

# CULTURAL COALITION

-serving southeastern & northeastern CT

P.O. Box 95, New London, CT 06320 | (860) 448-5135 | info@CultureSECT.org | www.CultureSECT.org

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## REQUEST FOR CONCEPTS (RFC): Call for Artists for Public Art Project in City of Norwich, CT

June 8, 2023

### Purpose

The City of Norwich Public Art Committee (NPAC) is an ad hoc committee formed to support the Cultural Coalition's administration of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from the City of Norwich for investment in arts and culture. The NPAC is looking for artists to share design concepts for a public art project to be located on the roundabout at Franklin Square in downtown Norwich, CT.

### Project Description

This public art feature will be a hybrid installation made up of permanent infrastructure that will be utilized for temporary and changing art, such as digital technology, 3-D art, sculptures, etc.

The city is looking for concepts for a permanent structure – tree, support, base, or sculpture - to be located on the center of the Franklin Square roundabout – with a changeable display element for temporary art installations, such as projections, lighting, colors, etc. Temporary elements allow for the artwork to be changed to be relevant, timely and community-oriented based on themes, such as celebrations, local/national events, timely topics, holidays, unity, etc.

The artwork will be installed on the roundabout and must be confined to that space. Concepts should be mindful of the vehicular traffic around the roundabout. Minimizing the footprint of the permanent structure should be considered and is strongly encouraged. Electricity and water are available. The existing flagpole will not be removed and the concept could be integrated into design. Public art shall not encourage congregation of people on the roundabout or be a perceived invitation to interact with structure.

**Total budget for creation, manufacturing and installation of structure and elements for changeable art is \$25,000.** Concept should include a mechanism for changing art, such as projector, lighting, etc.

All applicants should refer to [The Norwich Public Art Committee's Values Statement](#) before submitting.

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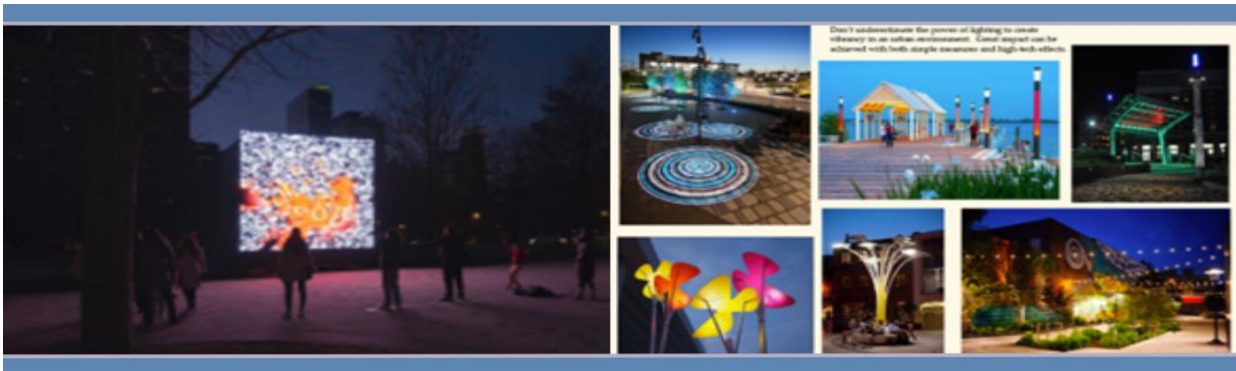
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## Photos of Franklin Square Roundabout



## Examples of Concepts



## Who is Eligible?

The project is open to all artists, age 18 and over, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental disability.

- An artist or a collaboration of artists are eligible to be applicants.
- The Cultural Coalition utilizes the lens of [READI](#) – Relevance, Equity, Accessible, Diverse, Inclusive – in our programs & activities, in alignment with CT Office of the Arts policy and national best practices.
- BIPOC – Black, Indigenous, People of Color – are strongly encouraged to apply.
- Norwich artists are encouraged to submit. Applicants can be located from outside the City of Norwich.

## Who is Not Eligible?

- Applicants who are under 18 years of age.
- Applicants with local, State, or Federal tax delinquencies, other delinquent fees, or open regulatory violations are not eligible.

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## Review Process

Concepts will be submitted to the Cultural Coalition and eligible entries will be reviewed by the Norwich Public Art Committee. The review criteria will focus on how the proposals help beautify the downtown, add to our sense of place, and further the storytelling related to our shared history, commonalities as current residents, and future of our diverse community. **The top three concepts will be asked to submit a full proposal (additional guidelines provided) and be paid \$1,000 each to develop and prepare a more detailed proposal.**

Full proposals will be reviewed by the City of Norwich and follow the City's procurement process and contracting terms and conditions. Full proposal submissions must include a full budget and any required insurance. Final selection to be approved by City Manager, City Council with touchpoints (recommendation) from Monuments Committee, Public Works Department and Capital Improvement Committee.

The three selected artists will have three months to develop a full proposal and receive \$1,000 for a completed proposal. Final selection is expected in early 2024 with Public Art Installation ideally for spring 2024.

All materials submitted are confidential and are not distributed outside of the review process.

## RFC Submission Process

To submit please email the following to Sarbani Hazra at [s.hazra@culturesect.org](mailto:s.hazra@culturesect.org) by **Friday, September 8th, 2023 by 5:00pm:**

- Your name, address, and contact information (email and phone)
- A rendering of the concept (drawing, digital design, photo, etc.)
- A short, written narrative explaining the vision for the public art structure and accompanying mechanism to display changing installations, artistic designs, etc.
- Include in the narrative acknowledgement that the project can be achieved for a total budget of \$25,000, including materials, fabrication, installation, artist fees, etc.
- Information about you as an artist and how we can learn more about you (social media links, website, etc.)
- Examples of previous works are also appreciated

If you have any questions or need additional information about this Request for Concepts, please email Sarbani Hazra at [s.hazra@culturesect.org](mailto:s.hazra@culturesect.org). **If you need special accommodations in submitting your concept, please contact Sarbani Hazra as soon as possible.**

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