
Opportunity for Vallejo and Benicia Artists

Sponsored SolTrans and Vallejo Center for the Arts (Formerly VCAF)

Professional Development and Workshops on Public Art

8 of the artists selected will also be paid honorariums and living stipends and the opportunity to build their experience and portfolios in public art.

(6 of the artist openings will be reserved for artists of color to best reflect our diversity.)

Project Description

SolTrans wishes to enhance its Vallejo Transit Center with four to six public sculptures. The project will use participatory design and community built processes to connect community members to public art. As part of the process, the project will provide training, mentorship and resources for local artists with a special emphasis on artists of color. There is a need to create symbols of pride that connect our citizens and the community through public art that celebrates our diversity and revitalizes our city.

Professional Development and Workshops to Build Sculptures

The workshops are divided in two parts.

1. Tuesday nights at the Empress Theater, February 2nd - March 23rd

A ten-week series of professional development talks and design development for the public art at the Transit Center will take place at the Empress Theater and will be Covid-19 compliant. Workshops will cover all aspects of creating public art, and a multitude of ways of making a living as an artist. Community artist mentors, with a lifetime of practical experience, will serve as faculty and also as potential future resources. The eight selected artists will develop design proposals for the Transit Center sculptures and will be paid an honorarium of \$1,000 for their participation and proposals. This is an opportunity to develop successful portfolios and gain essential knowledge and experience in the field. Vallejo and Benicia artists not selected will also be invited to attend the workshops at the Empress Theater.

2. "Artists Boot Camp". The selected artists will work as a team at a 1/2 acre Vallejo Artist studio to create and install the selected sculptures for the Transit Center. Hands on training will take place daily for selected participants. Specialty workshops on subjects like hand-carved clay tile will also be open to Vallejo and Benicia Artists that are not selected. The exact time in the summer will be determined by additional grants being written to supplement SolTrans funding. The workshops and building of

the sculptures will take place over twenty days during next summer. The eight artists fully participating will each receive a living stipend of \$4,000.

Future Possibilities:

Grant applications have been written to the National Endowment for the Arts and are being written to the California Arts Board and other granting sources. Funds are being sought for creating artwork at bus stops throughout Vallejo and Benicia. The selected artists will potentially become team leaders for these projects based on funding raised. The potential for the project to grow into a permanent cooperative arts group like Chicago Public Art or Precita Eyes is a possibility.

Selection Information:

Project Guidelines:

- * The project is open to all artists who are at least 18 years of age living and working in Vallejo and Benicia. 2D and 3D experience welcome.
- * Artists will be selected on the basis of their artwork and ability to work with other artists and the community.
- * Desire to grow as an artist and contribute to your community is essential.

RFQ Application Requirements:

Application Requirements: Interested artists may submit their application by sending an email with the following information to renayconlin@vallejoarts.org

Please include:

1. Letter of interest. Introduce yourself and describe why you are interested in the project. Any relevant experience creating public art is welcome but not essential.
2. Name
3. Address
4. Telephone number
5. Email
6. Ten digital images of artwork you have created. (Check digital size for email)
7. Any website links you may have. (not essential)
8. Current professional résumé

Note: If you need any assistance with this application please contact us for help.

How to Apply:

To Apply Please Send Email with RFQ application requirements to:

renayconlin@vallejoarts.org or Visit

Community, Diversity & Connection on the VCAF website.

Selection Process: A diverse committee comprised of representatives from SolTrans and the arts community will be assembled for the selection process.

Application Deadline: November 15, 2020 by midnight. Overnight or express delivery is not permitted.

Interviews with finalists : Begin on December 1.

Notification of Finalists: December 15, 2020

February 2: Six Tuesday workshops on the new program and principals of public art and community involvement are held.

February 2 – March 23: Workshops and development of models for Transit Center sculptures.

April: Gallery opening of artists work

April: SolTrans Selection Committee meets

“Artist’s Boot Camp” 2021: Exact dates to be determined for the workshops and creation of the sculptures for the transit center.

Honorariums: \$1,000 honorariums given to each of the selected artist team members for participation and creating design proposals.

\$4,000. Living stipend for active participation in the “Artists Boot Camp” to create and install the sculptures at the Transit Center.

Questions:

For questions, please contact renayconlin@vallejoarts.org