



CITY OF MERCED

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Heartland Grant Art Project Call for Artists

RFP Released: 09.28.2023 Deadline
for Submittals: 10.27.2023

678 W. 18TH STREET, MERCED CA 95340

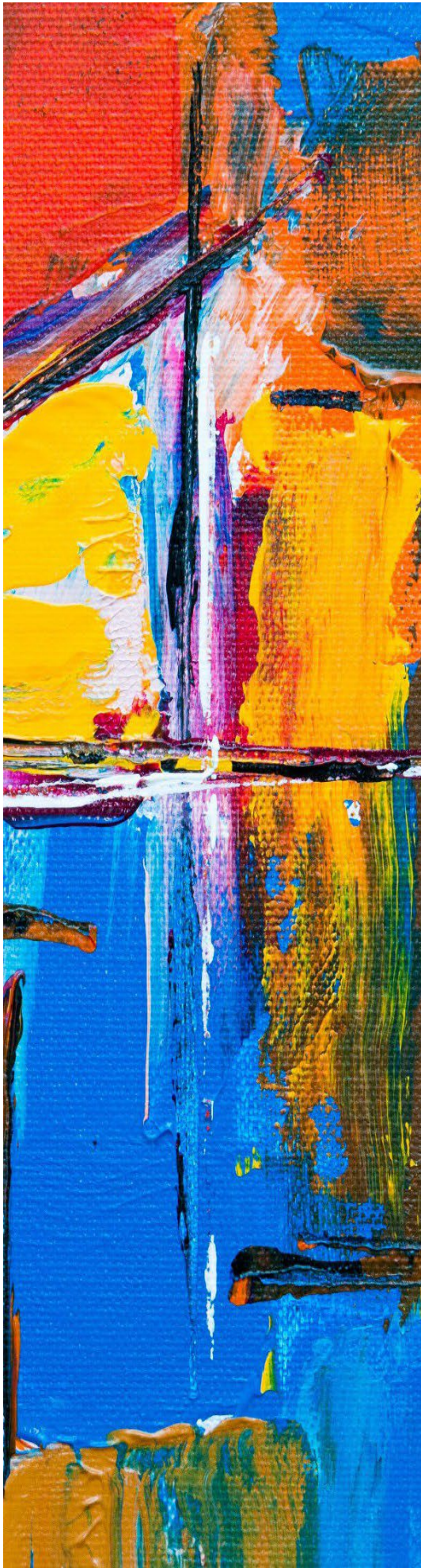


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ABOUT HEARTLAND CREATIVE CORPS

The California Council developed the California Creative Corps on the Arts in collaboration with the state legislature. California Creative Corps is a \$4.2 million economic and jobs recovery pilot program to support pandemic recovery and environmental, civic, and social engagement in California's hardest-hit communities. Artists will promote positive community outcomes by creating locally focused, contextual, and culturally sensitive messages and public works using various art forms, including visual, performing, and traditional arts.

Merced, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne counties have many talented individuals who tell stories and express the culture of our communities through art. We want to support our artists to create locally focused projects and spread awareness related to public health messages, civic engagement, social justice & community engagement, water and energy conservation, climate mitigation, and emergency preparedness.

Funding provides project opportunities for local artists to create public art installations to contribute to our City of Merced neighborhoods' vibrant character and cultures. These projects will visually represent our community's cultural perspectives, priorities, and contributions that positively impact our environment that community members can embrace, appreciate, and respect.

The project aims to benefit artists and engage communities in the bottom quartile of the California Healthy Place Index. The Healthy Place Index will support the City of Merced in addressing environmental equity. The selected projects will focus on areas within the City of Merced identified as the lowest quartile of the California Healthy Places Index.

ABOUT THE HEARTLAND GRANT ART PROJECT

The City of Merced was awarded \$79,288 from the United Way of Merced County as the Administering Organization for the Heartland Creative Corps for Art Projects on City-owned properties.

This RFP is issued for a collective community art project. The Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission (ACAC) will review and score all submissions based on the project descriptions and budgets. Artists selected for each project will be reviewed and approved by the City Council. Once awarded, an artist must enter into a professional services agreement with the City of Merced. The Senior Management Analyst/Public Information Officer will manage the project with City Manager oversight.

All projects will support social justice and community engagement. Building community is essential in supporting the health and wellness of residents within the City of Merced - an effort that the City Council is committed to across all service areas. In every way possible, the City of Merced strives to provide equal access to all its residents and supports services and programs that promote inclusivity.

Each artist's progress will be documented and shared on the City's social media platforms and a project page at engage.cityofmerced.org. All artists will be required to meet the June 2024 project completion date.

ABOUT MERCED'S ARTS & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Arts and Culture Advisory Commission (ACAC) was established in 2018 to advise the City Council on matters about public art, art projects, cultural programs, and activities, and the promotion of art within the City of Merced (M.M.C. section 2.54.010). The ACAC's mission is to encourage and promote programs and events that enhance the art and cultural development in Merced while engaging community members and local businesses; promote the role of art and culture in contributing to the



beautification and quality of life in Merced; recognize art and cultural events and activities that enhance vitality and innovation in Merced; promote inclusion of artistic endeavors and cultural activities reflective of the Merced community; and preserve the community's artistic works and cultural identities.

1. SELECTION PROCESS

- The ACAC may serve as the Panel or opt to form a separate Panel, taking recommendations from internal and external stakeholders into account. The Panel will advise the ACAC on the selection of artists and approval of concept designs. The ACAC will make a recommendation to the City Council. The City Council will have final approval authority.
- A Selection Panel may establish an eligible list based on their proposal submission. The Selection Panel may recommend selecting seven (7) finalists based on the proposal, or not selecting any of the artists and going back to review the qualifications of other artists.

2. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Selection Criteria.

- Meets the definition of artist, as defined by the ACAC policy.
- Demonstrates artistic excellence, innovation, and originality as represented in past work and supporting materials.
- Demonstrates capacity for working in media and with concepts that are appropriate to the project goals and site.
- Demonstrates interest and capability in creating Public Art in collaboration with the City, design teams, and other project partners.
- Demonstrates interest and capability in engaging community representatives in a project.
- Demonstrates experience in completing works of similar scope, scale, budget, and complexity, or articulates how s/he will bring the necessary artistic and technical skills to the project.
- Demonstrates interest in and understanding of the project as outlined in the Project Plan.
- Is available to perform the scope of work in a timely and professional manner.
- Demonstrates artistic merit, including excellence in aesthetic quality, artistry, innovation, and creativity.
- Demonstrates appropriateness in scale and form and is of materials/media suitable for the site.
- Ability to reduce cost through economies of scale.
- Demonstrates feasibility of construction and installation.
- Demonstrates feasibility in terms of budget, timeline, safety, security, durability, operation, maintenance, conservation, legal and ethical issues.
- Builds the diversity of the Public Art Collection.
- Permanence concerning resistance to theft, graffiti, weathering, and repair costs.
- Residency of artist must reside in Merced County.



3. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

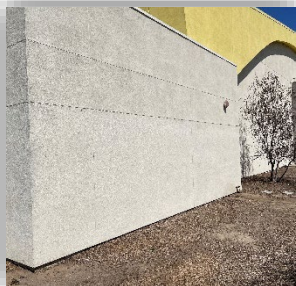
This is a competitive process for the City of Merced – Call for Art Projects. The RFP outlines the step-by-step process and conditions that apply.

To submit a proposal, please include the following materials in hardcopy only. Electronic Submissions will not be accepted:

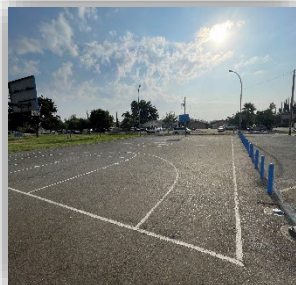
- 1) Cover sheet with name, phone number, email address, and website (if applicable)
- 2) A statement of interest, including a vision for public artwork
- 3) Proposed artwork sample, description of the artwork, and how the artwork will be applied
- 4) Resume that includes an exhibition history, past projects, and experience with cooperative community-driven projects
- 5) A minimum of three samples of previous original artwork with brief descriptions (photo printouts are required)
- 6) Three (3) references the panel may contact for previous artwork and experience
- 7) Artists can select one or more project sites in a single proposal.
- 8) Project sites and associated budgets follow:



- Gilbert Macias Basketball Court – Court Mural - \$8,550.00
 - Stipend for project expenses (For example, a tintable waterproofing concrete stain and supplies) - \$1,100.00



- McCombs Youth Center Exterior Wall Mural - \$22,500.00
 - Stipend for project expenses (paint and supplies) - \$2,088.00



- McNamara Basketball Court – Court Mural - \$8,550.00
 - Stipend for project expenses (For example, a tintable waterproofing concrete stain and supplies)3) - \$1,100.00



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Request for Proposal – Call for Artists



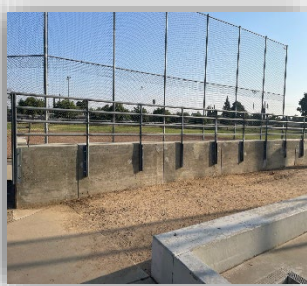
- Art Alley Mural – Dumpster Enclosure Mural - \$7,800.00
 - Stipend for project expenses (paint and supplies) - \$1,050.00



- Joe Herb Park Concession Facility Mural - \$7,800.00
 - Stipend for project expenses (paint and supplies) - \$1,050.00



- Gilbert Macias Restroom Facility Exterior Wall Mural - \$7,800.00
 - Stipend for project expenses (paint and supplies) - \$1,050.00



- Nannini Youth Sports Complex Murals - \$7,800.00
- Stipend for project expenses (paint and supplies) - \$1,050.00

- 9) The project budget is based on an hourly rate of \$75 per hour and total number of hours anticipated for project completion. These rates include all applicable fringe benefits (Workers Comp, Taxes, Etc.) Stipends will be provided for direct project expenses (paint and supplies). Receipts will need to be submitted after supplies are purchased to verify expenses.



4. INQUIRY CONTACT & SUBMITTING QUALIFICATIONS

Direct all questions and inquiries to City Manager Stephanie Dietz via email, dietzs@cityofmerced.org by 5 pm, Friday, October 6, 2023.

APPLICATION PACKAGES ARE DUE BY 5 PM (PST) ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023. Address proposals to:

City Manager Stephanie Dietz
City of Merced / Office of the City Manager
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Proposals are accepted via mail and hand-delivery if received by the deadline. Proposals will not be accepted via postmarked mail, email, and fax.

5. PROPOSED TIMELINE

09/28/2023 – 10/27/2023 Post Call for Proposals on City Website:

- Allow 30 days for proposals to be received.
- Proposals will be initially screened to ensure minimum requirements are met.

10/30/2023 through 11/10/2023 – Selection Panel Rates Proposals:

- Review Independently and Score.
- Scores compiled for November ACAC Meeting.

11/16/2023– ACAC Meeting:

- Selection Panel makes recommendation to ACAC.
- ACAC adopts recommendation to City Council.

12/04/2023 – City Council Meeting (subject to Artist Agreement decision):

- ACAC recommendation to City Council for approval.

12/07/2023 – Issue Notice to Proceed (subject to change pending Artist Agreement execution):

- Letter sent to artist granting authority to perform work on City property.

6. ARTIST AGREEMENT

Upon recommendation of the ACAC, the City Manager or designee shall coordinate agreements with selected artists, curators, and cultural organizations. The agreement may include the scope of work, fee,



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schedule, and relevant terms and conditions. The scope of work will generally include the final design, engineering, fabrication, and installation of the artwork. All such agreements will be presented to the City Council at the 12/18/2023 Council meeting.

If your proposal is selected, the City requires completion of the following:

- Professional Service Agreement/Moral Rights and Waiver?
- Current General Liability Insurance, listing the City as additional insured.
- Current City of Merced Business License