



City of Fargo
Call for Artists
Water Tower Project
Public Art Commission Opportunity

Call Statement

The City of Fargo Arts and Culture Commission (ACC) is currently seeking qualifications from interested artists to develop an image for installation on a new water tower in Fargo, North Dakota. This public art opportunity includes development and implementation of community engagement that directly informs a design for the water tower.

Summary

- Project Goal: Design for water tower art; develop and lead a community engagement process that directly informs design.
- Location: Near the intersection of 7th Avenue North and University Drive North; Fargo, ND.
- Compensation: Artist/artist team compensation is a flat rate of up to \$20,000 (this is outside of installation costs).
- Submission Deadline: July 24, 4:00 PM CDT
- Anticipated Timeline: July - proposals due; finalist interviews; selection and contract execution. August/September - community engagement. End of October - design deadline. Spring 2021 - tower construction begins. Fall 2021 - artist/team coordination with contractor. Spring 2022 - tower completion.

About Fargo

With a population of 122,359, Fargo is the most populous city in North Dakota and is the core city of the Fargo-Moorhead, ND-MN Metropolitan Statistical Area, which contains an overall population of 241,356. The City of Fargo serves as a regional economic hub for the Upper Midwest with a robust and diverse economy having specific strengths in the medical, agricultural, education, entrepreneurial, and retail industries. The community has continually been recognized among the best places in the country to live, work, attend school, and conduct business. For more information, visit www.FargoND.Gov.

Fargo Arts and Culture Commission and Public Art Master Plan

In 2015, the City established the Arts and Culture Commission (ACC), an outgrowth of the City's in-depth Go2030 comprehensive planning effort adopted in 2012. The Arts and Culture Commission makes recommendations to the Fargo City Commission regarding public art investments by the City and encourages participation in public art by all citizens, developers and property owners. The Arts and Culture Commission is committed to increasing the City of Fargo's access to the creation of public art,

and works to expand and facilitate arts development, provide opportunities for local and emerging artists and promote the creative capacity of Fargo.

Fargo’s Public Art Master Plan was developed in 2016 as an actionable tool that provides a road map for the City Commission, the ACC, City departments, program staff, artists, community stakeholders, and others interested in helping grow the future of Fargo. The plan recognizes the importance of balancing the leadership of City-initiated projects with nurturing grassroots efforts developed by individuals, neighborhood groups, local businesses and others seeking to enhance the public realm.

About This Opportunity

Artist/team is expected to develop and lead community engagement, use the process and/or results to directly inform the design, and create an image for the water tower.

The final design proposal for the water tower should be in line with the theme of “community”. The ideal design will highlight the unity of Fargo’s people and the spirit of the evolving metro area.

In light of the public health pandemic, the City seeks to utilize a robust virtual campaign to gather input and feedback from community members. The selected artist/team will be familiar with virtual platforms and include an explanation of how they will use them to interact with the public.

- Site: Near the intersection of 7th Avenue North and University Drive North; Fargo, ND.



- Expectations
 - Lead, develop and implement the project while working independently.
 - Must be willing to incorporate “Fargo” or any other slogan or logo associated with the City.
 - Quality community engagement that utilizes virtual platforms to solicit input is a priority.

- Coordination of design concept(s) with City staff at onset and during development.
 - Collaborate with technical staff and consultants as necessary to ensure art is able to be implemented, including technical and budgetary considerations.
 - Final approved design in .tiff or Adobe Illustrator format.
 - Coordinate with construction contractor prior to and during installation of design.
 - Present to City boards or commissions (minimum of two).
 - Physically painting Art on water tower is not included in the scope of project.
- Water Tower Tank Dimensions: Water tower tank is anticipated to have a 101' diameter and an approximate area of 40' x 320' for design. Note that size is subject to change and will be determined once final tank dimensions are agreed upon by City, Manufacturer, and Engineer.

Compensation

Artist/artist team stipend is a flat rate of up to \$20,000.

Deadline

Submissions are due by July 24, 2020.

Application Requirements

Artists are to submit an electronic version of the proposal to the City to Planning@FargoND.Gov. Submittals must be submitted by July 24 2020, 4:00 PM CDT. Proposals received later than the time and date specified will not be considered. Proposals must provide the following:

- Contact information for lead artist(s) and all team members.
- Letter of interest: Maximum of one-page describing interest in project and approach to project.
- Community Engagement Process proposal: Maximum of one-page detailing process.
- One-page biographical information or resume. If you have multiple team members, please keep biographical information for each team member to one paragraph.
- Three references (contact information only for recently completed projects).
- Work samples: provide a one-page document listing each work sample, along with up to 5 digital images of your recent projects. Please provide a brief description and budget for each, including projects with community engagement aspects.
- Optional: Include video introduction of artist or team including project approach limited to three minutes.
- Do not submit a project concept or design at this time.

Selection Criteria

Selection will be based on the following:

- Community engagement approach/process.
- Experience working with communities and/or neighborhoods.
- Ability to execute project based on prior work experiences.
- Experience and work samples.
- Demonstration of inspiration and/or knowledge of Fargo community.

Please note: Preference given to local applicants.

Disclaimer

City of Fargo reserves the right to reject any or all applications without compensation and for any and all reasons. City of Fargo commissions and board members, staff, and their immediate families are ineligible to participate in this Call for Artists. The City of Fargo reserves the right to not install design on the water tower.

Schedule/Timeline

The City reserves the right to modify the timeline if necessary.

July 1	Call for Artists opens
July 24	Proposals due
Week of July 27	Review and selection of finalists; Finalist interviews (virtual)
Week of August 3	Artist/team selection; Contract execution
August/September	Community Engagement
End of October	Art Design Deadline
Spring 2021	Water Tower Construction Begins
Fall 2021	Artist/team coordination with contractor prior to and during art installation
Spring 2022	Project completion

Contact Information

Maegin Elshaug, Planning Coordinator MElshaug@FargoND.GoV.
 Maggie Squyer, Assistant Planner MSquyer@FargoND.GoV.

Resources

Fargo Arts and Culture information:
www.FargoArtsandCulture.com



Public Art Master Plan and other documents:

<http://fargond.gov/city-government/departments/planning-development/arts-culture/public-art-documents>

Public Art Survey Results:

<http://fargond.gov/city-government/departments/planning-development/arts-culture/public-art-survey-results>

Fargo Arts and Culture Commission:

<http://fargond.gov/city-government/boards-commissions/arts-culture-commission>