Request for Qualifications

Artist Opportunity
CAUSEWAY MURAL – REDWOOD CITY

Release Date: 4/21/2023

Responses are due and must be received
by 2:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight time
on 5/19/2023
PROJECT OVERVIEW

San Mateo County (County) is seeking to commission a local professional artist or team of artists to design a mural for the Causeway (bridge) located on Winslow Street in Redwood City. The Causeway connects 400 County Center (eastside) to Maguire Correctional Facility [200 Bradford Street] (westside), Redwood City CA 94063

GOOGLE MAPS LINK TO LOCATION

The goal of the mural is to create a welcoming entry point to County Center and downtown Redwood City. SEE “ATTACHMENT A” FOR PHOTOS AND DIMENSIONS OF CAUSEWAY

*The image that is selected shall be digitally replicated on a wrap applied to both sides of the Causeway. Due to the functionality of the Causeway, the underside of the Causeway will not be wrapped.*

BUDGET: Budget for artist fee is $15,000 for the digital image.

Causeway Dimensions: See “Attachment A”

QUALIFICATIONS:

This Request for Qualifications is open to professional artists **LOCATED IN THE 9 BAY AREA COUNTIES:** Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma counties. Artists of color and BIPOC, women, gay/lesbian/transgender/non-binary, and members of historically marginalized groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applying artists should:
- be a practitioner in the visual arts with an original, self-conceptualized body of work, [generally recognized by critics and peers as possessing serious intent and ability].
- have experience working with substantial budgets of $10,000 or more.
- have proven interest and passion for art and community projects.
- be able to present a body of work.
- open to working collaboratively with government staff in a professional manner.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

This project is a County and City collaboration for the purposes of:
- the beautification of the Winslow Street entry into County Center and downtown Redwood City, making for a welcoming entry point.
- Providing additional art in-and-around County Center and Redwood City downtown.

PROJECT’S PROCESS GUIDELINES

- The selected artist/team will collaborate closely with County, the city of Redwood City (City), the Causeway Mural Committee (Committee), and community stakeholders.
- Refer to Attachment A for the location and images of the Causeway.
PROJECT'S ARTISTIC GUIDELINES

The mural is intended to create a welcoming and friendly entry point into County Center and downtown Redwood City.

The artist/team will submit their final image digitally to be reproduced on a wrap applied to both sides of the Causeway. (Due to the functionality of the Causeway, the underside of the Causeway will not be wrapped.)

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

- Date
- Invitation Extended to Artists 04/21/23
- Pre-proposal meeting for interested Artists Attendance not required 05/04/23
  Sent via email to c_rodricks@smcgov.org
- Responses to questions posted online 05/08/23
- Proposal-Qualifications Submission Deadline 05/19/23 Postmarks not accepted
- Deadline for RFQ questions 05/24/23
- Interviews of finalists week of June 5
- Artist(s) Under Contract; Design Work Begins by June 23, 2023
- Anticipated date of application of the wrap July or Aug. 2023 - TBD

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

Review of Artists’ Qualifications

- Staff (Staff) of both County and City will pre-screen submittals from artists for compliance with project requirements.
- The Committee and Staff will meet to review qualifying artists submissions and select up to 5 artists (Artists) for interviews with a Selection Panel (Panel) of artists/art professionals, community stakeholders, Committee, and Staff.

Each of the selected Artists will receive a stipend of $1,000.00 for creation of that proposal, to be paid after completion of interviews. This proposal will become the property of the County.

Finalists (individuals and teams) will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Professional and artistic qualifications and standards of excellence, creativity and originality of style as demonstrated in materials submitted, as well as appropriateness of applicant’s style to the project.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with County and City project managers in a design-team context.
- Previous experience as it relates to the project goals, setting (Causeway), scale, and scope.
- Familiarity with public agencies, the public review process, and/or previous collaboration with local governments.
- Demonstrated ability to undertake and successfully execute the work in accordance with the project schedule, in a professional manner, and within the project budget.
• Experience with creation of site-specific, large scale permanent public art.
• Ability to spend time in Redwood City for research and conceptualization.

Finalist Interviews

• Staff will invite the selected Artists to attend an interview with the panel to present their artistic ideas for the mural. The Artist’s/Team’s presentation must include:
  o Rendering of the work
  o Artist statement and mural description
• After the interviews, the Panel will select one artist to receive the commission and contract for the project.
CAUSEWAY MURAL – APPLICATION FOR ARTISTS

Please submit the following information and materials:

1. 12 collated packets containing:
   • Completed Application Form (ATTACHED).
   • Letter of Interest (not to exceed two pages) describing individual artist’s or team’s interest in this project and relevant experience.
   • Professional Resume of no more than three pages per individual, emphasizing relevant experience.
   • A list of three professional references, preferably from previous similar projects, with email and phone contact information.
   • An annotated list of past work (see item #2 below) which corresponds to the order that images are to be shown and includes the following information: artist’s name; title of artwork; date of artwork; commissioning agency; project budget; subcontractors; fabricators or other design professionals with whom you worked.
   • Optional: up to four relevant reviews, articles, essays, etc.

2. One set of digital images of past work, up to ten (10) for individual artists or up to fifteen (15) for artist teams, numbered in order of desired presentation to correspond to image list.

Deadline
The deadline for submission of applications is May 19, 2023. Applications must be received in the office (address below) by the deadline; postmarks are not acceptable.

Mail or deliver materials to:
Project Development Unit
ATTN: Causeway RFP
555 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City CA 94063

EMAIL: c_rrodricks@smcgov.org

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered – No exceptions will be made.

Acceptance of Proposals
The County reserves the right to reject all applications and/or subsequent design proposals.

Other Requirements
The artist(s) selected shall be asked to enter into a contract with County of San Mateo (SMC) for the duration of the project. Depending on the specific scope of the project, prior to the issuance and throughout the duration of the contract, the artist may be required to maintain various types of insurance, including Automobile Liability, General Liability, Fine Arts and other insurance as required by the County.

All information contained herein does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract and these provisions are subject to change.

For more information about the CAUSEWAY MURAL PROJECT, email Robin Rodricks at c_rrodricks@smcgov.org.
ATTACHMENT A

PHOTOS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF CAUSEWAY
APPLICATION FORM

San Mateo County Office of Arts and Culture
c/o Project Development Unit
555 County Center, Rm ___
Redwood City, CA 94063

PUBLIC ART: CAUSEWAY MURAL

Artist Name(s) ________________________________ Date ____________
Address ________________________________________
City/State ________________________________________ Zip ________
Email __________________________ Website ______________________
Telephone __________________________ Fax ________________________

Would you like to be included on our mailing list for future announcements?
YES: [ ] Email NO: [ ]

Please include the following items to ensure a complete application.

_____ Letter of Interest
_____ Professional resume
_____ List of References
_____ Up to four relevant reviews, articles, essays, etc. (optional)
_____ Annotated image list

Please tell us how you heard about this project:

_____ Email _____ friend/artist _____ newspaper _____ County/OAC website
_____ Other websites _____ Social Media _____ Other (please describe) _____________

All materials submitted are, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and complete.

__________________________________________   _____________________________
Signature                                      Date