



Call to Artists

Champaign-Urbana Sculpture Competition

The Public Art League (PAL) and City of Champaign in Illinois, are seeking artists to participate in the First Annual Sculpture Competition.

Sculpture entries will be judged, selected and then need to be delivered to the unveiling Ceremony August 20, 2010. They will be displayed at the Champaign Park District's "**Downtown Festival of the Arts**" August 21, then be available for a two year installation, during which time we will attempt to arrange purchase for the Art as part of a permanent public/private collection in our community.

PAL and the City of Champaign reserve the right to determine the locations and number of sculptures that will be mounted into the downtown streetscape and Second Street Sculpture Park for exhibition from August 2010 - August 2012. Artwork will be selected to compliment its surroundings and will be displayed to serve as major visual anchor points, community identity and a statement that Creativity and Art are of vital importance to our existence in Central Illinois.

PAL Goals:

- 1) Promote a Creative environment in Champaign Urbana with a tangible display of Sculpture in the public domain and develop a permanent collection in our town.**
- 2) To support the artists who create these great works of art with the promotion and sale of these Sculptures, which enables them to continue to produce their art.**

Schedule

July 16, 2010, 5:00 p.m. Friday, Deadline for Entries:

July 23, Notification to Artists of Winning Entries

August 20th 9:00 am Friday, Delivery of Sculptures to Downtown Champaign, IL

August 20, 2010, 6-10:00 pm Sculpture unveiling Ceremony and Celebration

August 21, 2010 Saturday, Downtown Festival of Art

August 22-25, 2010, Install sculptures, weather permitting

August 2012 De-installation of unsold sculptures

Budget

The total budget for each selected and awarded entry is \$1,500.00. This honorarium amount is to cover artist expenses such as the temporary loan of the artwork, transportation to and from the exhibition site, any insurance needed for artwork transport and exhibition, and artist fees for on-site availability during installation and de-installation. PAL, The City of Champaign and Business sponsors will provide logistical and staff support for site preparation and costs associated with the physical installation and promotional events and materials.

Artist Eligibility

The Sculpture Competition is open to all professional visual artists, aged 18 and older, with public art experience that is commensurate with this project's scope and budget. Professional artists are defined as a practicing fine artist, generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional of serious intent and ability. Indications of a person's status as a professional artist may include, but are not limited to: income realized through the commission or sale of artwork, frequent or consistent art exhibitions, placement of artwork in public institutions or museums, receipt of honors and awards and training in the arts. There is not a limit on the number of entries submitted by one artist.

Artists living in the Champaign-Urbana area are strongly encouraged to apply for this project. Selection panelists and their immediate family members are not eligible for participation.

Artwork Themes

There are no mandated themes for the artwork. There is a strong desire for artwork that reflects the cultural arts, diversity of our community and creativity. An important aspect of locating the artwork in downtown Champaign is to provide an identity for a cultural arts district, surrounding businesses and support the City's downtown rejuvenation efforts. The entry of pieces with an overtly political, racial, sexual, religious or offensive nature are discouraged.

Artwork Qualities

Artists must submit original, pre-existing artworks for temporary loan, exhibition and sale. There are no recommended materials but the artists should consider the viability of the work's structure and appearance and ability to be displayed outdoors for many years. Due to the municipal and commercial activity in downtown Champaign, the artwork must be compatible with its surroundings, structures and pedestrian traffic. Art that may be hazardous, sharp or dangerous to the public or are easily vandalized, ruined or stolen are discouraged. PAL reserves the right to determine the viability of each piece.

All artwork must be durable and require limited to no maintenance. A statement of recommended maintenance for a 24-month period will be required for all submissions. The Champaign area is hot and humid with intense sunlight, periodic rain, thunderstorms and high winds during the summer, and very cold with frequent sub-zero temperatures during the winter. Materials that are sensitive to severe weather, rust and fading should be adequately protected.

Artist Responsibilities

Artists selected to temporarily exhibit their art work as part of 2010-12 Sculpture Competition and exhibition will be responsible for:

- Transportation of artwork to and from the exhibition site;
- Assistance and supervision of the installation and de-installation of unsold art;
- Availability for public information, educational interviews and materials;

Insurance

Insurance covering the Art Works selected in the Sculpture Competition is as follows:

- General Liability Insurance will be provided.
- No insurance is provided by PAL or the City of Champaign for the value of the Art Work, however artists may provide their own policies, if desired.

Location Details

The City of Champaign is experiencing a revitalization of its downtown core. This is the result of streetscape renovations in downtown Champaign. The Sculpture Competition is aimed at redefining the City's downtown as a destination spot within a cultural arts district spanning Champaign, Urbana, and the University of Illinois. The revitalization of downtown Champaign features a pedestrian-friendly environment with newly landscaped sidewalks with decorative lighting, bike racks, medians, and areas for public art.

Selection Process and Criteria

This public art exhibition is open to all qualified professional artists aged 18 and over regardless of such characteristics as, but not limited to, race, color, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental disability. The Public Art League Selection Panel will review all eligible artist submissions and consists of: Members of the Public Art League Board of Directors; Two (2) artists or arts professionals (designer, curator, collector, public art administrator, etc.); One (1) representative from the city department associated with the project; One (1) representative from the community.

Artists will be asked to provide artwork for the Competition and exhibition. Their selection may be based upon these criteria:

- Artistic excellence and originality as evidenced by their entries, representations of past works, artistic career and other materials;
- Appropriateness of the artist's vision, medium, style, and experience;
- Involvement with projects of a similar scale and scope.
- Appropriateness in a public environment

Notification

Finalists will be notified of their selection by e-mail and will be awarded an honorarium of \$1,500.00 to furnish, install, and de-install a unique artwork for the duration of the exhibition. If multiple pieces are selected from one artist an honorarium will be awarded for each piece.

Lease Agreement

A signed 2 year lease agreement will be required after the selection process, before the honorarium is disbursed.

PUBLIC ART LEAGUE BOARD MEMBERS

James Barham, Lawrence Hamlin, Brian Knox, Casey Loving, Eric Robeson, and, David B. Wilcoxon.

NOTE: the Public Art League and City of Champaign selection panel reserve the right to reject any proposals, to waive proposal informalities, or to terminate the selection process at any time for any project.

Questions and Additional Information

For questions and additional information, please contact the Public Art League at (217) 355-3700 or by e-mail to publicartleague@gmail.com.

CITY OF CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

The City of Champaign, Illinois is a micro-urban community located in east-central Illinois. Home to one of the world's great public research universities—and on a highly accelerated development track—Champaign-Urbana has emerged as a leading exemplar of micro-urbanism. Although the term “micro-urban” does not yet appear in the formal lexicon of urban planning or economic development in the following manner of speaking, it applies to population centers of 250,000 or less that possess a highly uncommon set of desirable attributes normally exclusively associated with much larger metropolitan centers. Among these are a vibrant arts/culture/nightlife scene, an internationally diverse population, a strong technology base, and a palpably animated public discourse on major societal and global concerns, such as sustainability and the environment.

Deeply rooted in the heart of the American prairie, micro-urban Champaign-Urbana is home to Nobel Prize winners, Olympians, critically acclaimed international film and music festivals, world-renowned entrepreneurs, elite chefs, the nation's newest major marathon, the newest and most powerful supercomputer in the world, radical transformers of the Internet, one of the nation's elite public high schools, leading environmental scientists, the world's premier university-based performing arts complex, numerous inventions that have changed lives for the better around the globe, a long line of distinguished artists, designers, architects, and landscape architects, and much more.

Smart, innovative, globally connected, and culturally rich, Champaign-Urbana is a micro-urban center on the rise.

<http://micro-urbanist.com/video.html>

**PAL Sculpture Competition
2010 Entry Form**
(Please submit one entry form for each entry)
Entry Deadline is July 16, 2010 5:00 pm

Artist's name _____ Ph # _____

Address _____ Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Web Site (if Applicable) _____

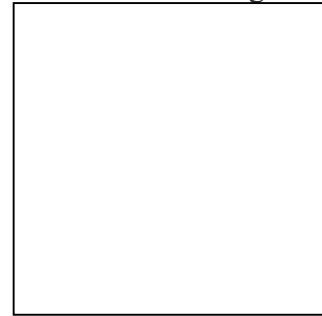
Title of Sculpture _____ Date of completion _____

Media _____ Sale Price \$ _____

Dimensions: Height _____ Width _____ Depth _____ Weight _____

A one or two sentence description of the artwork (if desired).

Thumbnail image



To be considered complete, an application must contain the following:

- A current professional resume or curriculum vitae, with an emphasis on public art. The resume must be printed on white paper and should be no more than three pages.
- A written statement and diagram with measurements, outlining installation requirements.
- Maintenance requirements for the entry for the next two years.
- At least 4 images (One from all four sides), and not more than 8 images of each entry.
- At least two images of previously completed art work.
- Digital images must be send on a CD in PDF format with a resolution of no greater than 300 dpi, 600 x 800. All images **must** correspond with an image list. All images must be labeled as follows: artist's last name_first initial_image#.pdf (ex. smith_a_01.PDF)

Sculptures must be available for sale. PAL will collect a 25% commission on the sale of sculptures. Pricing should be made accordingly.

CDs must be sent in a durable protective case clearly labeled with PAL Sculpture '10 and the artist's first and last name (e.g. PAL Sculpture '10, John Doe)

How to Apply: DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL ARTWORK.

INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS *WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.*

Entries received after 5:00 pm on July 16 will not be considered.

Mail applications to: PAL, 117 B East University Ave., Champaign, Illinois 61820