

Whittier Aquatic Center
Call For Artists/RFP Application Workshop
October 27, 2020

Q & A

Question 1

Is there a weight limit on the second opportunity [mobile/hanging sculpture]?

The architect said they would be comfortable with any weight load of up to 1,000 pounds, as long as – for the heavier pieces – the weight is distributed to more than one attachment point.

Question 2

What is the approximate size of the beams-like structures in the ceiling by the poolside entry, where the mobile/hanging sculpture would go?

We were not given the measurements for this area yet, but we do know that the ceiling is 15 ½' tall so you can get an idea. At this point you don't need to submit a proposal so this sort of detailed information is not necessary. We are just asking for your qualifications for stage.

Question 3

I am a representative, and I work on projects with artists. I'm working on one right now with the City of Los Angeles. I have to put a team with a lot of different artists, and I'm going to select one that I'm going to work with, but some of them might not have ever done any public projects this before. Would we be eligible?

Are you the project manager? Do you have experience?

Yes, I've done a lot of projects.

Then that will work.

Question 4

For the five to ten images, could we submit a short video of that be considered one image? It actually was of community involvement on a project that we led. Is that considered acceptable?

Yes.

Question 5

You mentioned in your presentation a ripple motif in the architecture. Is there somewhere where I could find more images or the renderings that would be available to see?

If you scan the QR code that is included on the Call for Artists/RFP, you will be able to view a tour of the facility and that should help you identify the architect's ripple elements. I recommend doing this anyway, as it's a very helpful device for understanding the design and layout of the site.*

*Answered post-Q&A session

Question 6

Will you require engineering for the mobile/hanging sculpture? Would we need to work with an engineer from the construction architectural management, or would we be responsible for hiring someone to make sure that the wind loads and all of these specifications are met.

Yes, you will need to have your own engineer for that Opportunity, but you will also work with the project engineer and architectural team, so you will have to consider that expense for your budget.

Question 7

My question is in regards to the bleachers. Are the bleachers already designed? Will the artwork be applied to the bleachers as they are designed by the architects?

Yes. The form of the bleachers will remain as they are designed by the architects and the opportunity is to etch and/or stain them.

Question 8

For the mobile/hanging sculpture opportunity, there is a glass window at the top of the doorway, and you said that we can continue the artwork into the lobby. You also said we would need to distribute the weight via multiple attachment points. Would we have to consult with the architect about this?

Yes. Before proposal are even started, the three finalists will meet with the project architects and engineers to ask questions about the particular aspects of their designs and the design of the facility.

Question 9

Is there a dimension you would need to know so that if the mobile sways it wouldn't hit the glass?

You would not need to know that now, as this is the qualifications phase of the selection process. In the proposal phase you would need to know that sort of regulation.

Question 10

I also was wondering about the civic art project experience. My team and I are both artists with backgrounds in design and I've worked on public works projects because I'm an architect. So does that count? I'm currently a project manager for a green infrastructure design through public works. So would that count as experience in public art? Our work includes benches and installations that are outdoors, but it's collaboratively with the LA team, instead of my individual artwork or a team art piece.

It sounds like it would be fine.

Question 11

When you're submitting and you have a project manager. Do the 10 images have to include works from each of the artists and the project manager?

You have to decide which of the images explains what your team is all about in the best way and what the work you will be doing collaboratively will be like. So if that is more one of the team member's images than the other, then use those. Decide what story you want to tell about your team and chose the images accordingly.

Question 12

Can you clarify about the letter just a little bit more. I understand it's not a proposal, but do we have to have a concept, can you just clarify how you want us to talk about how we would engage the community and how we would develop the artwork, how much detail we would need?

All of our projects do require a public engagement component, so in the letter you'll talk about what form that will take. How will you approach your community engagement, You don't have to decide exactly what it's going to be but you should outline it generally.

Question 13

If I project managed a public mural but it wasn't my artwork can I include that as an image?

Yes.

Question 14

I have a quick follow up question to the previous question about mentioning the public engagement in the letter. I was reading that initially, as artworks that maybe are in some kind of intellectual conversation with the community or have imagery that the community can respond to or that relates to the community in some way, but it sounded like you were suggesting to put in the letter of interest, specific ways in which you would actually engage with the community around the artwork or covering talks or workshops, or lectures, instead of just talking about how the imagery draws in the local culture, for example.

Yes, I was talking about more of a literal engagement with the public, which is required for the selected artists. So if you could talk a little bit about that in your letter. This is not the proposal stage so you don't have to be specific at this point, but it should cover what your work will provide to this community and how this community will be engaged by having your artwork there. There are so many ways that artists can engage community. We have had artists creating coloring book for a facility that are specifically targeted for kids, or we have had walkthroughs and workshops with senior groups in senior centers or even just exercises that include creativity and engaging people in being parts of your design process and interviews, it can be literally everything there are people that have more of an issue in dealing with a group of people and being in public.

Question 15

You were saying that there will be chance to meet with the architects and designers. At that point, will we be able to talk about specific kind of concrete finishes and that sort of thing with them?

Yes, that would be your opportunity.