



Front view of existing site at 650 Main St.

EDMONDS LIBRARY PROJECT CALL-TO-ARTISTS City of Edmonds, WA Request for Proposals [RFP]

The City of Edmonds Arts Commission is seeking an artist or artist-led team to create a site-specific commission for the Main Street entry area outside the City owned Edmonds Sno-Isle Library building, Edmonds WA. The artist for this commission will be selected through an open call process review of qualifications, with the final artwork decided on the basis of paid, competitive proposals.

Project budget: \$110,000

Three finalists will each be paid \$1,100 to attend an orientation and to develop and present a design proposal.

Eligibility: Open to professional artists living in WA, OR, CA or BC.

Deadline: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 (*final dates TBD*)

Application: On-line application through Submittable is required.

<https://cityofedmondsartscommission.submittable.com/submit>

OPPORTUNITY

The City of Edmonds Arts Commission is seeking an artist or artist-led team to design, fabricate and install site-specific artwork for the exterior entry area of the Edmonds Library building. The Library is an important gathering place for the community located two blocks east of the center of town and adjacent to the Frances Anderson Center. The Edmonds Plaza Room and patio are located above the Library. With a large sculpture by Everett DuPen and spectacular views of Puget Sound, they are used for weddings, memorials, conferences and the annual Edmonds Arts Festival. A wide variety of visual, literary, and performing arts events take place within this important cluster of cultural facilities.

Designated as the State's first Certified Creative District in late 2018, downtown Edmonds is a hub for cultural activities and creative businesses. The Library is within the Creative District boundaries.

The Edmonds Library is part of the Sno-Isle Libraries, where "Everyone in our community is connected to their library." The mission of the 23 community-based libraries is to: "Engage and inspire our communities through equitable access to knowledge and resources." The artwork should reflect the spirit and function of the Edmonds Library and its role as a "third place" gathering space for the community. The work should appeal to a public of all ages and backgrounds, and reflect the community values of inclusiveness, access and engagement.

SITE LOCATION

The Library building is a two-story cement block structure built in the 1960s. The removal of the obsolete book drop structure is opening up possibilities to commission this artwork. There are several potential locations for the art, including the landscaped area north of the main entry doors of the Library that lead out to Main Street and the parking lots on either side of the building; raised beds on the east side adjacent to an ADA ramp, steps to the parking lot and stairs to the plaza area above; and the landscaped area west of the sidewalk next to windows into the children's section of the Library.

The commission may be for a single element or a series of elements that work in conjunction with entry access, landscaping and building.

BUDGET

The budget of \$110,000 is available for the design, fabrication and installation of the artwork. The budget includes, but is not limited to: artist fees, materials, fabrication, storage, delivery, foundation design, site preparation and foundation construction, insurance, travel, and sales tax. Some basic site preparation will be provided by the City and the selected artist/artist team will be encouraged to work closely with the City Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services staff on integrating the proposed artwork into the Library property and landscape.

SELECTION PROCESS

The artist for this commission will be selected through an open call process, with the final artwork decided on the basis of competitive proposals. The selection panel will be composed of members representing the City Council, Arts Commission, City Staff, Edmonds Library, citizens-at-large, and arts professional.

Based on review of qualifications, the artist selection panel will select up to three finalists to prepare site-specific design proposals. Finalists will receive an in-depth orientation so that they can fully understand the context before preparing their proposal materials. The panel will reconvene to review the finalists' proposals and select one artist for the commission.

Finalists will each receive a \$1,100 stipend to attend the orientation, develop a conceptual design proposal, and present the proposal to the selection panel. In addition to the proposal fee, out-of-town finalists will be reimbursed for approved travel and lodging costs for two trips to Edmonds to participate in the orientation and proposal presentation.

The selected artist will be required to present their proposal to the Edmonds City Council for approval. Approved travel costs for the selected artist to present their proposal in person will also be paid by the City in addition to the proposal development fee.

Proposals not selected will remain the property of the finalists.

SCHEDULE (final dates TBD)

Selection Process

Call for Artists Released	Wednesday March 11, 2020
Deadline for Entry	Wednesday April 8, 2020
Selection Panel Meeting #1	Friday April 24, 2020
Notification of Finalists	Tuesday May 5, 2020
Finalist Orientation	TBD (May 7 – 11, 2020) *
Presentation of Proposal at Public Meeting	TBD – (June 25 – June 30)
Notification of Selected Proposal	TBD - July
Presentation of Selected Proposal at City Council with Public Hearing	TBD – July/Aug

*Applicants should be available in this timeframe to participate in an in-person site orientation if selected as a finalist.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING FINALISTS

Finalists will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Strong, innovative approach to design as demonstrated in the submitted application materials;
- Experience in creating durable works of art for exterior sites;
- Perceived ability to create an engaging, welcoming experience;
- Perceived ability to engage people of all ages and backgrounds.

The selection panel reserves the right to make no selection from the submitted applications or finalist interviews. The panel's recommendations are subject to approval by the Edmonds Arts Commission and Edmonds City Council.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

- **Cover Letter** – In 500 words or less, describe your interest and abilities relative to the commission goals, and how you would approach this commission considering your past work. Consider the selection criteria as it relates to your experience and interests. **Applicants are NOT asked to submit a proposal as part of the initial application.**
- **Résumé** – Two-page (maximum) current professional résumé. Keep formatting as simple as possible. PDF is preferred; text (.txt) files also accepted. Teams should upload one document with two-page résumés for each team member. References should be included.
- **Work Samples** – Ten digital images or a combination of digital still images and video.
 - **Digital Images:** Submit up to 10 digital images of past work. If applying as a team, a maximum of 10 images may be submitted, inclusive of all team members. Upload JPG files only; images must be under 2 MB in size, 1920 pixels on the longest side, and at least 72 dpi.
 - **Audio/Video:** Submit up to five (5) video/audio samples if these media relate to your art practice (i.e., to show kinetic artwork, gradations of light or sound-based art). Audio samples must be submitted via [SoundCloud](#) with the specific URL (e.g., soundcloud.com/29523) noted on the Work Sample Upload page. Video samples must be submitted via [Vimeo](#) or [YouTube](#), with the specific URL (e.g., vimeo.com/2992575) noted on the Work Sample Upload page. All submissions must be publicly accessible (password protected files will not be accepted).
Timed excerpts are preferred, but longer samples may be submitted with notation in the description field of specific start and stop time for a cumulative run time of up to 5 minutes. Please include the start and stop times for excerpted audio/video samples at the beginning of the descriptive text.

Questions - For more information on this project, please contact Frances Chapin, City of Edmonds Arts & Culture Manager, (425) 771-0228 or frances.chapin@edmondswa.gov
www.edmondsartscommission.org