CALL TO ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS – Request for Proposals
“Celebrating the Urban Environment”, Temporary Art in Three Sites
Salem, Massachusetts, Summer 2017
Submission Deadline: March 30, 2017

The City of Salem seeks proposals from artists and designers interested in creating site-responsive public art installations in the heart of downtown Salem during the summer/fall of 2017. Artists and designers working in any media, including light, sound, or other multimedia, are encouraged to submit proposals. The City is particularly interested in installations that have an impact when viewed across the site and that are effective at night as well as during the day.

Salem is a growing, culturally diverse city with a rich literary, architectural, maritime, and immigrant history, including its role in the 17th century Salem Witch Trials. In the 19th century, it was one of the most important seaports in the country. Today it is a lively destination that draws people from around the world.

Three sites for the public art project have been chosen to celebrate the urban environment and create a pathway through locations in the downtown. Artists may apply for one, two or three sites.

Site One: Intersection of Washington & Bridge Street Budget: $2,500.00

This site is directly across from the entrance (and exit) to the commuter rail. Salem’s ridership is the largest on the North Shore. The roadway is multi-directional and one of the busiest in the downtown. The area is comprised of roads, concrete sidewalks and a median island with planters maintained by the Salem Garden Club. The large building on the right is an unused Courthouse owned the State of Massachusetts and would not available for a public art venue.
Site Two: Corner of Washington Street and Front Street

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Budget: $2,500.00

This small plaza sits at the corner of Washington and Front Streets on a busy thoroughfare both by car and on foot. Retail shops, restaurants, businesses, and residences are located throughout the area. The brick area is 20 feet by 20 feet 8 inches surrounded by concrete. A planted island of trees abuts the space. Derby Square located on Front Street is active in the summer months with a weekly Farmer's Market, monthly Vintage Market and Salem Jazz and Soul performances. The Salem Arts Festival takes place on Front Street June 3, 4, 5. Artists' Row sits opposite Derby Square with five stalls that house a casual restaurant and four artist/maker/gallery spaces.

Site Three: Mill Hill

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Budget - $2,500.00

This site is a wall that was the entrance to the train station prior to the new station being built at the opposite end of Washington Street. Known as Mill Hill the site borders a well trafficked roadway, an insurance company, a Domino’s Pizza and the entrance of a newly created bike path. The wall materials are brick and concrete. Art may be adhered to the walls but must be able to be removed. Consideration of wind load must be considered if using space above the wall. The trees on the left have been taken down for a bike path.
The selection committee is particularly interested in artists or designers who show promise of creating a project that:
- is durable and easily maintainable for four months in exterior conditions
- responds to the physical, historical, and/or social attributes of the site
- reflects high level of quality in design and fabrication
- offers the potential for community interaction

Timeline:
- March 30, 2017: All electronic submissions due
- Mid April: Final Selection
- End of April: Proposal presented in person
- End of May 2017: Project Completed and Installed

Please submit the following:
- Resume/Bio with contact information and website (if applicable)
- Statement of Interest (50 words or less)
- Example of work for reference:
  - Title
  - Location
  - Ten Jpeg images of completed work
  - Material/Medium
  - Dimensions
  - Brief Description of the project

Site Specific Project: (if proposing more than one, one proposal for each site)
- Title
- Location
- Description of Project
- Ten jpeg Images of Proposed Work
- Material/Medium
- Dimensions
- Method of Installation
- Maintenance Requirements
- Timeline
How to Submit:
Submissions should be emailed to Deborah Greel, Public Art Planner, City of Salem, dgreel@salem.com. If you do not receive a confirmation email within 24 hours, please re-send or call Deborah at 978-619-5681.

Map of Sites:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1DRD7p46bxuSTf5yr0ciQ_n2nR9c&usp=sharing

For more information about the RFP please contact Deborah Greel: dgreel@salem.com