

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Denver Public Art Seeks Qualified Artists for National Western Center Commission

The City of Denver's Public Art Program [seeks to commission an artist or artist team to create a signature work of art for the future improved Riverfront Open Space](#) along the South Platte River at the National Western Center (NWC) campus in Denver.

This project presents an opportunity to enhance the experience for visitors to the Riverfront Open Space. The selection panel seeks a sculptural or architecturally-integrated artwork that demonstrates an authentic connection between people and the South Platte River and tells the story of the area - historically, agriculturally, socially and ecologically.

A major element of the NWC development is the half-mile stretch of the South Platte River that defines the western border of the campus. An area that was once considered unsafe, polluted and inaccessible by historical industrial impacts will be restored to an amenity for the surrounding neighborhoods' and region's revitalized engagement through recreation, education, cultural gatherings and celebrations. With anticipated offerings such as pedestrian and bicycle trails, dynamic public art, areas for small performances, picnic areas, educational and play experiences for kids and families to enjoy, the NWC Riverfront will soon be an enriching and treasured community asset as well as a hub of campus activity.

The public art budget is \$400,000 USD for the riverfront project and the call is open to US artists and artist teams.

Applications will be accepted at www.CallForEntry.org through **Monday, March 30, 11:59 p.m.**

Funding for this project comes from the City of Denver's 1% for Public Art Ordinance.

For more information on this and other Denver Public Art opportunities, please visit www.denverpublicart.org/for-artists.

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About Denver Arts & Venues

Denver Arts & Venues' mission is to amplify Denver's quality of life and economic vitality through premier public venues, arts and entertainment opportunities. Arts & Venues is the City and County of Denver agency responsible for operating some of the region's most renowned facilities, including Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre, the Denver Performing Arts Complex, Colorado Convention Center, Denver Coliseum and McNichols Civic Center Building. Arts & Venues also oversees the Denver Public Art Program, Create Denver, SCFD Tier III granting process, Arts Education Fund and other entertainment and cultural events such as the Five Points Jazz Festival, Urban Arts Fund, P.S. You Are Here and implementation of IMAGINE 2020: Denver's Cultural Plan. Denver Arts & Venues is committed to diversity, equity and inclusiveness in all our programs, initiatives and decision-making processes.

www.ArtsandVenues.com

About Denver Public Art

Denver's Public Art Program was established in 1988 as an Executive Order under Mayor Federico Peña. The order, enacted into Ordinance by Denver City Council in 1991, directs that 1% of any capital improvement project over \$1 million undertaken by the City, be set aside for the inclusion of art. Over the past 30 years these artworks, along with the historic and donated works of art, make up the City's Public Art Collection. The Public Art Collection has expanded the opportunity for Denver residents to experience art in public places.

www.DenverPublicArt.org

About National Western Center (NWC)

The National Western Center is a reimagined campus nearly doubling the grounds which have housed the National Western Stock Show for more than 110 years. The new campus will be a vibrant, dynamic, and accessible educational and entertainment environment in the heart of Denver that celebrates Colorado's western heritage and solves global issues through research and collaboration.

<https://nationalwesterncenter.com/about/what-is-the-nwc/>