

Call To Artists

For Submission to the Public Art Committee

City Of Plano



Background

The City of Plano Public Art Committee seeks to commission an artwork for Plano's historic Haggard Park. Sites have been identified for the artwork however, alternative sites will be considered.

This artwork should:

- Create excitement and interest for the community
- Honor the history of the area

The artists' willingness to learn about the community and have a dialogue with interested community members from which to apply the concepts is integral toward developing the artwork.

The artwork must be durable, low maintenance, and appropriate to the location.

Works in a variety of media and forms will be considered. Examples of media include, but are not limited to: wood, metal, paint and photography.

History of Haggard Park

Honored by her husband, C. S. Haggard, who donated \$2,000 in 1925 to help establish the park and to erect an archway to commemorate his family, the park is named after N. Kate Haggard. Original concrete entry posts on the eastern side of the park stand in memory of this dedication. The Haggard family played an important role in the development of Plano, with Clinton Sheppard Haggard (C. S.) arriving in Texas with his father in 1856, investing in the horse and mule trade.

Haggard Park soon became the gateway for the best that Plano had to offer, providing easy access to rail service, downtown merchants and "City Hall." In the 1930's locals would go "uptown" to enjoy a day in the park, listen to a concert in the bandstand and enjoy an ice cream. Today, little has changed, except we go "downtown" to enjoy a day in the park, listen to a concert in the bandstand and enjoy an ice cream.

The rejuvenation of the downtown historic area and adjacent Haggard Park Neighborhood continues in full swing, fueled by the arrival of DART Rail and the conversion of the old Cox Gymnasium into Plano's popular Courtyard Theater. As a vital link to DART Rail's Downtown Plano Station, 15th Street merchants, downtown apartments and the Theater, the City's focus today is to match the momentum of the area by providing a facelift for the venerable old park.

A \$1.1 million renovation is currently underway at the park and expected to be complete in October, 2003.

Brick sidewalks will be installed, updating of the playground, putting the utilities underground, updating the bathrooms and enhancing the landscaping.

The bandstand and wooden bridge will remain as centerpieces, laced with gracefully curved sidewalks providing the venue for relaxing evening strolls or serving as connectors between the Courtyard Theater, DART and historic Downtown.

The park will definitely retain its historic character and flavor. A plaza area adjacent to the Interurban Station will be added. This will be designed from brick pavers and will be a wonderful staging area adjacent 15th Street. The other enhancement will be a performance platform overlooking the enlarged water feature, which may be used by park patrons for a relaxing view of the pond, or utilized for concerts or other venues, in addition to the bandstand. The bandstand will also be enhanced with a brick surround."

Work is expected to be completed on the park this fall, with the project also providing landscaping for the Courtyard Theater. While change has swirled all around it, little will have changed for Haggard Park. Weddings and concerts will continue to be held in the grand old bandstand, families will gather in the evening to relax and picnic, and special events will again bring the community together for fun and festivities.

The rejuvenated Haggard Park will remain, as it has for decades, our community's "favorite backyard."

Budget

The Public Art Committee's budget for this project is \$20,000. The budget includes all costs associated with the project including but not limited to: artists' design fee, travel, materials, fabrication costs, transportation and installation of the work.

Eligibility

The project is open to all artists, age 18 and over, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental disability. Artist teams are eligible to apply, including teams of artists from multiple disciplines. City of Plano employees, as well as selection panelists and their immediate family members, are excluded from participation on this project.

Selection Process

An artist selection panel consisting of at least two community members, two representatives of the Public Art Committee, two art professionals, and two staff members from the Parks & Recreation Department will review all artist submissions and select artists to be interviewed for the commission. The finalists will be invited for a site visit and to have a dialogue with the community. The finalists will then be asked to develop a conceptual approach for artwork at the site and to make a presentation of their proposal. The finalists' proposals will be exhibited at Municipal Center South for approximately four weeks. The three finalists will be compensated \$500 for their participation in this stage of the selection process.

Time Line

November 14, 2003	Submissions must be postmarked or received by the City of Plano, Public Art Committee no later than 5:00 p.m.
Late November 2003	Notification of finalists
December 2003	Finalist interviews and selection of recommended artist

The final recommendation of the selection panel will be reviewed by the Public Art Committee prior to the award of the contract.

The Committee reserves the right to change the project timeline.

Submission Requirements

Artists interested in this project must prepare and submit the following:

1. 8 copies of a current resume
2. Up to twenty 35mm slides of relevant work. Slides must be labeled with the artist's name, numbered according to an annotated slide sheet with indication of the top of the slide.
3. One copy of an annotated, typewritten slide list identifying slides by number and listing media, size, title, date and a brief description of the artwork if necessary.
4. News articles or reviews
5. References

Application Deadline

Applications must be postmarked or received at the City of Plano, Public Art Committee no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 14, 2003

Send submissions to:

Public Art Committee
c/o Sabrina Hamilton
City of Plano
P. O. Box 860358
Plano, TX 75086-0358

Questions

If you have questions, contact Sabrina Hamilton, Public Art Coordinator
Phone: 972.941.5201
Email: sabrinah@plano.gov