



ERIE, PA

Request for Proposals

Release Date: September 15, 2015

Deadline for Submissions: November 1, 2015

Project Overview

The Big Picture, a collaborative effort of the Erie Art Museum, the YMCA of Erie and Erie Arts & Culture with support from Tungsten Creative Group, is requesting proposals from regional artists for a design, installation plan and budget for a large-scale mural to be located on the east wall of the Skinner Engine Works Building at 337 West 12th Street, Erie, Pennsylvania. The goal of the mural is to build pride and a greater understanding of Erie's manufacturing history while beautifying Erie's most heavily traveled street. Funding for the project is provided in part by a grant from Erie Insurance Group. Work must be completed by April 2016.

Site

The mural will be located on the East Wall of the Skinner Engine Works Building at 337 West 12th Street (south side of 12th Street between Myrtle and Chestnut). The Skinner Engine Works Building was once home to the Skinner Engine Company, which was founded in Herkimer, NY in 1868 and moved its headquarters to Erie, PA in 1873. At one time, the company was the largest exclusive builder of steam engines in the United States. Today, the property is now owned by Logistics Plus and houses a variety of small businesses. It is estimated that an average of between 10,000 to 20,000 vehicles travel along the 12th Street corridor daily.



The wall is approximately 50 feet wide and 30 feet tall.

Project Description

- Mural design must include attention to building's historical context and provide for optimal visual impact for both motorists and pedestrians.
- Materials used in the creation of the mural must withstand the elements for a period of a minimum of five (5) years with minimal maintenance; use of Polytab is preferred.
- Nine large cement blocks, each approximately 6' x 2' x 2' (visible in photo of wall) are on the grounds and can be included in project design, if the artist desires.
- Design must be original artwork that does not infringe on any copyrights, aligns with project goals and is appropriate for public viewing.
- Artists may elect to work with teens from the Multi-Media program at the Downtown YMCA Teen Center, who can assist in the fabrication and/or installation of the artwork. The Big Picture will coordinate artist/teen collaborations.
- Artists must supply evidence of past work and experience with public art.
- Budget should at minimum include materials, equipment rentals, and artist's fee.

Timeline

RFP Released	September 15 th
Deadline for Proposals	November 1st
Selected Artist Notified/Letter of Agreement Issued	December 1st
Production (Painting on Polytab in Studio)	January-March 2016
Installation	April 2016 (weather permitting)

Selection Process

The Artist Selection Committee, appointed by the members of The Big Picture, will make a selection based the design submitted, professional qualifications, ability to work within the budget and timeline included and successful completion of past public art projects. Once a selection is made, the artist selected will notified and presented with a Letter of Agreement to review and sign.

Applicant Information

Name	_____	Date	_____
Address	_____		
City	_____	State	_____ Zip _____
Phone	_____	Email	_____
Website	_____		

Application to include all of the following:

- Completed Applicant Information section of this coversheet.
- Resume or Artist biography.
- Up to five (5) images of past work (JPEG or PDF format; no larger than 5MB).
- Name and contact information for three (3) professional references related to past public art projects.
- Narrative description and illustration of proposed mural design, preferred materials and installation process (including timeline).
- Itemized budget including artist fees.

How to Submit your Proposal:

1. Gather all files for submission and make sure they are formatted per the instructions provided.
2. Attach your files to an e-mail with the subject *Big Picture Mural Submission*.
3. Send your email with all files attached to bigpicture814@gmail.com by the deadline of November 1, 2015.

Questions:

Contact Ally Thomas, Project Manager at 814-459-5477 or by email at bigpicture814@gmail.com with any questions regarding this Request for Proposals.