University of Maryland, Baltimore County

CALL TO ARTISTS

UMBC SOLICITATION #BC20902

November 22, 2013

Phase One/RFQ Due Date: December 19, 2013

Phase One/RFQ Delivery Location: Maryland State Arts Council
                    Maryland Public Art Initiative
                    Attention: Lucas Cowan
                    175 W. Ostend Street, Suite E
                    Baltimore, MD 21230

Contact: Lucas Cowan
                    Director, Public Art Programs
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                    Baltimore, MD 21230
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Project Title: University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Performing Arts and Humanities Building
Opportunity

The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), with the assistance of the Maryland State Arts Council Commission on Public Art, is issuing this solicitation document to engage individual artists and artistic teams (Artist) to respond to this Call to Artists with professional qualifications in regards to a proposal of site-specific artwork for the University of Maryland, Baltimore County’s Performing Arts & Humanities Building (PAHB), located at 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD. If chosen, the Artist shall develop a new original permanent work of art made specifically for the site that enhances and compliments the newly constructed Performing Arts & Humanities Building. This opportunity is advertised on eMarylandMarketplace and the solicitation documents are available at http://www.umbc.edu/adminaffairs/procurement/EBidB.shtml

Project Summary/Site

UMBC is a dynamic public research university integrating teaching, research and service to benefit the citizens of Maryland. As an Honors University, the campus offers academically talented students a strong undergraduate liberal arts foundation that prepares them for graduate and professional study, entry into the workforce, and community service and leadership. UMBC emphasizes science, engineering, information technology, human services and public policy at the graduate level. UMBC contributes to the economic development of the State and the region through entrepreneurial initiatives, workforce training, K-16 partnerships, and technology commercialization in collaboration with public agencies and the corporate community. UMBC is dedicated to cultural and ethnic diversity, social responsibility and lifelong learning.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore County was born amid the turbulent swirl of the 1960s, and we had to cut our own path in a field of older, established institutions. From the beginning, we believed that a university could be innovative, interdisciplinary, inclusive – and great. We believed that ground-breaking research and a relentless focus on undergraduate success could go hand-in-hand.

We still do. To this day, our faculty, staff and students work and create outside traditional structures. We re-imagine and build. It’s not happenstance that UMBC had the first university research park in Maryland, dedicated to growing ideas into thriving businesses. And it’s not happenstance that we are consistently cited as one of the best universities for undergraduate teaching and a leading innovator in higher education.

Our Department of Theatre, for example, is a perennial star in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Seven UMBC productions have been invited to the stage of the Kennedy Center, most recently in 2011 with a performance of Las Meninas by Lynn Nottage.

In 2006, the department decided to use its powerhouse position to develop new stage roles for women. The result: GRRL PARTS, an annual festival that asks playwrights to create dramas
featuring women as the leads. Those roles provide female students the opportunity to act as complex characters in a field still often dominated by male roles.

The Performing Arts and Humanities Building (PAHB) provides new, state-of-the-art facilities for arts and humanities departments and programs. The PAHB will enhance UMBC’s teaching, research and public outreach and will heighten the visibility of the arts and humanities as major components of campus and community life. The PAHB will be home to the Department of Ancient Studies, the Department of Dance, the Department of English, the Department of Music, the Department of Philosophy, the Department of Theatre, the James T. and Virginia M. Dresher Center for the Humanities, the Humanities Scholars Program, and the Linehan Artist Scholars Program.

The PAHB is situated on 4.8 acres on the west side of Hilltop Road adjacent to the existing Fine Arts, Engineering and ITE Buildings. Designed to be constructed in two phases, the PAHB will be a natural extension of the campus to the north, creating a strong relationship with the current campus buildings and enhancing the circulation of the campus. The first construction phase, which opened in Fall 2012, provides space for the Department of English, the Department of Theatre, the James T. and Virginia M. Dresher Center for the Humanities, the Humanities Scholars Program, the Linehan Artist Scholars Program, and arts management offices; the second phase, which will open in Fall 2014, will provide space for the Departments of Ancient Studies, Dance, Music and Philosophy.

The PAHB is an anticipated LEED Silver project. Additional details regarding the sustainable design features built into the building can be found at the following link: http://www.umbc.edu/pahb/sustainable_design.html

Artwork Themes

Overarching themes in the artwork should encompass the strengths of the UMBC, a historically-diverse, highly-selective, public research university. UMBC combines the traditions of the liberal arts academy, the creative intensity of the research university, and the social responsibility of the public university. We are known for integrating research, teaching and learning, and civic engagement so that each advances the others for the benefit of society.

On our campus the performing arts and humanities are known for the ability to generate questions and imagine possibilities as we investigate the human encounter with the natural world, the trauma of violence, the power of memory, and persistence of hope across time and cultures. The disciplines deal with the issues that every human grapples with - loss, suffering, love, fear, discrimination, hopelessness, fate, knowledge, etc. - so that we might better understand others and ourselves. We believe that the performing arts and humanities are the gifts we give to and receive from others, and are the celebration of life in all its forms.

Positioned at the height of the campus, the PAHB is a building that glitters in the sun, where pedestrians and drivers can easily view it. With this new building, the campus community seeks a year-round destination where people can gather, sit and reflect; and respectfully engage each other in non-hierarchical settings. UMBC imagines an environment that promotes collaboration
and mutual respect in which "No" and "Can't" are replaced by "How." UMBC is an engaged campus community that wishes to participate in the making of the artwork and creation of the environment.

The work should be durable, consider the ancient and contemporary dynamics investigated within the PAHB through materials and forms, and is effectively integrated into the environment and building site. The campus community envisions the work as marking time, passing in a place that matures and transforms over seasons and through the passage of light. Very large windows at multiple levels in the PAHB frame broad views of the site. The artwork should invite people to rest, converse, and guide them to and from the prominent glass walled atrium at its entrance.

Eligibility

All professional artist or artist teams residing in the contiguous United States may apply. If artists are applying as a team, the team should be declared in the Artist Statement, specifying a team leader to receive notifications.

Artists serving on the Maryland Commission of Public Art and the Principal Selection Committee of the commissioning agency are ineligible to have their artwork considered for the above-specified commission.

Artists currently enrolled in degree granting, fine art programs as well as staff, faculty, or employees of the commissioning agency are not eligible to apply for the above-specified commission.

Budget Details

Total project budget is $397,000 and is inclusive of all costs associated with the project, including, but not limited to, the project, design, materials, fabrication, transportation, and installation, related permits, licenses, insurance and site modification. Any expenses that exceed the contracted amount will be the artist’s responsibility.

The artist is responsible for working with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and other relevant partners to oversee all aspects of the art installation.
Proposal Submissions

The proposal process consists of two (2) phases: (1) Phase One is a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and (2) Phase Two is a Request for Proposal (RFP) (by invitation only).

RFQ Submission Requirements

Please submit the following:

- **Signed Application Form:** Artists must submit a signed copy of the form provided in Attachment A of this document. If applying as a collaborative artist group, each member of the group must sign the application.

- **Artist Statement:** Briefly describe your interests and qualification for the project (1 page maximum, double-spaced).

- **Resume:** Please attach a current Resume, which outlines your experience as a visual or public artist.

- **Image CD:** Ten (10) images of completed past artworks must be saved onto a CD for review. Please provide the images in the following format:
  - One image per JPEG
  - Pixel dimensions per image: approximately 600 x 800
  - Image resolution: 72-300 pixels per inch
  - Maximum file size: 1MB
  - Name each image: lastnamefirstnameimagenumber.jpg, for example: DoeJohn01.jpg, DoeJohn02.jpg, etc.
  - A corresponding, numbered, annotated image list with title, media, dimensions, location, brief description, date of the work, project budget, and project partners, if applicable.

- **References:** at least three (3) professionals (commissioning agency or organization, design or arts professional, architect, landscape architect, engineer, etc.) who have detailed knowledge of the artist’s work and working methods. Include contact name, complete address, telephone number, and e-mail for each reference.

- **Optional:** One (1) PDF file of additional support material, including press clippings or other relevant information on past projects (maximum 1MB file). **Note: PowerPoint presentations are not accepted.**

Note:

- Send artwork as JPEG files ONLY. Slides will not be accepted or returned.
- Application materials will not be returned.
- Do not send design proposals at this time; a separate invitation to submit a design proposal will be sent to the applicable artists as the appropriate point in this process.
Request for Proposal - Design Proposal Requirements (by invitation only)

For those artists who are invited to develop a proposal, complete responses to the following will be required. UMBC reserves the right to request additional information from individual artists at its discretion.

- Preliminary written concept of artwork proposed and the rationale for this choice.
- Site-specific preliminary rendering of the proposed public art piece with approximate dimensions
- Basic timeline for design development through installation.
- Line itemized project budget.
- Preliminary description of anticipated maintenance requirements for the proposed work(s) or art, including, but not limited to, instructions regarding cleaning of materials, routine maintenance procedures, and methods and/or instructions for minimizing the effects of environment and other risks of damage.

In the event an artist is asked to develop a proposal, the following shall apply:

- At its sole discretion, UMBC shall have the unconditional right to own proposal maquettes and/or drawings submitted as part of the proposal commission, whether or not the artwork is selected for implementation.
- If UMBC, at its sole discretion, decides to return the maquettes and/or drawings to the artist, the artist shall give credit to the Maryland Public Art Initiative (MPAI) should the maquettes or drawings be reproduced or displayed, whether or not the artwork is selected for implementation at UMBC.
- The artist shall retain intellectual property rights related to the proposal maquettes and/or drawings.
- UMBC requires that all proposals and/or maquettes submitted are original and unique.

Letters will be sent to the selected artists/teams with further details of the Phase Two RFP process.
Selection Process/Evaluation Criteria

The RFQ is Phase One of the commissioning process. After the application deadline, a Selection Committee consisting of art professionals, UMBC representatives, a representative of the architectural design team, and others as deemed necessary, will screen applicants to establish a qualified candidate pool (Phase 2 Finalists) to be considered in Phase Two (RFP) of the commissioning process.

It is expected that up to three artists/teams will be selected as Phase 2 Finalists and paid a fee of $1,000.00 each to develop a site-specific proposal.

Artists will be selected based on experience and qualifications using the following criteria:

A. Originality, artistic excellence and innovation demonstrated through past work and supporting documentation.

B. The artwork is deemed appropriate to the goals of the project and for the environment in which it will be installed.

C. The artist’s experience in public art projects is adequate to meet the demands of the project.

D. The artist is open to a collaborative working process, in regards to design, approvals and implementation.

E. Reference check.

Selection and Production Schedule: The schedule for selection is as follows:

- RFQ Posted: November 20, 2013
- RFQ Application Deadline: December 19, 2013
- Selection Committee Review: January 16, 2013
- Notification and Invitation to Submit a Proposal: January 18, 2014
- Artists Proposals Due Date*: February 10, 2014
- Selection Committee Review: February 14, 2014
- Commission Awarded: February 21, 2014
- Opening: July / August 2014

*Note: Do not send a proposal unless the Director of Public Art Programs has contacted you.

**Please note, by submitting your application materials, the artist/teams understand the time sensitive constraints of the above specified commission and will agree to adhere to the timetable set forth above**
Submission Procedures:

RFQ Application Deadline

Applications must be postmarked and sent by December 19, 2013. Applications received with a postmark after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed. It is the responsibility of the submitting artists to ensure that applications are complete and arrive by the deadline. Extensions to this deadline will not be granted.

Interested artists must send application materials by Friday, December 19, 2013 no later than 5:00 P.M. Submissions postmarked after this date and time will not be considered.

RFP Design Proposal Deadline

Proposals from short listed artists (Phase Two Finalists) will be due on February 10, 2014.

How and Where to Submit

Application materials may be delivered by USPS or other mailing service to the address below.

Maryland State Arts Council
Maryland Public Art Initiative
Attention: Lucas Cowan
175 W. Ostend Street, Suite E
Baltimore, MD 21230

Contract Award:

The contract awarded as a result of this solicitation will be issued by the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. The contract form and associated terms and conditions will be provided to those Artists who are invited to submit a proposal.

Questions:

Contact the Director of Public Art Programs at LCowan@MSAC.org
About the Maryland Public Art Initiative Program

In 2005, the Maryland Public Art Initiative (MPAI) was established. During the FY14 Legislative session, the initiative was revised to include a new funding mechanism.

During the initial design of each construction project and major renovation project funded entirely with State funds, public art to be included in the project shall be determined by a group of State representatives. The stated intent of the legislation is that the inclusion of public art will not increase the cost of a construction project or major renovation.

The legislation applies only to buildings that provide “public access.” Those facilities that the public does not normally visit are not eligible for the program such as:
- temporary structures, parking lots, remodeling and repairs to comply with or correct code deficiencies such as the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- mechanical and system renovations such as roof or gutter repairs, electrical elevator, and heating work; or
- structures that are not intended for human occupancy such as warehouses and storage facilities, garages, maintenance facilities, transmitter buildings, pumping stations, and other similar buildings determined by the Department.

Projects involving State laboratories, mental health facilities, and correctional facilities are not eligible for the program because they are not accessible to the “general public.”

The purpose of this program is to create a permanent art collection of great variety owned by the citizens of Maryland. These works, both interior and exterior, will grace the many different buildings used by State agencies and State universities. Art and design are vital to construction projects – we can be proud that Maryland law recognizes the value and benefits of providing public art.

Attachments: Application Form- Attachment A
UMBC PAHB Photos (Attachment B)
ATTACHMENT A

APPLICATION FORM
Maryland Public Art Initiative
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Performing Arts and Humanities Building
Request for Qualifications Application Form

Artist Information

Name ________________________________________________________________________

Address _______________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip __________________________________________________________________

Phone _______________________________ Fax _________________________________

Email _______________________________ Cell _________________________________

Website(s) _____________________________________________________________________

I, _________________________________________________________, acknowledge receipt (please sign here)
of this Request for Qualifications and agree to the terms and conditions set forth herein.
ATTACHMENT B

UMBC PERFORMING ARTS & HUMANITIES BUILDING PHOTOS
Approximate site size: 28’ x 80’