



Call for Maryland Artists: Interactive Sculpture Public Art Project

The Hagerstown Cultural Trail - Hagerstown, Maryland Interactive Sculpture

The City of Hagerstown seeks an artist to create permanent outdoor sculpture(s) for an audience of all ages on the new Hagerstown Cultural Trail. Works should be completed or well underway by Fall 2018. The total budget for the work is \$10,000. The call is open to artists living in Maryland only. This artist call is presented in partnership with the Washington County Arts Council.

Project Summary

The Hagerstown Cultural Trail is a new pedestrian walkway connecting the rich attractions of the Arts & Entertainment District in Hagerstown's historic downtown with The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts and City Park. Often called one of the most beautiful parks in the nation, Hagerstown City Park is an important historic and cultural destination with walking paths, lakes, woods, natural springs, playgrounds, an outdoor concert stage and four of the most popular museums in the city.

Opened in June of 2017, the Trail is one of eight catalyst projects in the Hagerstown community's ambitious 10-year roadmap to spur development in its City Center. The ten-foot-wide, half-mile-long landscaped brick walkway is well-lit and features a chain of gathering spaces and interactive public plazas that meander through the swath of land created by Hagerstown's historic railroad tracks, freight stops, and passenger stations in decades past, thanks to the city's long history as a hub of transportation, commerce, and industry.

The City of Hagerstown has made public art central to the Trail and it showcases unusual and diverse public artworks by leading local, regional, and national artists. The scale and style of the public art is diverse, from small installations that must be discovered to dramatic statement pieces that are visible from long distances. For more information on the Trail's vision, goals, and planning

priorities, entrants are encouraged to review the public art master plan and the video update here: <http://hagerstownculturaltrail.com/>.

The City seeks artists for permanent, well-integrated, interactive sculptural elements or groupings for the “Sculptural Garden” area of the Hagerstown Cultural Trail. Of special interest are sculptural elements created with durable natural materials such as stone, hard-weathering native wood like black locust, or well-designed earth forms. The selection panel is also open to salvaged materials or any materials and approaches that are safe, durable, and low-maintenance in permanent outdoor settings.

The project seeks art with appeal to visitors of all ages on both visual and conceptual levels. Sculptures should be stimulating to the imagination and safe for long-term interaction and play. Other goals include thoughtful artwork that enriches and diversifies the environment, which includes two large-scale works:

- a 375-foot-long, Vicki Scuri-designed weathering steel fence entitled “Railroad Switch” with plasma-cut artistic patterning
- the eight-story-tall colorful abstract mural “Building Blocks” (AKA “The Mural of Unusual Size”) by Hense.

The Sculpture Garden also includes “The Fantastical Garden” sculpture by Alison Sigethy.

The Trail’s Master Plan document is replete with examples of contemporary public art sculpture, earth forms, and sculptural play-scapes. Further examples of sculptural play-scapes can be found at this website: <http://www.play-scapes.com/category/play-art/playable-sculpture/>

Site for Sculpture

The Sculpture Garden is just south of Baltimore Street and north of Lee Street in the center of the Trail. The western boundary is the “Railroad Switch” and on the east side by the residential buildings of the Hagerstown Housing Authority. Its northern entrance is only 60’ from the Mural of Unusual Size. Curvilinear brick pathways and berms fill the space, making it more appropriate for vertical sculpture, though narrow or winding sculptural play-scape elements are possible in areas that can accommodate a 6’ fall zone around climbable elements. A few examples of interactive all-ages sculpture are included on pages 26 -28 of the master plan, but the project is open to all forms of interactive sculpture.

The small park is scattered with boulders, including a diagonal concentration of boulders running roughly north to south that includes a stacked grouping with a water feature in one area.

Artworks must be integrated into the fabric of their sites to create visual drama in their public setting yet be appropriate to the scale of the Trail.

Eligibility

Professional artists or teams with experience in the creation of outdoor sculpture, architecture, or engineering who live in Maryland are eligible for this call.

Timeline

1/19/18	Call Released
2/23/18	Last Day for Questions
2/28/18	Answers to all questions posted
3/7/18	Submissions due by 5 pm EST
3/19/18	Finalist Interviews
3/23/18	Selected Artist Notified
4/25/18	Arts Council submits Application & Concept to MSAC for grant funding
6/15/18	Grant Award
6/30/18	Contract Finalization
8/1/18	Final Design Complete
9/5/18	Fabrication and Installation Complete

Finalists must be available for in person or Skype interviews on or about March 19.

Budget

A budget of \$10,000 has been identified for this call, including all costs associated with design, fabrication and installation. Funding is as follows:

- \$5000 from Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) grant
- \$5000 City of Hagerstown

The artist's total budget for artwork must include all ancillary costs such as travel, insurance, transportation, and installation. The City of Hagerstown can provide engineering review and may be able to provide assistance with installation or other aspects. Liability insurance may be required but is not an allowable expense line item in the budget.

This project is contingent on receipt of an award of a Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) Public Art Across Maryland (PAAM) grant to local Arts Councils. The project must uphold artistic excellence and celebration of the arts as stated in MSAC's guidelines. Note that PAAM is commemorating MSAC's 50th Anniversary.

Selection Process

Criteria: In their application materials, the applicant should demonstrate:

- **Artistic or design excellence and technical merit**
- **Experience in permanent exterior sculpture/architecture/engineering**
- **Responsiveness to community context and the Trail's design intent, as well as long-term durability and sustainability**
- **A proven ability to fabricate their work or to work with fabricators and installers at a scale appropriate to this artwork**
- **The ability to meet Durability and Maintenance Criteria as delineated in this call, if applicable**

The artist must recommend a method of fall protection in the event someone would fall while interacting with the sculpture.

The City is committed to excellence in environmental stewardship and in sustainable building practices and encourages Artists interested in sustainable design to consider applying for these artworks.

Applications by board or staff members of the City of Hagerstown, the Washington County Arts Council, artists previously commissioned for the trail, or the Selection Panel or their relatives or business or personal partners will not be considered. The City of Hagerstown reserves the right to approve or decline selected artists and projects at its discretion or to make no selection from the submitted applications.

Selection Panel Process:

The Selection Panel plans to invite about three finalists for interviews, which can take place either in person or via videoconference (e.g., Skype).

Selection Panel:

The majority of the members of the Selection Panel will consist of art and design professionals, including curators, architects, and professional artists. Juries may also include representatives of the City of Hagerstown, the Washington County Arts Council, stakeholder organizations, and community members. The City Engineer will serve as an advisor to the Selection Panel.

Submission Requirements

What to Submit:

As part of the submission form ([Attached Below](#)):

- A brief statement, in PDF or Word format, not to exceed two pages, describing:
 - how the artist would approach this work and its context
 - how the artist sees this work in relation to the past work of the artist
 - the artist's interest in and/or experience with community involvement, participation or interactivity in public art projects.
 - Ability to stay within budget and what assistance the artist expects for the City of Hagerstown.
- Three professional references with current contact information, in PDF or Word format
- A Slide Script (image list) that includes for each work the title, year, dimensions, the medium or material, the names of any other artists involved, and a one sentence description, budgets, date of work, in PDF or Word format

Upload to WCAC's Dropbox:

- An artist resume of no more than two pages, at a minimum 10-point type size, with current contact information, in PDF or Word format
- Up to 6 labeled digital images of related past work related to this call:
 - jpeg file format only
 - No smaller than 1920 pixels on the longest side
 - 72 ppi/dpi
 - 5 MB maximum file size

The deadline for applications is 3/7/18 at 5 pm EST.

The project prefers to receive applications through the Washington County Arts Council's Dropbox folder "Interactive Sculpture-Maryland Artists" using this link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/VxYalbc2xw8rJLV8XDLf>

To use the online submission form:

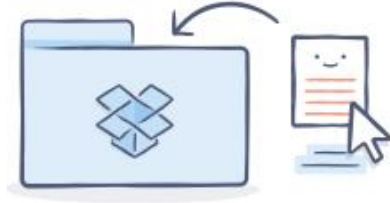
Please first verify that you have the most current version of Adobe Reader. Then, open the .pdf file, fill it out digitally, and save it on your computer with a different name than the original .pdf file. Saving it somewhere easy to remember (like your desktop) will also help. If you absolutely need to print out the form and fill it out, either scan or photograph the filled-out form and save it as a .jpg or .pdf file with a different name than the original. Finally, upload the newly saved/renamed file, along with all other required files, to WCAC's Dropbox folder, "Interactive Sculpture-Maryland Artists" on the web at: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/VxYalbc2xw8rJLV8XDLf>.

If you have a DropBox account, your screen will look like this:

 **Chris Brewer** is requesting

Interactive Sculpture-Maryland Artists

 Only Chris Brewer will see these files unless they choose to share them.



Choose from computer

Choose from Dropbox

[How does this work?](#)

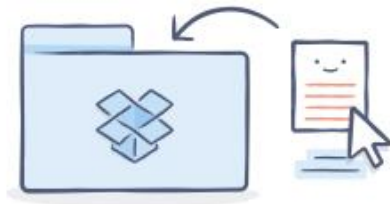
Either upload files from your computer or DropBox. You will not need a DropBox account to use the “Choose from computer” button and find the required documents to upload to the folder.

If you don't have a DropBox account, your screen will look like this:

 **Chris Brewer** is requesting

Interactive Sculpture-Maryland Artists

 Only Chris Brewer will see these files unless they choose to share them.



Choose files

[How does this work?](#)

Click the “Choose files” button and find the required documents to upload to the folder.

Mailed or hand-delivered submissions will be accepted by the Washington County Arts Council at 34 South Potomac Street, Suite 100, Hagerstown, Maryland, 21740. These submissions will be considered, as long as:

- they comply with all submission requirements above and include a CD or thumb drive of digital images.
- they are received by 5 PM on 3/7/17 – This is not a postmark deadline!

Incomplete applications or those that do not follow instructions will not be considered. Mailed materials cannot be returned.

Questions

Questions must be submitted via email to Rodney Tissue at RTissue@hagerstownmd.org no later than 2/23/18. Answers to all questions will be posted to all artists by 2/28/18 to the webpage at <http://www.hagerstownmd.org/sculpture>.

Sources for Additional Information [Posted Online]

Documents posted online at <http://www.hagerstownmd.org/sculpture> for applicants to review:

- [Durability and maintenance criteria](#)
- Photos of the site
- Plan view of the site with measurements:

In addition, The Hagerstown Cultural Trail Public Art Master Plan can be viewed here:

<http://www.hagerstownmd.org/DocumentCenter/View/4646>

Durability and Maintenance Criteria for Commissioned Artworks

All permanent artworks on The Hagerstown Cultural Trail shall be durable, low-maintenance, and appropriate to the location. Works shall be easy to clean. Artists or their designated fabricators shall offer a warranty against damage from normal weathering and "inherent vice" for period of two years. Works shall not in any way represent an "attractive nuisance" nor shall normal public interactions and handling of the artwork result in special hazard to or from the work, including any possible climbing hazard. Artists shall meet standard engineering and conservation criteria as specified below.

Artist Selection Criteria Related to Durability & Maintenance

In an effort to assure that The Hagerstown Cultural Trail's commissioned public artwork will stand the test of time, each finalist or artist or artists team in their work will be reviewed with the following criteria:

1. Record of artist's or fabricator's professional achievements and/or training in technical planning and execution of permanent exterior work.
2. Responsibility and reliability during the fabrication process
 - a. Record of adherence to cost and time schedules.
 - b. Ability to produce technical details of the installation of the work, special requirements for installation, capacity of existing structure (if any), and identification of any require changes to the site.

Reviewing Durability & Maintenance of the Artwork

Permanent work is expected to be permanent; that is, not subject to deterioration, easy to clean, safe to public, and shall not be an attractive nuisance. Finalists and selected artists are responsible for developing appropriate material selection, engineering, fabrication and installation for long-term exterior exposure. Criteria for selected artist:

1. Artists shall work with a qualified fabricator, when applicable. The City of Hagerstown shall be allowed to check the references for the fabricator.
2. Artists shall submit engineer drawings stamped by qualified engineer license in the state of Maryland, when applicable, in order for final design to be accepted.
3. Artist shall identify maintenance and conservation needs prior to the fabrication and installation of new works and may be asked to engage an expert to assess durability in unusual areas if necessary.
4. The City of Hagerstown will arrange for technical review of the accepted design including, at the City's discretion, possible review by a conservator, to assess safety, durability, and future maintenance requirements of proposals for permanent work, according to the five technical areas listed on the next page.

Five Point Technical Review

- 1. Materials Durability:** Includes site preparation materials, paints, pigments and anti-graffiti coating or other needed measures against vandalism.
- 2. Methods Durability:** Includes elevation from ground, balance, proximity to moisture, exposure to salt or UV.
- 3. Maintenance Needs:** includes how often artwork needs cleaning, what type of cleaning and propensity of materials to develop mold, rust or other corrosion or damage overtime.
- 4. Site Preparation:** Includes any necessary materials and techniques for preparing the site, and for lighting.
- 5. Installation Safety:** Includes safety of materials and techniques and proposed installation methods, materials, and equipment.

Documentation of Maintenance and Conservation Requirements

All public art will eventually need some form of maintenance and conservation. Therefore, it is important to have a clear understanding of each artwork's maintenance and conservation requirements and any special qualifications required for those who will carry out the work. The commissioned artist will be required to submit a standardized Maintenance and Conservation worksheet at the completion of the project. This would include information such as a listing of all materials used, fabrication techniques and a recommended cleaning schedule, any special qualifications of maintenance personnel, etc.



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Submission Form

Artist Name _____

Email Address _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Website _____

Image Script:

Image #1 Photo Title _____

Medium _____

Dimensions _____

Brief description

Budget _____

Date of work _____

Image #2 Photo Title _____

Medium _____

Dimensions _____

Brief description

Budget _____

Date of work _____

Image #3 Photo Title _____

Medium _____

Dimensions _____

Brief description

Budget _____

Date of work _____

Image #4 Photo Title _____

Medium _____

Dimensions _____

Brief description

Budget _____

Date of work _____

Image #5 Photo Title _____

Medium _____

Dimensions _____

Brief description

Budget _____

Date of work _____

Image #6 Photo Title _____

Medium _____

Dimensions _____

Brief description

Budget _____

Date of work _____

References:

Reference #1

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Project/Relationship

Budget _____

Year _____

Reference #2

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Project/Relationship

Budget _____

Year _____

Reference #3

Name_____

Address_____

Email_____

Phone_____

Project/Relationship

Budget_____

Year_____