



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES
50th ANNIVERSARY

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS



Release Date: Friday | July 12, 2019

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FRIDAY | August 23, 2019 | 4:00PM

Notification Date: Friday | September 20, 2019

Applicants may submit one (1) Playable Art DC application

Project Manager Staff Contact:

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Government of the District of Columbia
Commission on the Arts and Humanities
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Applicants should read through these guidelines in their entirety prior
to submitting an application

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NOTICE: Applicants must read these guidelines completely for this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) prior to submitting an application for this grant program. For questions or additional information, please contact the Commission on the Arts and Humanities ("CAH").

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS



FY 2020 Solicitation for Artist or Artist Team **Playable and artistic placemaking in DC outdoor public spaces**

Release Date:	Friday, July 12, 2019
Submission Deadline:	Friday, August 23, 2019 at 4:00 PM ET
Honorarium Award Amount:	\$2,250 (Award) per application
Final Project Award Amount:	\$50,000 - \$90,000 (Award) per site location

Playable Art DC Overview

The District of Columbia Commission on Arts and Humanities (CAH) in partnership with the District of Columbia Office of Planning (DCOP) is excited to announce a national call to artists for the Playable Art DC, a creative play and placemaking project. This project is made possible through a grant from ArtPlace America. We are seeking artists and design professionals with prior site-specific public art experience to design, fabricate and install playable artworks at three unique sites in Washington, DC. The competition includes two selection processes: qualifications and site specific designs.

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) – Applications will be reviewed and evaluated based

on prior work demonstrating a minimum of four years of site-specific public art and/or placemaking experience. Up to three finalists will be selected for each of the three sites.

Site Specific Designs – Selected finalists for each site will be required to visit the locations and participate in community input sessions. This will form the basis for the development of site-specific designs that will be evaluated to determine a winning proposal for each site. The intention is to create engaging and playful works of art that will be a source of neighborhood pride for all residents.

Each location will have a site-specific selection panel that will evaluate applications, select finalists, sit for finalist presentations and select a winning proposal.

Project Background: Why and What is Playable Art?

Play is critical to a healthy childhood, yet 47% of children in Washington, DC lack basic access to play spaces near their homes. A recent article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* noted that today's children (especially those in big cities like Washington) could be the first generation to live shorter lives than their parents largely due to the sedentary lives they lead¹. School age children in the US spend an astounding average of six hours per day engaged with electronic devices of some kind and don't get the recommended 60 minutes of activity a day². The evidence of this lifestyle comes out in the numbers. In DC alone 32.5% of children of high school students are overweight or obese³. The challenge is clear: barriers to play and active lives need to be lifted especially in the urban environment.

Creating engaging environments in our communities not only helps battle sedentary behaviors, but also has other benefits: children that have the time and place to play outdoors learn critical risk assessment skills, gain valuable socialization habits, and are more able to develop meaningful relationships with nature and the surrounding community. Play is not for children alone; adults also benefit greatly from including

¹ "A Potential Decline in Life Expectancy in the United States in the 21st Century | NEJM." *New England Journal of Medicine*, www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.056/NEJMs043743.

² Published: Jan 01, 2010. "Generation M2: Media in the Lives of 8- to 18-Year-Olds." *The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation*, 1 Jan. 2010, www.kff.org/other/poll-finding/report-generation-m2-media-in-the-lives/.

³ "Obesity in the District of Columbia, 2014." *District of Columbia Department of Health*, www.doh.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/publication/attachments/Obesity%20Report%202014.pdf

play in their lives⁴. Whether it is by moving, creating, laughing, or simply enjoying an enhanced community life, the benefits of play are for all ages.

While residents of DC have significant access to parks on a whole (compared to other cities in the USA), there are still only 1.7 playgrounds for every 10,000 people⁵. This deficit of playgrounds is compounded by the growing population of children in the District; since 2010 the number of children under the age of 9 has grown by 31% creating new demands for additional recreational space⁶. More play spaces are needed, but many areas in the District do not have large enough parks and open spaces to build the new playgrounds to meet community needs⁷.

An alternative to large playgrounds is to incorporate play in more accessible areas – where the children already are – so that special trips do not have to be made to a distant playground. Many barriers to play, such as distance, can be lifted by nearby play spaces that are a cherished part of a community's day-to-day existence. This is where Playable Art DC pieces will play an invaluable role.

Project Goals

Playable Art DC challenges artists and designers to re-think the design and role of play in our communities by combining play with the creative and placemaking aspects of public art. Through this competition we are seeking artwork that will:

- Incorporate play into everyday spaces of sidewalks, small parks, and plazas;
- bring people together around play by designing works that engage children, as well as adults and youth; and,
- Create play environments that are multifunctional and adaptive to users' creativity and interpretation.

⁴ "Using Behavioral Economics to Create Playable Cities."

Kaboom!, www.media.kaboom.org/pdf/Using_Behavioral_Economics_to_Create_Playable_Cities-Full.

⁵ "Park Score 2018." *Trust for Public Land*.

www.parkscore.tpl.org/rankings.php#sm.00005g16px3c4efwnp2nebobky6e

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau (2017). *Population by Age, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*. Retrieved from <http://factfinder2.census.gov>

⁷ "DC Comprehensive Plan Parks and Open Space Element" *District of Columbia Government*

www.planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/District%20Elements_Volume%20I_Chapter%208_April%208%202011.pdf

Project Schedule

Date	Activity & Deliverables
July 12, 2019	Playable Art DC RFQ launched
August 23, 2019 (4:00 PM ET)	Application submission deadline
September 4 - 6, 2019	Art Selection Panel selects Finalists to produce design proposals
by September 20, 2019	Applicants notified
October 7 - 11, 2019	Site visit and community briefing
by November 1, 2019 (5:00 PM ET)	Proposal deadline
November 6 - 8, 2019	Art Selection Panel reconvenes with artist attendance to present proposals
December, 2019	Winners announced
December, 2019 – January, 2020	CAH Grant Process and External Reviews
February – May, 2020	Project Fabrication
May – June, 2020	Project Installation

Site Locations

Through a comprehensive neighborhood selection process, the DCOP selected three communities to be home to Playable Art installations. These locations – Anacostia Library in Ward 8, Greenway Neighborhood in Ward 7 and Kennedy Street in Ward 5 – are unique in their history, demographics and play needs; have a strong and growing sense of civic pride; and a growing population of children. However, all are lacking in access to play space.

Community profiles, site descriptions, and programmatic artwork specifications for each site can be found beginning on page 19.

Grant Eligibility and Restrictions

Artist/Lead Artist/Artist team is defined to include architects, artists, engineers, landscape architects, planners, urban designers, lighting designers, product and industrial designers.

Eligibility Requirements of Applicants:

Individuals may apply having met the following eligibility requirements at the time of application:

- Artist/Lead Artist residing in the United States of America, aged 18 or older;
- Artist/Artist team is a practicing professional artist with a minimum of four years demonstrated large-scale fabrication and installation experience. If working as a team, elements of the project must be supported by a team of design, fabrication and large-scale installation experienced professionals;
- Artist/Lead Artist have a permanent United States address, as listed on legal identification and tax returns. The address provided on all application materials must match exactly the address provided on the submitted IRS W-9 form. Post office boxes cannot be used as a demonstration of the applicant's primary address;
- Artist/Lead Artist is in good standing with CAH demonstrated by the applicant's complete or non-delinquent reporting due to CAH from any prior CAH funded program as of 4:00PM on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. Applicants in poor standing are ineligible to apply and therefore, cannot receive any additional grant award (in any category of grant funding) from CAH in FY 2020; and,
- Abstain from any use of a secondary party that acts on its behalf ("fiscal agent") in the performance and execution of financial duties.

Applicant Restrictions (non-eligibility):

- Individuals that require "fiscal agents;"
- Non-profit organizations;
- For-profit (commercial) entities;
- Tax-Exempt organizations other than 501(c)(3) designated entities;
- Private foundations;
- Civic organizations;

- Political organizations;
- Foreign governments;
- Colleges or universities;
- State and Federal Government agencies, including Public Schools; and,
- Organizations submitting an application whose content is combined with the application of another organization. Proposed projects must be “stand-alone” projects.

Selection Process

This competition is a two Step Process:

CAH, working with DCOP, will convene three separate advisory review selection panels, representing diverse interests and artistic expertise, to review the qualifications of applicants who respond to this call as well as evaluate the site-specific proposals created by finalists for each site.

Qualifications:

Each advisory review selection panel will select up to three finalists based on qualifications, prior work experience, applicability and creativity, and overall capacity to complete the project.

Site-Specific Proposal:

Each finalist will be awarded a \$2,250 honorarium to create a site-specific design proposal, produce a scale model and/or maquette, and to reimburse travel and shipping charges accrued. Finalists will present their proposals to the site-specific advisory review selection panel who will select one winner for the project site. The winner’s design proposal will be reviewed by the CAH Board of Commissioners, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts and various DC Government agencies for final approval.

The Artist/Lead Artist whose design is approved will then enter into an agreement with CAH for fabrication and installation of the artwork.

Selection Criteria

The advisory review panelists include individuals who are arts, humanities and/or business professionals, independent of CAH and DCOP. The role of a panelist is to review and score eligible applications based on established grant program review criteria. Panelists participate in a group review of grant applications to discuss and comment on the merits and deficiencies of applications. Application-related scores are tabulated in the presence of CAH staff and Commissioner Conveners.

CAH staff, Commissioner Conveners and panelists are to remain impartial in their review of applications. CAH ensures that all involved recuse themselves from review of any application that presents a personal or professional conflict of interest (or the appearance of a conflict of interest).

CAH's grant application evaluation process takes into consideration general standards of decency and respect for the diverse beliefs and values consistent with The National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act, as amended in 1990. For more information regarding the grant review process please visit the [Guide to Grants](#). To volunteer or nominate a person to serve as an advisory review panelist for a grant program, see CAH's [FY 2020 Call for Panelists](#).

Each of the three sites has unique programmatic criteria (SEE SITE DESCRIPTIONS), but the overall evaluation criteria that each panel will use are:

For Qualifications:

- Submittal of all required application materials as outlined in this RFQ;
- Originality: creativity and uniqueness demonstrated in previous projects;
- Quality and craftsmanship exhibited by past work;

For Site-Specific Proposals:

- Appropriateness of artwork media and scale relative to site;
- Maintainability: structural and surface soundness, durability and resistance to vandalism, weathering, excessive maintenance, and repair costs;
- Appropriateness for placement in an urban street/plaza setting, including ability for artwork to withstand public interaction;
- Playability: ability to encourage social play and creative interest;

- Incorporate context of community with sensitivity to the history, traditions and iconography that uplift the pride of the community of the specific site;
- Safety: limits risk of injury to users; and
- Feasibility: artist's proven track record/ability to complete the work on time and within the budget.

Evaluation Criteria:

Artistic Content - 60%

- The applicant's work samples and support materials demonstrate high standards of artistic excellence within the chosen discipline(s);
- Artist(s) and/or applicant's previous work exhibit high quality, innovation and creativity;
- Applicant has experience with site specific public art projects and uses personnel with demonstrated arts expertise (such as arts administrator, professional artists) to plan and implement artistic content;
- The described project, goals and schedule of planned activities are feasible;
- The applicant demonstrates a commitment to hiring DC-based artists, where applicable, to deliver artistic content (such as arts administrators, professional artists); and
- Artist(s) and/or applicant demonstrate the ability to translate artistic discipline to project participants. The Artist's portfolio of work is feasible for this particular project.

Community Engagement and Impact - 20%

- Project provides shared learning opportunities in the District that facilitate a greater participation in the arts, relative to the artistic discipline;
- Applicant demonstrates sensitivity to the cultural, ethnic and economic, background of the participants and the residents of the District of Columbia;
- Project addresses significant diversity of expression;
- Project addresses needs of the community;
- Project location(s) and presentation(s) are accessible to persons with disabilities; and
- Applicant has substantive experience working with community representatives, landscape architects, business and government entities.

Capacity and Sustainability- 20%

- The applicant is sufficiently stable, in terms of arts expertise, organizational capacity, and financial status to implement the proposed project;
- The applicant demonstrates the internal capacity to administer the project and has appropriate financial monitoring systems in place to track expenditures;
- The applicant's budget information is detailed, accurate, feasible, and directly related to the project. All items are eligible expenses; and
- The applicant has experience in producing similar public art projects.

Successful Applications

- Submit all required documents.
- Previous work samples illustrate artistic excellence in public art and large scale fabrications projects.
- Consider how the application and finalist proposals connect to the project goals.

Grant Application Process

1. Read the FY 2019 Guide to Grants.
2. Read the RFQ guidelines (for the desired grant program).
3. Determine eligibility.
4. Go to [Apply for Grants](#) and select [Grant Application Portal](#) to register as user. (Note: For previous applicants to reset a user password, select "Forgot your password?")
5. Upon registration, applicants select the desired grant program; then select the Playable Art site to which you want to apply. You may apply to multiple sites. However, a winning artist will only be awarded one site.
6. Complete the application questions and narrative data.
7. Upload all required documents, supplementary material and work samples.
8. Double-check the application for thoroughness, clarity and typographical errors.
9. Submit the application by 4:00PM ET on the grant program's deadline date.
10. Ensure receipt of the grant submission confirmation e-mail (auto-generated by the online portal) by the application deadline.

CAH utilizes an online grant portal to receive grant applications. **All applications must be submitted online by 4:00PM ET, Friday, August 23, 2019.** A confirmation email generates automatically upon submission of the application in the portal. Technical issues or failure to receive a confirmation e-mail should be immediately brought to the attention of CAH staff. Incomplete or late applications or applications that do not follow the instructions and guidelines are deemed ineligible for review and funding. CAH does not accept mailed, emailed or hand-delivered copies of grant applications and/or the required attachments. CAH will accept reasonable accommodation requests from applicants with disabilities to submit grant applications via mail, email or hand-delivery. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact David Markey at 202-724-5613 or David.Markey@dc.gov and await request approval.

CAH's grant application process is competitive and subject to the availability of funds. Applicants may not request or receive funding for the same activities through more than one CAH program or grant category. Multiple applicants may not apply for funding for the same project, whether through the same or different grant programs.

Applicants are fully responsible for the content of their application materials. An automated confirmation of an applicant's submission does not guarantee an applicant's eligibility, and therefore review by the advisory review panel (see below, "Review Process"). CAH staff is not permitted to make corrections to applications on behalf of applicants. CAH staff reviews applications for completeness and contacts applicants for any incomplete documents within five (5) business days of the deadline. Applicants are then responsible for updating their application within five (5) business days of CAH's notification. Failure to do so will disqualify the application.

The grant period is from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. Grant funds may not be used for activities that occur outside of this grant period.

Required Application Materials

Please prepare and submit the following documents to your application online:

1. **Current CV/Resume** of artist or artist team, two (2) page maximum.
2. **Artist statement** (maximum of 500 words).
3. **Five (5) to ten (10) images of previous relevant/public artwork** submitting

high quality JPG files. Image files are uploaded to the Media Viewer on the application portal.

- a. Do not use gifs, tiffs or other image formats.
 - b. If as artist team, samples of artist teams' work must be submitted identifying their samples.
 - c. Please do not embed images into PowerPoint or PDF documents.
4. **Image Identification List** of previous public artwork corresponding to the submitted images within application.
 - a. If an artist team, please differentiate to clearly define artist/s' work samples.
 - b. Please provide project budget for the
 - Identification List Example:
 - Artist Name
 - Title, Date
 - Medium
 - Location
 - Project Budget
5. **List of at least three (3) Professional References**. Please include name, address, phone number and email address for each reference.
6. All **Government compliance documents** (Artist or Lead Artist). Documents can be found at [Managing Grant Awards](#).
 - W-9 (Dated within 30 days of grant deadline)
 - Arrest and Conviction Statement
 - Statement of Certification (Dated at time of grant submission)
 - Clean Hands Certificate (Dated within 30 days of grant deadline)
 - please go to <https://ocfocleanhands.dc.gov/cch/>
 - For non-DC residents, please reach out to CAH staff members in the Public Art Department for additional assistance.

Submission Deadline- completed applications must be received and uploaded to the grants portal by 4:00PM ET on Friday, August 23, 2019. Failure to submit mandatory documents in the application will result in disqualification.

Technical Assistance

CAH staff members in the Public Art Department are available to assist grant applicants through group or individual technical assistance. CAH staff members will not write applications for applicants. However, CAH staff members are available by appointment (up to thirty (30) minutes) to review application drafts on government business days

from application release date through one (1) week prior to the grant application deadline. Applicants may contact CAH at (202) 724-5613 to schedule an application review meeting.

Notification and Payment of Honorarium Grant Award

CAH will notify applicants of this grant program as to the results of their application by Friday, September 20, 2019 via (1.) letter of conditional grant award, (2.) letter of intention to award, (3.) letter of ineligibility or (4.) letter of denial.

For award recipients, the date of CAH grant award payment disbursement(s) is subject to the availability of funds and the processing of required documentation. CAH does not disburse grant award payments through its office. However, in collaboration with other District of Columbia government agencies, and in a timely manner, CAH processes the grant award payment requests for grantees.

Allowable Costs and Funding Restrictions

As an agency of the Government of the District of Columbia, CAH ensures that its grantmaking funds are expended in a fiscally responsible manner. CAH grant-related “allowable costs” are those cost that the District Government (through its subordinate agency, CAH) has determined, in its sole discretion, to be valid expenditures.

Each applicant finalist will be awarded an honorarium of up to \$2,250 to execute their specific proposal for the panel.

Examples of “Allowable Costs”:

- Artist fee (not to exceed 20% of grant budget);
- Equipment, technological resources, materials, supplies and services directly related to the fabrication of the design proposal;
- Insurance;
- Space rental for fabrication and storage of design proposal;
- Travel or other expenses related to implementation of deliverables; and,
- Photographic and video documentation of the design proposal.

Examples of “Unallowable Costs”:

- Food and beverages;
- Sub-granting or re-granting of funds from CAH;
- Tuition and scholarships;
- College tuition expenses;
- Funds that are provided to universities, service organizations, foreign governments or District of Columbia government agencies, including DC Public Schools.
- Costs related to fundraisers and off-site special events; and,
- Travel or other expenses not directly related to executing the proposed project.

All expenses must be documented by the grantee within the grant agreement. The grant manager reviews and approves all expenses before the grant agreement is processed for payment. Grantees with questions regarding allowable costs may contact CAH’s grant program manager. The grantee will be responsible for demonstrating the cash expenses in the interim and final reports.

The grant period is from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. CAH restricts a grantee’s grant-funded activity expenses that are beyond the grant period.

Conditions of Funding and Grant Rescindment

CAH reserves the right to rescind any and all grant awards for non-compliance with CAH’s RFQ guidelines, policies or regulations, at any time. Fiscal Year 2019 grantees with unmet reporting obligations regarding previous CAH funding programs as of close of business on Monday, October 15, 2019 are ineligible to receive additional awards from CAH.

Grant Management and Rescindment

Grantee agrees that it will include a CAH logo and a credit line in all of its grant-related announcements and promotional material and that it will make its best efforts to publicly credit CAH’s support for the project in all related public events.

CAH has the right to withhold, reduce or rescind a grant award according to the terms and provisions of the grant agreement or if the grantee exercises any of the following:

- Fails to notify CAH of changes in project collaborators or other significant management changes or changes in the project scope without advance approval;
- Refuses to provide access to monitoring;
- Fails to comply with the terms of the grant award contract requirements;
- Fails to demonstrate adequate financial management and oversight of the project; and/or,
- Fails to properly publicly credit CAH's support of the funded project.

Citywide Clean Hands (CCH)

All grant award recipients must obtain a "Citywide Clean Hands Certification," from the District of Columbia's Office of Tax and Revenue at the time of application and prior to any grant award disbursement throughout the grant period. The CCH website application supports the "Clean Hands" Mandate (D. C. Code § 47-2862), which stipulates that individuals and businesses are to be denied District goods or services if there is a debt owed to the District of Columbia of more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for fees, fines, taxes or penalties. Applicants may visit the following site to obtain more information: <https://ocfocleanhands.dc.gov/cch/>.

Legal Compliance

Federal and District of Columbia law requires all grant applicants to comply with all applicable laws and regulations that regard non-discrimination. The list of those laws and regulations include:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (which provides that grantees must take adequate steps to ensure that people with limited English proficiency receive the language assistance necessary to afford them meaningful access to grant-related programs, activities and services);
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) (which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin);
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. Sections 1681-1686) (which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. Section 794);
- The DC Human Rights Act of 1977; and,

- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§12101 - 12213) (which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disabilities).

Americans with Disabilities Act

CAH is committed to ensuring that all grantees comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The ADA provides civil rights protection to individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, services rendered by state and local government, places of public accommodation, transportation and telecommunication services. Organizations funded by CAH must make reasonable accommodations to ensure that people with disabilities have equal physical and communications access, as defined by federal law.

An organization applying for funding from CAH should include, in its grant application, a response to the information request set forth in the "Accessibility" section of its grant application, by providing the following information:

1. The process for formulating accessibility plans (e.g. creating an accessibility advisory committee, board and staff disability-rights training, budgeting for reasonable accommodation requests, etc.).
2. The current progress/status of an organization's physical accessibility. If the location is not barrier-free, include in the grant application a plan for project/program modification that ensures access in a barrier-free environment, when needed.
3. The current progress/status of the organization's accessibility in presenting activities – communications access (e.g. TDD, large print or Braille materials, audio description or assistive listening devices, interpreted performances, etc.) and marketing/advertising.

Risk Management and Performance Monitoring

All grantees are subject to risk assessments and monitoring requirements, as outlined in the District's [Citywide Grants Manual and Sourcebook](#) (which is primarily managed by the District's Office of Partnerships and Grant Services (OPGS)). CAH has established standards for grantees to ensure compliance with risk assessment monitoring, and those standards are discussed in greater detail in the applicants' grant agreements with CAH.

Activities funded by CAH will be monitored and evaluated by its staff, to assure compliance with all applicable District of Columbia's statutes, regulations, orders and other requirements. This monitoring process may include site visits, evaluation of allowable costs, assessment of efforts to meet projected grant applicant benchmarks, and evidence of proof of expenditures.

All grantees are responsible for reporting their respective grant award(s) as income on federal and local tax returns (in accordance with applicable law) and are strongly encouraged to consult with a tax professional and the United States Internal Revenue Service.

Contact Information

More information regarding CAH's grant programs, and clarification about related accessibility requirements, work sample submissions and grant making processes can be found in CAH's [Guide to Grants](#).

Specific questions about the Playable Art Project` application may be referred to CAH employee Ron Humbertson at ron.humbertson@dc.gov.



PLAYABLE COMMUNITY PROFILES

SITE 1: ANACOSTIA LIBRARY

GRANT AMOUNT: UP TO \$80,000

Community Overview

Anacostia is a historic and culturally-significant neighborhood in Southeast Washington, D.C. Predominantly African-American, the neighborhood boasts the home and estate of Frederick Douglass and a thriving retail corridor – part of the District’s “Great Streets” initiative – along Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue SE. Architecturally, the neighborhood is recognized for its mid-to-late 19th century wood frame houses in Italianate, Cottage, and Queen Anne styles. The core of the neighborhood is designated as the Anacostia Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places.

In recent years, Anacostia has seen an increase in commercial and real estate investment, alongside an established artistic community.



Site Description

The site for the winning design is a grove of trees within a larger plaza that fronts the Anacostia Neighborhood Library, in Southeast Washington between Good Hope Road,

18th Street, and U Place. Along Good Hope Road, there are a number of storefront businesses, and the Anacostia Historic District and a residential neighborhood are adjacent to the library site.

The Anacostia Library, which opened in April 2010, is an inviting two-story library that features 22,000 square feet of large open spaces that create an ideal learning space for the community. The building features expansive glass walls, skylight wedges that allow abundant natural light and metal panel pavilions, and was designed by noted African-American architect and former member of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, Phil Freelon. Along with David Adjaye as lead designer, Freelon was lead architect for the \$500M Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture and is the design architect for the National Center for Civil & Human Rights in Atlanta, which opened in 2014.

The exterior of the building features a large green perforated metal canopy that extends over a large frosted glass structure and a large entrance plaza that lines Good Hope Road. A glass tower adjacent to the entry provides an attractive visual for library patrons as they arrive, while integrated stadium seating and benches provide places for outdoor reading. The Library is an active community hub, and the Anacostia Library is one of DC Public Library's most visited buildings, with almost 17,000 visitors each month. The meeting rooms and public access computers are in very frequent use.

Playable Art Design Program: "A Place for Teens"

The winning design will provide local young adults with an attractive and engaging place to socialize and be creative. The Anacostia site provides a unique opportunity to create a space geared towards teens rather than young children, and the winning design could uniquely incorporate elements involving multi-player games, the performing arts or physical activity. Additionally, the Anacostia Library has a strong interest in promoting themes of literacy and creating spaces that are conducive to outdoor reading and outdoor youth workshops hosted by library staff

The final artwork could be a surface treatment that takes advantage of the entire plaza or be more focused and sculptural within the grove of trees, but in all cases specific attention should be paid to creating a design that compliments the architecture of the library. Special attention should be paid to ensuring library staff can monitor the space through the preservation of sight lines. Finally, artists are encouraged to think of creative processes to engage local youth in the design process and create a sense of ownership in the Playable Art.

SITE 2: GREENWAY NEIGHBORHOOD

GRANT AMOUNT: UP TO \$80,000

Community Overview

Greenway is a medium density residential neighborhood along Minnesota Avenue in Ward 7. To the north of the site are walk-up apartments that were constructed in the 1940's as a housing project for war time workers from which the neighborhood draws its name. To the south and western of the site are single family detached housing developed during the beginning of the 20th century. There are 10,829 people living within a half mile of the proposed playable site, 18.4% of which are under the age of nine years old, and 53.4% of the households in the area are family households. 30.5% of the people living earn below the poverty level.



Site Description

The site for the winning design is a small triangle park at the corner of Minnesota Avenue and D street SE. The site is in close proximity to Kimbell Elementary School and is surrounded by a mix of walk-up style apartment buildings and single-family housing. The site is currently grass lawn with a few shade trees around its edges and a

stand of trees in the center. A frequently used bus stop and shelter are located at the tip of the park at Minnesota and 34th Street. The park slopes slightly (~4') from SE to NW.

Playable Art Design Program – “Imaginative Children’s Play”

The goal for the design is to create a placemaking feature that will help transform this currently passive park into a more vibrant neighborhood gathering place. Given the proximity to the neighborhood elementary school and the high percentage of children under the age of nine, a major focus of the playable feature should be geared towards active and imaginative children’s play. Focus on creative ways the artwork can engage all ages in play so parents, grandparents, and care givers can become active participants in play and enjoyment of the artwork.

Design should include ways to relate the artwork to the bus stop at the corner to engage the notion of “play along the way” that seeks to make every day experiences more playful experiences. The artwork should be limited to a footprint of no more than 225 SF.

SITE 3: KENNEDY STREET NEIGHBORHOOD

GRANT AMOUNT: UP TO \$60,000

Community Overview

Kennedy Street is a long-standing, commercial corridor within the converging neighborhoods of South Manor Park, Brightwood, Brightwood Park and Petworth in Ward 5. Referred to by many residents as “having the bones of a really great main street,” the mile long corridor has the potential to be a thriving, neighborhood-serving retail hub. With notable buying power in the surrounding neighborhoods, and continued, small-scaled, catalytic improvements stemming from the Council-approved 2008 Kennedy Street Revitalization Small Area Plan, the corridor is envisioned to have revived neighborhood-serving businesses, and family-centric activities.

The District of Columbia Government has secured approximately \$6 million in federal and city funds to build significant streetscape improvements, pedestrian connections and other amenities as recommended in the Small Area Plan. Public investments such as this, coupled with innovative and creative activities, such as Playable Art DC, are important and notable indicators.



Site Description

The Kennedy Street Playable Art site is a small grassy plot of public space at the corner of the intersection of 5th Street NW and Kennedy Street. The site now serves as a place to wait for the bus, but the location is ideal for a well-designed playable art piece to become one of the most visible amenities in this vibrant community.

The site has recently undergone a major streetscape enhancement to add new brick sidewalks, bike racks, seating areas, and street trees. As part of the streetscape project, there is the potential enhance the placemaking potential of the Playable Art project.

Playable Art Design Program: “An Outdoor Community Gathering Spot”

One of the key desires of the Kennedy Street community is the creation of outdoor social spaces, or “third places”, where community members can gather. On a street with a notable absence of public land, even small spaces like the project site are important to facilitate the cross-generational and cross-cultural interactions between the diverse groups of people living nearby. Residents wish for a playable art piece that is beautiful and able to stand the test of time both in terms of durability and style. The selected artwork should help create a welcoming place that is playful, promotes socializing, and potentially incorporate nature elements.

The community also desires a piece that incorporates playful elements for children. Artists are encouraged to look at forms of play that engage children’s curiosity including interactive and acoustic play elements. Since this green space is located at a busy intersection with a major bus stop and an adjacent parking lot, it is critical that the artist factors in safety when designing this unique play space.

There is an overwhelming hope that a beautiful, significant piece of playable art will serve as evidence of the diversity of groups living in this community will be aid in bringing them closer together as neighbors.

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