

**Request for Qualifications
Moore Square Public Art Consultant
Raleigh, North Carolina**



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Summary:

The City of Raleigh invites artists or artist teams experienced with the integration of art elements into a public space to submit qualifications to work as a public art consulting member of the project design team for the design and implementation of Moore Square. Artists must be United States citizens or permanent residents. Up to three finalists will be selected for interviews and paid a \$750 stipend.

Qualifications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. EDT on Friday, September 26, 2014. There is no fee to submit qualifications.

Budget:

The artist or artist team will receive \$15,000 to collaborate with the project design team and develop conceptual and schematic designs and related budget. The design fee is inclusive of all expenses including travel, hotel, transportation, mileage, etc.

Phase one will include working with the public and the design team to finalize concept design into schematic design. The 30% schematic design and cost estimate will be presented to the Public Art and Design Board for approval, followed by presentation for approval to City Council. Phase two will include the artist or artist team, under a second contract, collaborating with the design team to determine what components will be fabricated and installed by the artist or the construction contractor.

Moore Square Project Overview:

Moore Square was originally conceived in 1792 when it was designated as one of four public spaces in Raleigh. Today, Moore Square is a premier historic public space in downtown Raleigh. It is the epicenter of the National Register Historic District and has been central to the African American community since its establishment. It is also zoned as a Raleigh historic overlay district. Large events and heavy traffic have created significant maintenance issues and impacted the attractiveness of the Square.

In 2009, Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker issued a "call for ideas" to re-conceive the four-acre Square to best serve a new era and inform potential applicants to the City of Raleigh's first design competition.

Christopher Counts, of Christopher Counts Studio in Charlottesville, Virginia, was the selected winner of the jury-based competition process approved by the City Council and representatives from the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. The design concept creates a Moore Square respectful of tradition while looking forward. His design builds upon the Square's unique and significant characteristics while expanding the Square's sense of space and programmatic range. It also organizes the site into visually and functionally distinct areas that accommodate a wide range of uses.

In May 2011, the Raleigh City Council approved the Moore Square Master Plan. In the new Moore Square, visitors will experience a sense of welcome, safety and excitement. The central lawn and entry plazas function as open-air civic theaters, the Square's edges as a dignified frame, and the

central landform as an iconic social generator. The topographic design energizes and organizes the site into visually and functionally distinct spaces that accommodate a wider range of uses than the Square currently offers. Walking through Moore Square, one could expect to experience a sequence of unfolding views and a range of diverse landscape types and social activities while still feeling a connection to the surrounding neighborhood underneath the shade of the preserved historic oaks along the Square's perimeter.

The City of Raleigh is now seeking to include an artist or artist team to collaborate closely with the public and the project design team to develop integrated art elements that emphasize the goal of establishing a world-class urban space. The ability to collaborate and work well with a consultant through the design process is imperative to the success of the project. Because of the significance of Moore Square, the search for artists is a national call.

Public art at selected sites is authorized by the Half Percent for Art ordinance established by the Raleigh City Council in 2009 and implemented by Raleigh's Public Art and Design Board and the City of Raleigh Arts Commission.

Possible Public Art Goals and Opportunities:

Public art in the Moore Square project could:

- Honor Moore Square's 1792 origins as one of Raleigh's four defining town squares, each named after a prominent state official and anchoring a quadrant of the City.
- Celebrate the Square's historical significance as an African American hub, which eventually came to be known as "Black Main Street."
- Reflect on Moore Square's designation as one of Raleigh's few urban parks, and its continuing evolution with regards to physical and social attributes as a public gathering place.
- Consider sustainability, including long-term tree management, site program and material selection.

See the adopted [Moore Square Master Plan](#) for public art opportunities, which should be considered along with the following areas:

- Pavement and walking pathways;
- Lighting that encourages safety and helps defines place by way of the Square's edges;
- Interactive water spray-ground; and
- Linear plaza south of the Square.

Selection Criteria and Process:

The Public Art and Design Board has appointed a five-member artist selection panel that includes a member of the board, an artist or arts professional, a community representative, a design professional and a representative from the City of Raleigh’s Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department.

The selection process will have two stages. During the first stage, the artist selection panel will evaluate artist qualifications based on five criteria: artistic merit, urban park place-making experience, experience in collaborative public art processes that involve municipalities, project management experience and technical expertise.

For the second round, the artist selection panel will identify up to three finalists to invite to Raleigh for interviews. Finalists will receive a \$750 stipend to cover travel and related expenses associated with the interview. In addition to reviewing qualifications and previous experience in detail, panelists will discuss with the finalists their approaches to the project and respond to questions. A specific proposal is not expected at this interview.

The artist selection panel will choose the artist for the project and forward that recommendation to the Public Art and Design Board. Upon approval by the Board, a scope of services and budget will be developed based on the artist’s or artist team’s approach to the project.

Project Timeline:

RFQ Application Deadline:	Friday, September 26, 2014
Finalists Notified:	October 2014
Finalists Interviewed:	November 2014
Project Awarded:	December 2014
Moore Square Opens:	Early 2017

Submission and Deadline:

All RFQ materials must be received in the office no later than Friday, September 26, 2014 at 5 p.m. EDT. ***Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered. Applicants are encouraged to submit in advance of the deadline so that any unforeseen problems with materials can be addressed.***

HOW TO APPLY:

As a part of the City of Raleigh’s sustainability initiative, Raleigh encourages the reduction of paper use. To that end, we ask that applications be submitted in one of the following ways:

1. Email your files to Kim Curry-Evans at kim.curry-evans@raleighnc.gov with “Moore Square Public Art Consultant” in the subject line.
2. Upload your files via the City’s Sharefile account. Send an email to Kim Curry-Evans at kim.curry-evans@raleighnc.gov for upload instructions. You will receive email confirmation upon successful upload of files.

Artists wishing to be considered must submit the following materials:

1. Statement of Interest

A one-page statement outlining your interest in this project and your experience working on comparable projects, including your experience working with architectural and engineering project teams. Include your philosophy on public art, its integration into public safety facilities, and how your work and experience will complement this project.

File titled Lastname Firstname_statement.

2. Professional Résumé

A résumé of no more than two pages that includes information regarding public art commissions, exhibitions and installations, awards, grants and education, with an emphasis on public art projects of similar size and scope in the past ten years. If applying as a team, submit a separate résumé for each team member. *File titled Lastname Firstname_résumé*

3. Image Identification List

An image identification list corresponding to the submitted digital images. Each image should include: image number, artist's name, title, year, media, location and project budget, dimensions, commissioning agency, collaborators or design professionals (if applicable). The list must be labeled with the artist's name. *File titled Lastname Firstname_list*

4. Three Professional References

Contact information for three references should be submitted, including name, title and affiliation, phone number and email address. References should be able to speak to your ability to provide services for a public art project of similar size and scope.

File titled Lastname Firstname_references

5. Previous Work, Digital Images

Ten digital images of recent previous work (created within the past ten years) in JPG format (150 dpi at minimum size 5.5" x 7"; maximum size 11 x 14"). All images must be saved using a file name and number that corresponds to the image identification list.

Image titled Lastname Firstname_image #

Additional Information

For additional information, contact Kim Curry-Evans, public art coordinator for the Office of Raleigh Arts, at 919-996-4688 or kim.curry-evans@raleighnc.gov. For information regarding the project, visit the Office of Raleigh Arts website at www.raleighnc.gov/arts (search for Artist Calls or Half-Percent for Art).