



Request for Qualifications: Murals in Downtown Simpsonville

City of Simpsonville
118 N.E. Main St.
Simpsonville, S.C. 29681

Call Type: Public Art

Eligibility: National

State: South Carolina

Submission Deadline: June 30, 2020

Contact: Dianna Gracely, City Administrator

Contact Email: dianna@simpsonville.com

Contact Phone: 864-967-9526

PROJECT DETAILS & BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The City of Simpsonville is a municipality of more than 23,000 people in Greenville County. Downtown Simpsonville is retaining its small-town charm in the midst of positive smart growth with recent improvements, such as an alleyway with an outdoor seating area, and a new section of the Swamp Rabbit Trail. Simpsonville rebranded in 2019 with the new tagline “Simply Home,” new logo and new icon.

THEME

While the artist/s will have artistic freedom to explore the themes of their choosing, the chosen theme should capture the small-town charm of the City of Simpsonville and evoke a sense of pride in residents and awe in visitors. The City’s tagline “Simply Home” is a great starting point for conceiving a theme.

INTERACTIVITY

The murals should contain elements of interactivity that encourage the public to engage with the artwork. The artist/s should create murals that present photo opportunities to the public in unique and innovative ways.

LOCATIONS

One mural will be located in the alleyway off South Main Street. The second mural will be located on the opposite side of the same building, facing visitors as they come into downtown on the Swamp Rabbit Trail or along South Main Street.

ELIGIBILITY

Artists who are at least 18 years old are eligible to respond to the Request for Qualifications. Artists who possess a strong portfolio of work, have experience in conceiving, designing and creating murals and are able to work within a prescribed budget are encouraged to respond to the RFQ. Experience working in downtowns and/or with local government is preferred.

REQUIREMENTS

- Resume
- Letter of Interest no longer than 500 words describing professional experience, style of artwork and interest in the project.
- Three (3) to five (5) images of completed work demonstrating an ability to conceptualize, design, create and paint large-scale outdoor murals (do not collate multiple images into one image)
- Brief description of proposed materials for site preparation, actual work and protective coatings
- Two (2) professional references that include name, title, address, relationship, phone number and email address
- Optional: Up to three (3) support materials, such as reviews, news articles or other relevant information

SELECTION PROCESS

Submissions will be judged and scored on the following measures with a maximum score of 100 points:

- *Artistic Excellence* (40 points): The artist's work reflects artistic excellence, innovation and originality as evidenced by quality of craftsmanship and a master of skills and techniques; demonstrates professional approaches to processes and presentation and communicates a unique vision or perspective
- *Professional Experience* (30 points): The artist's professional experience is adequate to meet the demands of the project, including a proven ability to meet project budgets and deadlines and perform work in a timely and professional manner. Public art experience is required.
- *Experience Working on a Project of Similar Scale* (30 points): Previous work that can specifically demonstrate the successful completion of projects that include partnering with stakeholders for the purpose of creating public art of this size and scale. Experience with public engagement is a plus.

Artist submissions will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of city officials, local artists and business owners who will work with the artist/s on conceptualization and implementation. One artist may be selected to complete both murals, or two artists may be selected to complete one mural each.

TIMELINE

- Request for Qualifications issued: June 1, 2020
- Request for Qualifications due: June 30, 2020
- Artist/s notified: July 20, 2020
- Contract/s awarded: Aug. 28, 2020 or upon acceptance of artist's proposal
- Target start of project: Sept. 14, 2020
- Target completion date: Oct. 16, 2020

Note: If one artist is chosen to complete both murals, the target completion date will be altered. Artists should assume all deadlines are firm, but dates are subject to change, and artists will be notified in writing.

PROJECT BUDGET

The budget for each mural is \$5,000. The allotted budget includes all artist fees, costs associated with design, fabrication and creation, all tools and materials required, travel, transportation to the site, site preparation, insurance, installation, shipping and transporting materials to the site, mural protective coating, equipment needed for installation, applicable taxes, time spent in progress meetings and any other costs incurred by the artist for the projects. Artists will be asked to develop an all-inclusive itemized budget as part of the proposal submission.

Payments will be made directly to the artist/s using the following schedule:

- 25% of total agreed upon fee is paid when contract is signed
- 75% of total agreed upon fee is paid upon project completion

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Responses to the RFQ may be submitted electronically by emailing submissions to City Administrator Dianna Gracely at dianna@simpsonville.com or mailing the response to the below address:

Attn: Dianna Gracely
Re: RFQ Murals
118 N.E. Main St.
Simpsonville, S.C. 29681

NOTE: Submitted materials will not be returned, and incomplete applications may not be considered.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All materials must be received by 12 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on June 30, 2020; incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

QUESTIONS

Please direct all questions or requests for assistance to City Administrator Dianna Gracely at dianna@simpsonville.com.