

## **South Royalton Railroad Underpass Art Project | Request for Qualifications**

The Town of Royalton announces their search for a Vermont artist or artist team for the design of a permanent work of public art at the Safford Street railroad underpass in South Royalton (for more information see “Site Information and Design Specifics document”). The artist(s) selected will conceptualize and identify appropriate aesthetic treatments for proposed project elements. The artist(s) must be able to work in collaboration with a Project Steering Committee (Committee) made up of representatives from the Town of Royalton Selectboard, the Town of Royalton Planning Commission, the Royalton Public Library, the Vermont Law School, and the community. This project is funded by an Animating Infrastructure grant from the Vermont Arts Council.

### **[See other document for detailed Site Information and Design Specifics]**

The proposed artwork should create a welcoming environment that beautifies the intersection as well as increasing safety for pedestrians, including through incorporation of lighting elements. It should respond to at least one of the themes that have been identified by the community:

- The natural environment, the White River, and/or the surrounding landscape
- The agricultural history of the area and/or current food production and the working landscape
- An inclusive and supportive community
- Royalton’s relationship with the rest of the world, for example drawing on themes of the railroad, the highway, its central position within Vermont

The Town of Royalton has not yet secured funding for the fabrication and installation of the art project so is currently only offering a design contract. However, the artist or artist team will be offered a subsequent fabrication and installation contract pending the Town securing implementation funding.

### **Who May Apply**

Visual, craft, or design artists (or artist teams) in all media, including landscape architects and interior designers, at least 18 years of age and legal residents of Vermont are eligible to apply. Town of Royalton staff, and Project Review Committee members and their family members are not eligible to apply. Proof of Vermont residency may be required from finalists. Artists must be in good standing with regard to taxes and child support payments and must have appropriate auto and business insurance.

### **Submission Process**

A \$250 honorarium will be provided to finalists to develop preliminary concepts which will be presented to the Committee at a public meeting. The selected artist(s) will be awarded a \$3,000 planning and design contract.

All materials must be submitted by emailing [southroyaltonunderpassart@gmail.com](mailto:southroyaltonunderpassart@gmail.com). If the images are too big to attach to a single email, you may create a google drive folder and share that folder with [southroyaltonunderpassart@gmail.com](mailto:southroyaltonunderpassart@gmail.com), but please email the rest of the application materials. There is no submission fee.

**You are asked to submit nine images of completed work, a statement of interest in the project, and a resume with references.**

### **Statement of Interest**

1. Statement of Interest (.pdf format only)

Describe your interest in the project commission and your qualifications for undertaking such a project. Be sure to address the following selection criteria:

an ability to collaborate and communicate effectively shown through: • prior experience working in a team context with design professionals, engineers, community leaders, and/or artists • willingness to become familiar with the project and community • willingness to research client need and propose an appropriate design

effective project management skills, including the ability to: • attend project meetings • access appropriate resources when necessary • develop an appropriate and realistic budget • complete projects on time and within budget

Artist Teams: The artist statement should reflect the work and approach of the team.

2. Website Address:
3. Provide three (3) professional references.

Include name, affiliated organization (if appropriate), email address, phone number, and relationship to each reference.

### **Resume/C.V.**

1. Resume/C.V. (.pdf format only)

Submit a current résumé of no more than two pages that outlines your professional accomplishments as an artist. Be sure to include any relevant public or private commissioning experience. Please upload a file in .doc or .pdf format. Artist Teams: If you are applying as an artist team combine your information into a two-page document that summarizes the team-member qualifications. For example, a four-member team may choose to include a half-page bio for each team member.

### **IMAGES**

Submit 9 images (.jpg format only) of your work that is relevant to the project.

Artist Teams: If you are applying as an artist team, choose one artist to be the “lead” applicant and submit your information, along with team member(s) images and resume/bio(s) together with the lead applicant. Be sure the images submitted reflect samples from each artist on the team for a total of 9 images. The artist statement should reflect the work and approach of the team.

## **Deadline and Estimated Timeline**

- December 1, 2020: deadline for submissions
- December 5-22, 2020: finalist site visits
- February 2, 2021: finalists present concepts to Committee at open public meeting
- February-April 2021: design finalized and approved

## **Selection Criteria**

The artist will be selected by demonstrating:

- high artistic quality in past work
- an ability to collaborate and communicate effectively shown through prior experience working in a team context with design professionals, engineers, community leaders, and/or artists
- willingness to become familiar with the project and community
- willingness to research client need and propose an appropriate design within the technical parameters required by the railroad
- effective project management skills, including the ability to attend project meetings, access appropriate resources when necessary, develop an appropriate and realistic budget, complete projects on time and within budget

Once selected, the artist must design artwork:

- of high artistic quality
- appropriate to the project site
- of durable design and using durable materials
- requiring minimal maintenance
- providing maximum resistance to vandalism
- incorporating lighting elements and/or other features to increase pedestrian safety

## **Nondiscrimination**

The Town of Royalton does not discriminate against any qualified individual on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic bias, disability, citizenship, veteran status, or other category protected by applicable state or federal law.

## **Questions?**

Inquiries about the project or the application process should be made by sending an email to [southroyaltonunderpassart@gmail.com](mailto:southroyaltonunderpassart@gmail.com), or by calling 802-763-2859.