proposals for this project. The Lead artist will be responsible for working with the project team, City staff and the community to develop a sculpture concept and to organize a plan for execution and installation. The community based, public art project is for the medians at the intersection of US 160 and US 550. The purpose of this public art project is to encourage community engagement through public art. This project will garner participation from all ages of community members to create a gateway sculpture to Durango.

Under the direction of a lead artist, students from local schools and members of the public will be given the opportunity to help create elements of a multicomponent sculpture through structured art classes as well as open studio workshops. This allows the community to collaborate and create a sculpture reflective of Durango's unique character which will be displayed at the entrance to the city. In the process, the classes teach a variety of skills, such as ceramics, mosaics, design, welding, etc. The projects goal is to strengthen community bonds while creating one-of-a-kind public art.

MAJOR PROJECT ACTIVITIES
The concept for the project builds on a successful Youth Art Partnership between the City of Durango and Durango High School arts and welding teachers. The Youth Art Partnership started as a way to display works of art created by high school students on a rotating basis and has been so successful and the artwork so popular that the works have become part of the City’s permanent collection of public art.

The City of Durango (with guidance from the Public Art Commission) is releasing an RFP/RFQ for a lead artist who will become part of the project team. This lead artist will be responsible for working with the project team, City staff and the community to develop the sculpture concept and to organize a plan for execution and installation. Teachers from Durango High School and Fort Lewis College will also serve on the project team and will lead their students in the creation of certain sculpture components over the course of the 2018 - 2019 school year. Additional schools such as the charter Animas High School, Southwest Colorado Community College, and
Mountain, Escalante and Miller Middle School may also have a role in helping to create the artwork through specialized workshops. Finally, a community public art piece deserves the participation of members of the community – more than simply voting on which concept they prefer. To achieve this, a series of free workshops will be held where members of the community – at any age – may sign up to help create certain sculpture components. Because of the wide range of ages, motor and technical skills and abilities, it will be critical for the lead artist to identify which sculpture components are best suited to which age/skill level and assign them appropriately.

ABOUT THE ARTWORK
The artwork will consist of a series of related sculptures that will work together to tell a story of local relevance. Some example of relevant themes include:

- Nature
- Animals
- Recreational Activities
- Local Archeology
- Local Geology
- Culture and History

The location of the two medians is in an intersection where two State highways meet and is the busiest intersection in the region, with an annual average daily traffic of 35,000. To ease traffic congestion, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) recently reconfigured the intersection to a Continuous Flow Intersection – one of the first of its kind in the country. This reconfiguration resulted in several long, narrow, raised medians to separate traffic. Because the infrastructure is owned by CDOT, the project is subject to “CDOT Guidelines for Integrating Artwork into CDOT Transportation Facilities. A member of the CDOT regional staff will serve on the project team to ensure that the guidelines are met and to provide input at all phases of the project.

ARTWORK MEDIUM
When choosing a medium, durability and resilience to year-round weather conditions will be priorities. Due to limited access for City maintenance staff, the artwork itself must be created from materials that require very low maintenance to ensure longevity and minimal staff attention. Suggested materials may be, but are not limited to metal, fiberglass, plastic, stone, ceramic or any other durable material that can withstand the elements. The City encourages using recycled or reused materials as much as possible.

The dimensions and design of the final selection must meet all CDOT “Guidelines for Integrating Artwork into CDOT Transportation Facilities, February 2016” (attached on page ___ of this Request for Proposal).

ARTWORK FOUNDATION
The artist is responsible for getting PE stamped technical plans and specifications for the artwork foundation/base. The plans must be developed by a licensed professional engineer registered in the State of Colorado, guaranteeing the structure’s stability and the ability to withstand the necessary wind loads. This expense is covered by the artist’s stipend.
BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead Artist Stipend *</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies to create the artwork</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing Costs for marketing</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bases, materials, labor and install</td>
<td>$28,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Install- traffic control, permits</td>
<td>$18,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$99,500.00</strong></td>
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*The Artist’s stipend includes:
- Any travel or personal expenses related to the project
- Any costs to design the art piece
- The cost for PE stamped technical plans
- And any costs to teach and administer the workshops

The stipend will be paid out as key milestones are met.

TIMELINE AND PROCESS

One of the main objectives of the grant is to engage the community in public arts. Students and community members will help choose the concept and create the art. The lead artist will design the art piece and create a process that includes public participation. Here is a tentative schedule with some key deadlines. The finalist must be available to present their concept and process to the project team and community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artworks Grant Tentative Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 15, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of Jan 8, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week of Jan 22, 2018</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week of Jan 29, 2018</strong></td>
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<td>March 2018</td>
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<td>March- April 2018</td>
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<td>May- August 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>August -December 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>January- May 2019</td>
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<td>June -July 2019</td>
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NEW PUBLIC ART PROJECT FOR THE MEDIANS AT THE 550/160 INTERSECTION!
ELIGIBILITY
The project is open to all artists who reside in the Four Corners Region. Due to the key role the artist plays in implementing the project, it is imperative the artist is present for local meetings and public workshops on a regular basis throughout the life of the project. Any travel costs will be the responsibility of the artist. Preference is given to local artists or artist groups. This Call is open to individuals or artist groups. The artist or group selected will be responsible for developing the sculpture concept and organizing a plan for execution and installation. The City of Durango shall retain exclusive rights to create photo reproductions of the final art for print material as necessary for promotional and/or educational purposes.

LEAD ARTIST QUALIFICATIONS
The Lead Artist will be responsible for developing the artistic vision, creating and implementing a public process with participation from students and community members and managing the installation. The grant project team will also help when appropriate. The Lead Artist shall have the following qualifications:

- The artist must understand and be able to develop an artistic vision for the piece that reflects the heartbeat, history or character of Durango
- The artist must have strong project management skills.
- The artist must either have a studio that is appropriately sized and equipped to offer public workshops or they must arrange a space to conduct the workshops, City staff can assist with this if needed.
- The artist must be able to demonstrate artistic excellence in a medium that is relevant to this project (metal, ceramics, mosaics, etc.)
- The artist must be able to interact with community members, students, teachers, other artists and staff in a positive manner
- The artist must be able to successfully complete the project in accordance with the schedule and budget

SELECTION PROCESS
1. All submittals will be reviewed by the project team.
2. A select number of finalists will be invited to present their concepts and qualifications to the project team.
3. Three finalists will present their concepts to the community and the community will vote on their favorite idea. (These three finalists will be given a $500 stipend)

The selection panel will be comprised of a minimum of 8 individuals as follows:

- Three members from the Durango Public Art Commission
- One representative from Fort Lewis College
- One representative from Durango Art Center
- One representative from Durango High School
- One representative from CDOT
- One representative from the Mayor Youth Advisory Committee

Non-voting advisors to the panel may include the consulting project architect or engineer, and additional city staff as necessary.

ARTIST STIPEND
A stipend of $500.00 will be awarded to three (3) finalists.
PROPOSAL QUESTIONS
Please submit any questions related to the project by Wednesday, November 15. A synopsis of the questions and answers will be sent out via email to all applicants by Friday, November 17th so that all can be informed. Submit questions to Colleen O’Brien, at Colleen.obrien@durangogov.org.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Please submit your proposal documents in digital format that is PC compatible with all document files and accompanying images. Please label files individually with your first initial, last name and file description. EX: jsmith_Proposal; jsmith_Resume

GROUP APPLICANTS
This Call is open to artist groups as well as individual artists. For application purposes, each person in the group should submit a resume/CV on the same submission. Only one Cover Sheet and project proposal is necessary. Artist groups may submit up to 12 images in the slideshow, divided amongst members as they see fit. If the artist group has worked together in the past, please submit examples of past collaborations. If this is your first time working as a group, individual work is fine.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

- **Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)**: Include information about your education, exhibition history, any awards or grants you have received, residencies you have participated in, and details of any published writings or reviews of your work. Also include information about your experience leading community projects and teaching and designing workshops.

- **Project Proposal**: A written statement, not to exceed two pages, addressing:
  1. Your interest in this project
  2. Any past experience with similar community based projects
  3. A description of the proposed artwork concept
  4. A plan for public and student participation
  5. A timeline
  6. Maintenance plan

- **Proposed Budget**: Estimated total and annotated list of possible expenditures (these need not be final numbers. If selected, budget will be discussed with PAC).

- **Slideshow of Images**: Create a slideshow of your past artwork in Microsoft PowerPoint or other format software that is PC compatible. It is preferable that you save your entire slideshow as a PDF.
  1. Please include only one image per slide with a simple label at the top with: *Your Name, Title, Year, Medium, Size*
You may include up to **five (5)** images of your past work and up to **five (5)** images to represent the proposed artwork for this project, for a maximum of ten (10) slides. Images of your proposed concept may include a maquette, drawings, computer rendering, material samples, etc. If the artwork already exists, include up to five (5) images of the artwork.

**Image List:** This should correspond to the numerical order of each slide and include the following information for each image: Title, Medium, Date completed, and Dimensions (H” x W” x D”). You may also include here, in one to two sentences any other details relevant to the panel’s assessment.

Should you have any questions regarding these submission guidelines, or are unable to submit your application electronically, please contact us immediately (see Page 4 for contact number and email).

**PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATION BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH:**

Durango Public Art Commission  
ATTN: Colleen O’Brien  
Colleen.Obrien@durangogov.org  
1235 Camino Del Rio (this is not our mailing address)  
949 East 2nd Avenue  
Durango, CO 81301

**ESTIMATED TIMELINE**

- **Deadline for questions:** November 15th
- **Application deadline:** December 15th
- **Notification to finalists:** January 5th
- **Presentations to the project team**  
  January 8th – 12th
- **Public Presentations**  
  Week of January 22nd

**RULES AND GUIDELINES**

The City of Durango Public Art Commission reserves the right to reject any or all applications or proposals, to reject any finalist, to waive informalities in applications or proposals, or to terminate the selection process for any project without prior notice. The Durango Public Art Commission reserves the right to terminate the project at any time. Application to any project advertised by the Durango Public Arts Commission constitutes agreement to all applicable rules and guidelines. For a copy of the City of Durango enabling resolution for the Durango Arts Commission and rules and guidelines reference the City web site at [www.DurangoGov.org](http://www.DurangoGov.org).
APPLICATION OR PROJECT QUESTIONS

Colleen O’Brien
Business Development and Redevelopment Coordinator
(970) 375-4855
Colleen.Obrien@DurangoGov.org
Guidelines for Integrating Artwork
Into CDOT Transportation Facilities

February 2016

Introduction
Art and artistic design help to create useful and visually appealing urban spaces. At its best, art enriches Colorado’s quality of life, providing a sense of place and adding interest and vitality to the landscape. At its worst, art is divorced from essential considerations of site and user needs, resulting in works which fail to serve the users and purposes intended. Whether it is viewed as the lubrication needed to boost public acceptance or the right thing to do in the public interest, integration of art forms and artwork is an important tool available to help create a successful roadway environment.

Purpose
This technical memorandum covers integration of artist treatments, artwork placed on highway or other structures, and freestanding artwork within the right-of-way (R.O.W.) of Colorado state highways. It emphasizes the importance of designs sensitive to nearby communities, the surrounding environment and the safety of the traveling public. Because the context may vary, it sets minimum standards for Region Traffic Engineers to approve of and permit the installation of public artwork such that the highway can provide a safe and pleasing experience for all users and neighboring communities.

Questions
Questions regarding publication or distribution of these Guidelines should be referred to the CDOT Traffic Specifications and Standards Engineer, at 303-757-9662.

Application Process
This document covers a wide variety of diverse art forms and art features, including monuments, recognizable and abstract forms, logos, graphic designs, sculptures, and related architectural treatments, added to or incorporated within highway elements to enhance the public space. The design of all artwork must be coordinated with the aesthetic design of the highway system and all its parts. Most importantly, it must respect the: roadway circumstances, clear zone, people, vehicle and pedestrian safety, and environment affected by the artwork.

Special Use Permits (Applications) for incorporating artwork into transportation facilities shall be submitted to the appropriate Region Permit Manager of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). When the application involves landscaping as part of the artwork project, a separate application for a landscaping permit shall be required (see Chapter 7, Section 8 of the CDOT R.O.W. Manual for landscaping permit requirements and application process). The artwork must be sponsored by a local unit of government, accompanied by a resolution from the local governing body and the application shall contain the following information:

1. Name of artwork sponsor and designer. Include information about individuals responsible for the tasks that must be undertaken to achieve the project’s goals.
2. Scaled preliminary drawings, models and presentation materials of the proposed artwork sufficient to communicate the design intent.

3. Complete written description of the project requirements. Include the key issues of project, such as, what is to be designed and built; where will (might) it be built; its relationship to the roadway and other highway elements; levels of design quality and amenity; role of the proposed artwork in the highway and/or community; schedule requirements or constraints; target date for completion; budget estimate and sources of funding; codes, regulations and required design reviews; and maintenance requirements and responsibilities.

Applications shall be submitted to the Region Permit Manager for initial review and comment. The Permit Manager may convene an aesthetic and design evaluation team to assist in his evaluation. This team will consist of the Region Traffic Engineer, the CDOT Traffic Specifications & Standards Engineer, the CDOT Outdoor Advertising Manager and representatives from the CDOT Bridge Design & Management Branch, the CDOT Maintenance and Operations Branch, Property Management and others, as needed.

The Region Traffic Engineer shall have final approval authority to permit the artwork or art-related features within CDOT R.O.W. That Special Use Permit shall contain provisions for State of Colorado and CDOT indemnification, including from the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990, and Certificates of Insurance for the artwork.

**Design Requirements**

All artwork shall meet the following requirements:

1. Artwork must be located completely within the CDOT R.O.W. Maintenance shall be the responsibility of the sponsor throughout the life cycle of the artwork. All construction and maintenance activities shall be completed without access or egress from the traveled way on any Colorado State highway section where the posted speed is greater than 45 miles per hour, unless otherwise approved by the Region Traffic Engineer. Artwork that would require access or egress from the interstate mainline section for construction or maintenance activities will not be approved.

2. Artwork will not be attached to bridge structures, but shall be harmoniously integrated with the architectural design of these structures. In general, artwork which meets the aesthetic requirements of the highway or its components and is integrally designed with them shall be approved. Artwork which detracts from the visual quality or functionality of any highway feature, will not be approved.

3. The content of all artwork must be socially acceptable. The artwork’s appearance and visual relationships with the surrounding environment shall also be considered. Artwork which conflicts with local values or is determined to not be in the public interest will not be approved.
4. Artwork shall exhibit lasting qualities that are not trendy or subject to change within a short period of time.

5. As part of the application packet, the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed artwork will not compromise motorist safety, road and roadside functions or highway design standards. No public artwork features shall be located within the clear zone. In addition, the proposed artwork location shall conform to the American Disability Act (ADA) design criteria, if applicable. The following design features will not be approved:

- Artwork that is going to be a public nuisance
- Bold or vibrant colors, especially colors that can be mistaken for signal lights
- Animation and moving parts
- Water features
- Lighting or reflective elements that are not incorporated into the artwork
- Flashing disks that simulate lighting
- Company logos or symbols
- Living logos
- Flags and banners
- Text messages, except on local government signs
- Any structure over 20 feet in height

6. Artwork that requires electricity will be evaluated for approval on a case by case basis by the Region Traffic Engineer.

7. Artwork shall not simulate a traffic control device. Artwork having a predominant red or orange background or any other MUTCD color will not be approved. Variations of these colors may be considered for approval.

8. Artwork shall not be commercial signing or advertising of any kind. Signs associated with a business, including non-profit organizations, business complex or regional shopping center or event will not be approved.

9. Non-traffic-related signs that may be permitted along highways, include Municipal Entrance Identification Signs within the R.O.W, Community Identification Signs off the R.O.W. and Community Recognition Signs. Such signs shall be reviewed by the appropriate Region Traffic staff for conformance with the applicable rules.

10. Artwork shall be permanent and maintainable. It shall have technical plans with a PE stamp signed by a licensed professional engineer registered in the State of Colorado demonstrating structurally stability and the ability to withstand the necessary wind loads in accordance with the most current AASHTO design standards. Artwork shall also be designed using long lasting materials and construction techniques which require minimal care and resist vandalism.
11. Artwork placed on highway structures (excluding bridges) shall not be detrimental to the longevity of the structure. Neither shall it unduly inhibit maintenance of the structure by restricting access to inspect, paint or perform other maintenance operations. Artwork placed on highway structures shall have technical plans with a PE stamp signed by a licensed professional engineer registered in the State of Colorado to assure the integrity of the structure is not comprised by the addition of the artwork.

12. Artwork damaged by vehicular accidents, vandalism, acts of nature or necessitated by maintenance operations or construction projects will be required to be repaired or removed by the local governing agency within 30 days of written notification. If the artwork is not repaired or removed as required, the artwork will be removed by CDOT or its agents without commitment for restoration or replacement. When artwork removal is required, its sponsor shall be responsible for all of the costs involved. All graffiti shall be removed within two business days of written notice at no cost to CDOT.

Construction Requirements
Artwork shall be constructed in accordance with a project work plan, developed as part of the process of negotiating intergovernmental agreements covering the artwork. Installation shall comply with all Special Use Permit requirements, approved shop drawings and the latest edition of the CDOT’s “Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.” At no time shall any maintenance activity interfere with through traffic movements along the highway and construction activities.

Construction shall not begin until a Special Use Permit is fully executed by the Region. Projects within the interstate R.O.W. shall require FHWA approval. The Permit shall not be issued until the sponsor’s local agency ordinance or resolution, Special Use Permit, Certificates of Insurance, complete plans and specifications (including Traffic Control Plan) and other documentation required by Region Traffic Engineer has been provided.

Approved Projects
The artwork sponsor shall have sole responsibility for all of the costs involved with the design, installation and maintenance of approved artwork projects. When proposals are linked to aesthetic requirements of the highway by enhancing aesthetic or architectural design themes, the cost of the artwork and/or artistic treatments may be eligible for CDOT participation. Local Agency projects will need to follow all CDOT/FHWA requirements for these types of projects.
CDOT Regional Boundary Map

CDOT Region Traffic Engineer Contact Information

Region 1 Traffic Engineer
18500 E. Colfax Avenue
Room 205
Aurora, CO 80011
(303) 365-7330

Region 2 Traffic Engineer
P.O. Box 536
Pueblo, CO 81002
(719) 546-5411

Region 3 Traffic Engineer
222 S. 6th Street, Room 100
Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 683-6271

Region 4 Traffic Engineer
1420 2nd Street
Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 350-2121

Region 5 Traffic Engineer
3803 N. Main Avenue, Suite 300
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 385-8360