



# SAINT PAUL --- PUBLIC LIBRARY

## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS –

### Rondo Community Library Children’s Area Art Installation



#### ABOUT THE PROJECT

Saint Paul Public Library, in partnership with PNC Bank and Heart of America, is re-designing the children’s area at the Rondo Community Library. This space will feature updated layouts, new furniture, and a focus on playful learning experiences for young children and families.

The artwork installation will be twofold: one part is printed onto semi-transparent window film panels to be adhered to a number of large windows that separate public meeting rooms. A variety of artistic media are welcomed, though they must ultimately be submitted in a digital format for printing. The second part is incorporating six pillars located throughout the children’s area. These pillars should be incorporated into the

design but do not need to be printed on film. The design should coordinate with the general color scheme identified for the play area (blues, greens, oranges, and other vibrant colors represented in urban nature) and represent Saint Paul communities in an engaging, child-centered way.

## **PROJECT GOALS**

- Create a bright, colorful, and inviting work of art that will draw the attention of children and families.
- Convey the mission of Saint Paul Public Library, which is to "Welcome all people to connect, learn, participate, and grow."
- Celebrate a "Nature in the City" theme with images that speak to the nature children can see, hear, and feel in the Rondo/Frogtown Neighborhood (ex. dandelions, community gardens, window boxes, native flora and fauna).
- Visually engage children ages 0-5 and caretakers in playful ways to encourage curiosity and invite interaction through reading, counting, singing, etc.
- Center culturally specific elements that reflect and celebrate the Rondo neighborhood's historic African-American community and Rondo and Frogtown's newer residents from across Africa.

## **ABOUT SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY AND RONDO COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

The Saint Paul Public Library (SPPL) is a department of the City of Saint Paul with 13 branch locations throughout the city and a Bookmobile that makes 4-6 stops daily in neighborhoods city-wide. We imagine a city where all people feel seen, safe and welcome; where libraries bring people together to experience hope, joy and creativity through learning.

The Rondo Community Library is one branch of SPPL and is one of the busiest and most visited locations across the city. A highly diverse population, wide range of services, and dedicated staff ensure Rondo is a welcoming, inclusive place for residents of all ages. This includes a space dedicated to children and families, where high-quality, playful experiences inform the learning and development of our youngest residents.

## **PROJECT BUDGET**

\$4000-\$6000

This all-inclusive budget will include artist fee (\$5000), film printing and installation, and creative intellectual property rights for SPPL to reprint or repurpose this design or design elements for other uses.

## **ARTIST/DESIGNER TEAM QUALIFICATIONS**

- Artists may apply as individuals or teams
- Selection committee members and their families are not eligible
- City of Saint Paul staff are not eligible

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

*Phase One:* A committee of staff will review all initial submissions to ensure eligible applications meet basic qualifications and select two finalists. Finalists will be based on the following criteria:

- Quality of letter of interest
- Quality of work samples
- Connection with Saint Paul, ideally the Rondo/Frogtown community
- Experience with large-scale design work during a compressed timeline
- Ability to agree to terms and conditions of a standard contract and submit a complete W-9

*Phase Two:* Finalists will each receive a stipend of \$300 to develop an initial concept to be presented to the selection committee.

## **TIMELINE**

December 19, 2022: RFQ announced

January 9, 2023: RFQ proposals due

January 13: Finalists notified, asked to develop a design concept

January 30: Finalist design concepts due

February 3: Final artist selected and notified

Week of February 6: project team meets with artist to discuss design

February 27: Artist shares design, team provides feedback

Week of March 13: Artist shares final design, send to printer

## **HOW AND WHAT TO SUBMIT**

Please provide the following in a single PDF document (work sample images can be sent as separate files)

- Name and contact information for lead artist
- One-page letter describing interest in project and approach to art creation. Please include a statement addressing the eligibility criteria and your approach to community engagement to inform work.
- Work samples: up to five digital images of your recent projects, saved in a .jpeg, .png, or .pdf format.
- Brief description of each work sample, including that project's goals and community engagement strategies (when applicable).

Submit all RFQ materials via email to [Kali.Freeman@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Kali.Freeman@ci.stpaul.mn.us). All materials must be received by Monday, January 9, 2023 at 11:59 pm.

Images from the current Children's Area



