CALL TO ARTISTS: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
THE PANDA PROJECT
Deadline for Submission EXTENDED: September 2, 2014

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCAH) is pleased to join with the DC Office of Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) to invite local artists or artistic teams to provide two-dimensional design proposals for a pre-fabricated panda sculpture.

Individual Artists and Artistic Teams are requested to respond to this *Call to Artists* with professional and emerging qualifications. Artists or teams are asked to submit up to three (3) designs in the form of two-dimensional drawings, renderings or paintings. Digital media designs illustrating the design on the panda and mixed media proposals will also be accepted. **Artists must be able to replicate the design in a three-dimensional format**—hence the panda sculpture as pictured (below).

Background: The Panda Project is part of a special artistic exchange for the District of Columbia's Sister Cities Program within the DC Office of the Secretary. In late September 2014, a Chinese Delegation from Beijing will visit the District for a series of events and programs. The panda statue will be used to highlight the city as a symbol of cultural and economic exchange between the District of Columbia and the Chinese Embassy.

Eligibility: This opportunity is open to artists based in the Washington, DC metropolitan area (including surrounding areas in Maryland and Virginia) with special preference given to artists living in Washington, DC.

Budget: The selected artist will receive a $4,000.00 honorarium, which will include design fee and all costs associated with design execution, materials and travel. The applicant should also have an appropriate studio space that can accommodate the sculpture during the painting process. Transportation of the panda sculpture to and from the studio space and associated costs will be covered by DCCAH.

Timeline:

July 11, 2014	Release of Invitational Request for Proposals
September 2, 2014, 5:00 PM EST	EXTENDED Deadline for receipt of application materials
Week of September 2, 2014	Review proposals and select finalist
September 2014	Project execution and completion
TBD September/October	Sculpture dedication

Selection Criteria: DCCAH will convene a Selection Committee representing diverse interests and expertise to review proposals and qualifications of the applicants that respond to this call. The committee will use the following criteria in selecting a finalist for the project, which candidates should address in their letter of interest:

- Artistic excellence and innovation as evidenced by past work.
- Creativity in enriching the public realm, streetscape or other public environments and the ability to animate public space.
- Manner in which the artist interprets cultural, social and aesthetic intersections between the District of Columbia and the Republic of China.
- Ability to connect with and engage the local community as well as the visiting public.
- Ability to work within a condensed and aggressive timeline (2-3 weeks for project completion).

About the Panda Statue: The pre-fabricated panda sculpture is fabricated from polyurethane and foam insulation with a steel armature inside the body of the statue for stability.
The statue is primed with stratum white powder and weighs 150 lbs. It will be mounted on a 500 lb. cement base. Specific recommendations for painting and/or adhering materials on the panda will be provided in detail to the selected artist or artist team.

Dimensions:

Statue - 54" (H) x 42" (W)
Base - 46" (W)

Submission Requirements: Please submit the following materials through SlideRoom (instructions provided below).

1. Completed **Application Form** (see attached form on page 5). If you would prefer to type the form, please include full legal name(s) (and other professional name as applicable), mailing address, daytime phone, evening phone, email address, Website (optional).

2. **Letter of Interest** addressing how you meet selection criteria.

3. **Resume or Bio**

4. Up to 3 **Design Proposals** for the Panda.

5. 3 to 5 **digital images of previous work**. Please submit high quality jpgs (do not use giffs, tiffs or other formats). Please do not embed images into PowerPoint or PDF documents.

6. **Image List** (title, year, medium, dimensions) corresponding to submitted images.

Deadline for Submission: Application materials must be received by **Tuesday, September 2nd, 2014, 5:00 pm EST**.

How to Apply: Applications must be submitted online through **SlideRoom**. Please follow the link https://dcarts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/21351/GBY2xv6csN to upload all requisite application materials. In order to access the application portal, all applicants will first be prompted to create a SlideRoom account, at no cost. Once logged into the newly created account, applicants will be able to submit all materials outlined above. Any incomplete submissions at the time will be disqualified. The SlideRoom cost for each application is $10.00 and is payable online at the end of the SlideRoom application.

Should you have any issues with the SlideRoom portal, please contact us so that we may assist you or make alternative arrangements for submission.

Please feel free to contact the following **DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities** staff members with questions:

Tonya Jordan, DCCAH Public Art Manager
Elizabeth Carriger, DCCAH Public Art Coordinator
200 I (Eye) Street, SE- Suite 1400
Washington, DC 20003
202.724-5617 or 202.724-5613
Tonya.Jordan@dc.gov; Elizabth.Carriger@dc.gov

About DC Creates! Public Art: The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities is responsible for providing grants, programs and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities, so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city. One tool with which the agency accomplishes this goal is our DC Creates! Public Art Program. This program is responsible for purchasing, commissioning and installing public art works throughout the District to cultivate dynamic, vibrant and nurturing communities through the use of art and design. DC Creates! provides opportunities for individuals to encounter art in parks, libraries, community centers, government offices, bridges and other public venues.

About the Office of Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs: Created in 1987, the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs was part of the Executive Office of the Mayor until October 2001, when it became an independent agency through DC Act 14-85, "District of Columbia's Asian and Pacific Islander Community Development Act 2000."

OAPIA's mission is to improve the quality of life for District Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through advocacy and engagement. OAPIA advises the Mayor, the Council, and District agencies on the views, needs, and concerns of the AAPI community. OAPIA provides recommendations on District programs and initiatives affecting the AAPI community, and helps coordinate programs and initiatives within the government that promote the overall welfare of the AAPI community.

OAPIA organizes and facilitates public and private programs on public safety, human rights, economic development, housing, employment, social services, public health, transportation, education, and multicultural development to ensure accessibility for the District's AAPI community. OAPIA is the liaison between the District government and the AAPI community.

About DC Sister Cities: As the capital of the United States of America, Washington, DC generally partners only with national capitals around the world. Each nation's capital has its own culture, character, history, challenges and priorities that are shared through Sister City Agreements and Protocols of Friendship. The District of Columbia has also partnered with Sunderland, England, the ancestral home of the first president, George Washington.

These partnerships create opportunities for the sister cities to learn from each other in the areas of economic development, education, social, youth and cultural projects or exchanges and government administration. Four to five specific projects are developed under each relationship.

The District of Columbia has signed Sister City Agreements or Protocols of Friendship with 14 international cities.

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APPLICATION FORM

DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

The Panda Project

Please compete this form and include with application materials.

Applicant's Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell/Mobile (optional): _____

Email address: _____

Web site (optional): _____

DEADLINE: Submissions must be received by **5:00 PM EST on Tuesday, September 2, 2014.**

QUESTIONS:

Please feel free to contact the following **DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities** staff member with questions:

Tonya Jordan, Public Art Manager, tonya.jordan@dc.gov, 202-724-5613
Elizabeth Carriger, Public Art Coordinator, elizabeth.carriger@dc.gov, 202-724-5613

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

____ Application Form
____ CV/Resume or Bio
____ Letter of Interest
____ Up to 3 Design Concept Proposals
____ 3 to 5 Images of Previous Work
____ Image List