Description of Public Art Project

The City of Rowlett Arts & Humanities Commission seeks to commission an original, exterior, site-specific, functionally, philosophically, and artistically integrated space for Rowlett Fire Station #2, which opened for service on October 9, 2021. This new facility, located at 8602 Schrade Road, contains a state-of-the-art emergency operations center and training room. Fire Chief Neil Howard expects the building to service the City of Rowlett for 50 years. There is space directly in front of the west-end of the building, adjacent to the parking lot, for art.

Art Space

- Art should reflect the scale of the building and not overpower it
- Art should complement the natural architecture of the buildings and open spaces of the area
- Lighting (energy-efficient required), base construction, and oversight of the installation
- This design should be representational in nature
- Given the location, art will be a focal point of the facility
- Art must be imaginative, durable, and require minimal maintenance

Building Specifications

- Height of canopy at the gutter: 10’0”
- Peak of front façade: 17’-2” westside porch – 20’-10” front entry porch
- Flagpole height: 35’
- Theme: “We will never forget.”
- Concept: The design should include a representation of the fire department Maltese cross, as well as a memorial reflecting the 343 New York Firefighters killed on 9/11.
Budget
The budget for this project is not to exceed $48,000, including artist’s fee, travel during fabrication and installation, engineering certification, materials, fabrication, transportation, documentation, insurance, applicable permit fees, and lighting.

Selection Process
The Art Selection Panel will include 1-2 community members, 1-2 professional artists or experienced art coordinators, Fire Chief Howard, the Public Art Committee, a representative from Rowlett Public Works, a representative from Rowlett Parks & Recreation, and Rowlett’s Director of Library Services. Submissions of qualifications will be reviewed by representatives of the Public Art Committee, city staff and other
professionals, and if necessary, initially narrowed to semi-finalists. The Art Selection Panel will narrow the field to 2-3 finalists.

The finalists will be invited for a site visit, dialogue with the community, and if they wish, a period of time spent with the staff of Fire Station #2. They will then be asked to develop a conceptual approach for artwork (Maquette) and make a presentation in person to their proposal, to include a cost breakdown, for which they will be given an honorarium of $500. Travel for both the site visit and the conceptual presentation is not part of the listed project budget and is the responsibility of the artist. The Art Selection Panel will rank the finalists for recommendation to the Arts & Humanities Commission, city staff, and finally to the Rowlett City Council. Upon approval, the artist will be awarded a contract.

Timeline
(dates below are subject to change)

31 January 2022   Submissions due by 5pm central time
8 February 2022   Art Selection Panel meets to choose 2-3 finalists
March-April 2022  Community input meetings, finalists visit site & prepare Marquette
May 2022          Finalists present proposals
                     Art Selection Panel ranks finalists and recommends to the Arts & Humanities Commission
June 2022         Approval by the Rowlett City Council (including contract)
                     Artist begins work
July-August 2022   Artwork is installed
11 September, 2022 Unveiling and dedication

Submission Requirements
Submit the following via email to arts@rowlett.com. Only digital submissions will be allowed.

- Letter of interest, including contact information
- Current resume
- Images of previous, relevant work
  - Maximum of 15 images, 5 MB each in size
  - Please keep images of previous projects close to the budget amount of this project
- References

Eligibility
This project is open to all professional artists located in the continental United States, age 18 and older, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, or physical or mental disability. City of Rowlett employees, as well as selection panelists and their immediate family members are not eligible for participation.
Contact Information
City of Rowlett Arts & Humanities Commission
c/o Laura Tschoerner, Director of Library Services
3900 Main Street
Suite 200
Rowlett, Texas 75088
972-412-6159
ltschoerner@rowlett.com