



Rain Garden Art Artist Call/Request for Qualifications

Live It Up! Hillsborough Street announces a call for artist submissions for public artwork in conjunction with the refurbishment of a rain garden. The artwork would need to be installed on the concrete walls/barrier that surrounds the rain garden.

Work with the organization to design and create art for the rain garden that is located in the 2800 block of Hillsborough Street.

- The project budget is \$15,000
- Expected project completion Fall 2021.
- There is no fee to submit qualifications.
- Submit all requested information at [Rain Garden Art Submission](#).

Eligibility

- This opportunity is open to individual artists and other artist teams.
- Applicants must live or work in the City of Raleigh and be at least 18 years of age.
- Applicants must have at least a three-year history of professional art or design practice.
- Applicants must have demonstrated experience in the arts through the creation of high-quality work.
- Lead applicants cannot be enrolled in an undergraduate course of study in the visual arts as of June 1, 2021.

Budget

The budget for the project is \$15,000 inclusive of all expenses including: designs, stakeholder meetings, fabrication, installation, insurance, travel, taxes, and fees.

Overview of Hillsborough Street Rain Garden

The rain garden was included in the renovation of Hillsborough Street in 2018, and the purpose of the rain garden was to help improve local water quality by capturing and filtering stormwater runoff from the road. Rain gardens are a tool used to reduce pollutants in streams, rivers, and lakes, and they work by directing water (and the pollution -- including chemicals, gasoline, oil, dirt -- carried in stormwater from streets, rooftops, and driveways) into soil containing native plants that together naturally filter the pollutants. Native plants are planted in rain gardens because they have longer roots to help absorb water, and they can withstand both flooding and drought conditions. Many native plants in rain gardens are also pollinator plants, creating

habitat for bees, butterflies, and birds. This particular rain garden has been neglected and will be re-planted this fall. Also, it will be better maintained by the City of Raleigh. Horticulture students at NC State University will create new landscape designs for the rain garden. The City of Raleigh is encouraging residential and commercial property owners to install rain gardens to help improve local watersheds, and the City has a generous Rainwater Rewards matching program to incentivize rain gardens and other green stormwater infrastructure. The art for the rain garden should reflect the nature of this project.

Photos of Hillsborough Street Rain Garden



Selection Criteria and Process

- Applications submitted in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by the Live It Up! Hillsborough Street staff and consultants working on the project.
- The selection process will evaluate qualifications of artists. In addition to reviewing qualifications, staff will discuss the artists' prospective approaches to the project. Art that increases public awareness and understanding of the benefits of rain gardens and the native plants in it is encouraged, though not required.
- The staff will then choose the artist and a scope of services, timeline, and budget will be developed based on the artist's or artist team's approach to the project.

Project Timeline

- Project Awarded: August 2021
- Expected project completion Fall 2021.

How to Apply

Submit all requested information at [Rain Garden Art Submission](#).

Artists wishing to be considered must submit the following materials:

1. Statement of Interest

A 500-word (or less) statement outlining in general terms how your artwork might translate to this specific project, experience you have working on public art projects, and how you foresee the project engaging with the community.

2. Professional Résumé

A résumé of no more than two pages that includes information regarding public art commissions, exhibitions, and installations, awards, special projects, community engagement, grants and education. If applying as a team, submit a single file containing separate résumés for each team member.

3. Three Professional References

Contact information for three references: including name, title and affiliation, phone number and email address. References should be able to speak to your ability to provide services for a public art project or artwork of a similar scope.

4. Previous Work, Digital Images

Four digital images of recent previous work (created within the past ten years). Each image should include title, year, media, location, project budget, dimensions, commissioning agency, and collaborators or design professionals (if applicable).
File titled LastnameFirstname_projectname

Do not provide or submit any other materials with your application. They will not be reviewed or returned.

Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Live It Up! Hillsborough Street opposes any discrimination based on actual or perceived age, mental or physical disability, sex, religion, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial or marital status, economic status, veteran status, or national origin in any aspect of modern life. Live It Up! Hillsborough Street strives for a diverse representation of voices, life experiences, views, and interests to reflect the collaborative community we have and wish to serve.

Additional Information

For questions, contact Yolanda Williams, Project Manager at Live It Up! Hillsborough Street at yolanda@hillsboroughstreet.org.