

Call for Art

Art4Trails public art installations on Rochester bike trails

[Art4Trails](#) is seeking proposals for two permanent, outdoor, site-specific art installations at locations along the bike trails in Rochester. One proposal for each site will be selected, and the artist will be awarded \$12,000, \$6,000 upon selection and \$6,000 after installation.

The art must be installed between November 1 and November 15, 2020. Application opens August 21, 2020 and closes September 15. Selected artists will be notified by October 1, 2020.

Rochester Park and Trail system

The Rochester trails provide a convenient way to include activities such as inline-skating, biking, running and walking – either for getting to work and back or simply for recreation and exercise. Rochester has 85+ miles of bituminous or concrete-surfaced trails available for pedestrians, bikers, wheelchairs or strollers. Park and trail maps are available from the Park and Recreation department in city hall or on their website. Art4Trails site locations for these new permanent sculptures are [here](#)

Eligibility

Funds for the project are from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding, originating from the federal government and allocated to the City of Rochester by the State of Minnesota. The funding approved for this effort will be used to provide projects for local artists whose livelihoods have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Artists 18 years of age or older living or having an art studio in Rochester are invited to submit proposals individually or collaboratively.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be judged based on artistic merit as evidenced by representation of past work, the proposal itself, and other supporting materials. A review panel consisting of working artists, curators, arts professionals and a representative of the Parks and Recreation Department will review and select the winning proposals by October 1, 2020.

Artistic quality must be of the highest standard in regard to design, materials, craftsmanship, assembly, and appropriateness to the character of the site. Projects must be in place on or before November 15, 2020.

Artists must consider the following criteria:

Artistic merit of the proposed work, including:

- Idea to be conveyed
- Key theme(s) engaged
- Appropriateness of media to idea
- Visual impact, including color, form and composition
- Harmony/compatibility with physical and social setting

Feasibility of the proposed work, including:

- Durability
- Public safety

Ability of the artist to successfully complete the project, including:

- Training and experience
- Evidence of careful financial planning
- Technical competence

Review process

- Locations for artwork will be pre-selected and approved by the Rochester Parks and Recreation Department.
- The artwork must be of appropriate size and scale to fit in with its proposed surroundings
- Art4Trails will contact key members of the community or special interest groups to alert them of possibly incoming structures.
- The artwork must fit within any established parameters and settings already in place.
- Responsibility for securing all necessary permissions and permits, fabrications and installation is assumed by the artist.

Application Materials: Deadline September 15, 2020

Applicants must complete the [application](#) which requires the following:

- First and last name, address, city, state
- Artist Statement (2000 characters maximum)
 - Including how the COVID 19 pandemic has affected your ability to do your art, evidenced by lost commissions, cancelled show or exhibitions.
- Project Proposal (6,000 characters maximum)
 - What is the idea or concept of the piece? Describe what the project will consist of and/or look like.
 - How will it be installed on location?
 - What is your proposed installation date?

- Site preference. Locations for this project can be found [here](#).

The following required materials should be emailed to Art4TrailsRochMN@gmail.com within 24 hours of completing the form or before the September 15, 2020 deadline

Budget and resume saved in either Word or PDF format:

- Budget Outline: the \$12,000 award will cover artist's time and associated expenses for design and fabrication of the work. Artists should factor these costs into their budget.
 - Budget should include: rental of equipment, cost of materials, artists fees, etc.
- Artists resume/C.V. (one page maximum).

Examples of previous work:

- Maximum 3-5 images or videos documenting work completed within the last two years. Images must be formatted digitally to the following specifications:
 - JPEG format
 - Each image less than 3 MB in size
 - Label each file with your last name, first name and number as a title. The number indicates the order in which you want the slides presented
 - i.e. Lastname_Firstname_01.jpg, Lastname_Firstname_02.jpg, etc.
 - Up to three additional images, sketches, models or renderings of what the project will look like may also be included with the last name, first name, "proposal" and number as a title.
 - i.e. Lastname_Firstname_Proposal_01.jpg, Lastname_Firstname_Proposal_02.jpg, etc.
 - Video samples of up to 3 minutes via links to Vimeo or another web-based video file
 - Optional: include a separate Word or PDF document with descriptions of each piece (title, medium, size, etc.)

Submit your final application [here](#) and send required materials within 24 hours to Art4TrailsRochMN@gmail.com or before September 15, 2020.

There is no fee to apply. Materials will not be returned.

Site Information

Restrictions and considerations:

- Installations must be at least 2 feet from the trail
- If a piece is meant to be interactive, it should be further from the trail to prevent crowds or standers by from blocking the trail.
- Art should be appropriate for its location. Site locations for 2020 sculptures can be found [here](#).

Duration of Installation

This is a permanent installation.

Notification

Artists will be notified about the result of their proposals via e-mail by October 1, 2020. At that time, artists for the temporary installations will receive \$6,000 of the award to purchase materials and work on the project. The final \$6,000 will be awarded upon installation of the art. Inquiries about status of applications will not be accepted after the September 15, 2020 application deadline.

Unveiling event

An unveiling event in person will be determined at a later date; announcements and unveilings will happen virtually at the time of installation.

Additional information

For further information about the application process, please contact Art4TrailsRochMN@gmail.com