

Request for Proposal (RFP)/Call to Artists
Suwanee SculpTour 2015-2017
Public art exhibit of original outdoor sculptures displayed
May 2015 – March 2017 in Downtown Suwanee
City of Suwanee, Georgia

I. PURPOSE

The Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) is seeking proposals from artists and/or artist teams for design, execution and installation of original outdoor sculptures to be displayed for a period of just less than two years from May 2015 through the end of March 2017, in downtown Suwanee. The objective is to have a well-balanced exhibit of sculptures with a variety of styles, types, and sizes. Specific locations will be determined based upon submissions. This will be the fourth consecutive exhibit which has been enthusiastically received by residents and visitors alike. **The first and second exhibits resulted in eight purchases and at least four commissions.** Visit www.suwanee.com/whatsnew.sculptour.php for information on the current/ongoing SculpTour.

Program goals include:

- Enhance Suwanee's downtown with an exhibit of original and unique pieces of art.
- Stimulate interest in Suwanee's public art initiative and add cultural value to the area.
- Serve as an economic development tool by attracting visitors, residents, and businesses to the area.

Generally, SculpTour locations may include the following:

- Suwanee Town Center (including Town Center Park, Town Center Avenue, and side streets connecting to Town Center Avenue).
- Both entrances to the pedestrian railroad underpass.
- Main Street from the underpass to the commercial district near pavilion/Scales Street.

II. BACKGROUND & PROJECT/SITE OVERVIEW

A community of about 17,500 residents, the City of Suwanee is recognized as one of the premier small municipalities in metro Atlanta, Georgia, and the nation. An award-winning community in a variety of areas, Suwanee has been recognized three times by *Money Magazine* as one of America's best places to live, as well as by *Kiplinger.com* as one of the best places to raise children, and *Family Circle Magazine* as one of the nation's top 10 best towns for families. The City is committed to continually enhancing our citizens' quality of life and our community's long-term economic vitality.

Believing that public art plays a significant role in helping to create a well-rounded, vibrant community, the Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) was established in 2008. The PAC was charged with enhancing the quality of life in Suwanee through public art. The group has commissioned artwork for Suwanee's City Hall: a suspended sculpture created by industrial

artist Koryn Rolstad. Leading by example, the City of Suwanee set aside 1 percent of construction costs for City Hall, as well as our recently completed police substation/training facility, for public art. In turn, Suwanee encourages developers to commit 1 percent of new project costs to fund public art on their property or support public art in other locations throughout the community. This is one of many initiatives being developed and coordinated through the PAC.

The Suwanee Sculptour is an integral component of Suwanee's efforts to bring public art to the area. The Sculptour program, funded through donations from individuals, families, and area businesses, is a driver of economic development and tourism. The inaugural Suwanee Sculptour was installed in May 2011 and incorporated 15 pieces as did the second exhibit installed in May 2012. The third and current exhibit will run through March 2015 and features 14 pieces. To see more information about our public art initiative, view our sponsor brochure at http://issuu.com/cityofsuwanee/docs/public_art_brochure_2014/0.

Another PAC project was the commission of Suwanee's *Remembrance* exhibit, which offers an example of art as history and features an artifact from one of the World Trade Center towers. This piece was created by Statesboro artist Marc Moulton.

The City's Town Center, anchored by Town Center Park (an urban-style park), is a successful and highly visible mixed-use complex. It includes more than seven acres of park/lawn area, an interactive fountain, amphitheater, retail shops, and a residential component. Tens of thousands of people visit the park each year and attend its numerous concerts, festivals, and other events.

The Sculptour program provides promotional materials marketing the exhibit, artists, and sponsors. The public is encouraged to explore each sculpture through walking and driving tours outlined in the promotional materials.

Additional information about the City of Suwanee and downtown, including photos and maps, may be obtained at www.suwanee.com.

III. ELIGIBILITY

The Sculptour program is open to artists (or teams of related disciplines) who submit an application on time, can meet the various program requirements, and are selected to participate. Prior experience in public art is not required.

IV. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

- The number of pieces chosen will be 10-20 depending on available funding.
- Pieces will vary in size and will be located as appropriate. Potential sites are suited for small-scale as well as large-scale sculptures (minimum height of about 30 inches).
- While there is no limit on the market value of sculptures that may be submitted, it is likely that only sculptures valued under \$25,000 will be eligible to compete in the "People's Choice" contest (described in section VI of this RFP).
- All sculptures will be insured for liability and physical damage through the City of Suwanee.

- Artists may submit up to three pieces for consideration. There is no fee to the artist for submitting artwork.
- All entries must be original works of the submitting artist or team of artists, however, they do not need to have been created specifically for this exhibit.
- All sculptures need to be made of durable material appropriate for outdoor display and at times adverse weather conditions (high winds, low temperatures, high temperatures, snow storms, high traffic areas). Pieces should be constructed with audience safety in mind, understanding that they will be displayed in a public setting.
- Most of the sculptures will be displayed on steel pedestals (base tops are 2’x2’, 3’x3’, and 4’x4’) or concrete pads (varied sizes) designed to fit the location and/or artwork.
- All sculptures must be able to be structurally secured to a steel pedestal or concrete pad with anchor bolts or similar devices.
- Artists will be responsible for the timely installation and removal of their sculpture(s). See the timeline/schedule in section VIII of this RFP.
- Artists are responsible for shipping and delivering the artwork to and from the installation site.
- Accepted entries will receive an agreement outlining further information including details regarding delivery and installation/placement of the artwork.

V. ARTIST FEE/STIPEND/AWARDS

Artists chosen to participate in the SculpTour exhibit will receive a one-time stipend up to \$1,500 per sculpture, of which \$750 will be paid within 30 days of delivery and installation of the sculpture. The remaining \$750 will be paid to artists for sculptures that are not ultimately purchased through the program and are properly removed at the end of the specified display period. Selected sculptures must be displayed for the entire duration of the exhibit. Additionally, artists chosen to participate will be eligible to win cash awards totaling up to \$5,000 (depending on available funding).

The artwork remains the property of the artist throughout the exhibit and reverts to the artist’s keeping at the conclusion of the approximately two-year exhibit. In essence, the artwork is “rented/loaned” to the exhibit. All sculptures will be insured for liability and physical damage through the City of Suwanee. The PAC may elect to purchase artwork and has the right of first refusal after the exhibit period has ended. Artists submitting proposals agree that the City of Suwanee and/or the PAC may reproduce images of the artwork for non-commercial, educational, and promotional purposes, with credit given to the artist when artwork is highlighted.

VI. ARTWORK SALE OPPORTUNITY

The Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) and City of Suwanee will promote the sale of sculptures to the public – either for personal/commercial use or as a permanent donation to the City and/or the PAC. Artist(s) may sell the work during the exhibition period; however, the work should remain on site for the duration of the exhibition. The SculpTour will receive 25 percent commission of the purchase price on sold sculptures and 20 percent on other commissioned works. Should someone wish to donate the piece to the PAC or should the PAC purchase the piece, the SculpTour program would forego the 25 percent and discount the sale price by the amount equal to 25 percent.

If SculptTour funding allows, the PAC will organize an on-line voting procedure wherein visitors of the exhibit can vote for their favorite sculpture – designating “People’s Choice” award-winner. Provided funding is in place, the PAC will consider purchase of that piece of public art for its permanent collection. The chosen sculpture will then be displayed in one of Suwanee’s numerous public spaces or parks.

To date, a total of 12 pieces have been purchased and/or commissioned through our first two exhibits alone; five by the City, five by developers, and two by private individuals who donated those pieces to the City.

VII. SELECTION PROCESS

The selection committee is comprised of the Suwanee Public Arts Commission and possibly other community members/artists. The committee will make exhibit recommendations to City Council.

RFP submissions will be evaluated on the following:

- Originality/creativity
- Quality of materials and execution
- Appropriateness (fit, theme, etc.) to the area, City of Suwanee, etc.
- General community appeal
- Durability of the artwork; preference may be given to pieces requiring less maintenance and better sustainability of materials
- Ease of installation
- Sale price of artwork
- Other evaluation criteria not outlined above may be considered as necessary

VIII. TIMELINE/SCHEDULE

Dec. 1, 2014	RFP distributed to artists
Jan. 9, 2015	RFP submission deadline
Jan. 9 – Jan. 30, 2015	Review RFPs
Feb. 13, 2015	Artist/artwork selection complete; notification via e-mail
May 4 – 8, 2015	Artwork to be installed
May 2015 – March 2017	Public art exhibition and on-line voting
End of March or first of April, 2017	Artwork to be removed

(All dates may be subject to change.)

IX. APPLICATION PRESENTATION & CONTENT

Submit two (2) printed and unbound copies of **all** items listed below. (If a three-dimensional or textured model is submitted, one model is sufficient.) Each page of presentation (all submitted materials) should clearly indicate your name and project title.

Present your materials in the following order:

1. Application Form (see attached form on page 6). Application must be completed in full.
2. Color photo/drawing/image/model of proposed work.
3. Project/sculpture title and narrative description of proposed artwork (not to exceed two pages; maximum of about 750 words). Narrative should include origin of idea, theme, design/creative rationale, etc. Narrative must include approximate dimensions and weight, installation requirements, proposed materials, and any other special requirements.
4. Artist's bio.

Artist will not be compensated for RFP submissions regardless of medium presented. Unless otherwise requested, all materials submitted become the property of the Suwanee Public Arts Commission.

The Suwanee Public Arts Commission (PAC) reserves the right to accept or reject any and all submittals, waive technicalities and informalities, change scope of work, and amend said Request for Proposals as desired by the PAC. The PAC reserves the right to negotiate with artists and to select the artists who best meet the PAC's needs.

X. APPLICATION DEADLINE AND DELIVERY

Submissions to be received by 4:00 p.m., ET, Friday, January 9, 2015

Submit qualifications and information to the following address:

Suwanee Public Arts Commission, c/o: Sculptour
City of Suwanee, 330 Town Center Avenue, Suwanee, GA 30024

XI. INQUIRIES/ATTACHMENTS

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Denise Brinson or Toni Shrewsbury at 770-945-8996 or at denise@suwanee.com or tshrewsbury@suwanee.com.

Please go to <http://www.suwanee.com/businessmatters.requestsforproposals.php> for additional information/attachments including promotional brochures, and selected news clippings.

Request for Proposal (RFP)/Call to Artists APPLICATION
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City of Suwanee, Georgia

ARTIST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ ALTERNATE PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

WEBSITE (IF APPLICABLE) _____

Sculpture Title: _____

Materials/Medium _____

DIMENSIONS: Height: _____ Width: _____ Depth: _____ Weight: _____

Insurance Valuation \$ _____ Sales Price \$ _____

INSTALLATION: Describe below how artwork will be installed and attached to base/pedestal. Describe any special installation requirements and note an estimated size of base you would recommend to accommodate your sculpture.

Submissions to be received by 4:00 p.m., ET, Friday, January 9, 2015

Send to: Suwanee Public Arts Commission, c/o: SculpTour

City of Suwanee, 330 Town Center Avenue, Suwanee, GA 30024

For office use only. Date received: _____ Received by: _____