

**Chapel Hill Office of Public Art
Call to Artists: Greenways Trail System**

Project Summary

DESCRIPTION: The Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina seeks qualifications from artists and/or artist teams to (1) engage the community in a dialog about itself, explore the Town's Greenways Trail System, and recognize public art opportunities in the Greenways System during a seven to ten-day residency, (2) design and present for review one or more prototype public art feature(s) for the Greenways, and (3) fabricate the final public art prototype(s) to be installed on the Morgan Creek, Dry Creek or Bolin Creek segments of the Trail System.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all artists and artist teams in NC, SC, VA, GA, and TN. Artists and teams may specialize in multiple disciplines and media. North Carolina artists are encouraged to apply.

PROJECT BUDGET: The Percent for Art budget for this project is estimated to be at least \$50,000.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: September 1, 2008

Project Overview

Chapel Hill's Greenways form an extensive trail network throughout the Town and currently include approximately 4.5 miles of paved trail and 7.6 miles of natural surface trail. The Town's 2006 Greenways Master Plan identifies over 28 miles of potential trails to be built within the Town. Once finished, the system will act as both a recreation and transportation network that will link most areas of Town. Three paved trail extensions are currently in various phases of development: Morgan Creek Trail, Bolin Creek Trail, and Dry Creek Trail. In accordance with the Town's Percent for Art Ordinance, one percent of the budget for these three trail extensions (estimated to be a total of \$50,000) will fund this public art project. The use of construction credits and the procurement of additional funds are also possible. This is a three phase project.

During Phase One of this project the selected artist(s) will undertake a seven to ten-day residency in Chapel Hill consisting of research, greenway tours, meetings and public events to be designed by the selected artist(s) in conjunction with Town public art staff. Participating stakeholders may include the Greenways and Public Arts commissions, the Parks and Recreation Department and other Town divisions, and relevant community and neighborhood organizations. The selected artist(s) may also have the opportunity to work with the landscape design firms of Lappas and Havener, and Coulter, Jewel and Thames. The residency will conclude with the public presentation of findings and opportunities to the Public Art Review Committee and Chapel Hill Town Council. This seven to ten-day residency will occur during November/December of 2008. The selected artist or team will be compensated \$10,000 for completion of this phase, inclusive of travel and lodging.

In Phase Two the selected artist(s) will develop concept designs of prototype public art features for review by the Public Art Review Committee, the community, and Town Council. Concepts may range from integrated design elements (paving pattern design, pedestrian bridge features): trail markers, sign posts or other information delivery systems; to sculptural elements, landscape features, or artistic amenities (seating, bike racks), or something else entirely. Selected artist(s) will be compensated \$15,000 for completion of this phase, inclusive of travel and lodging.

In Phase Three the selected artist(s) will develop construction level design documents, work with town staff to develop a process by which the town, in an on-going manner, could fabricate additions of the prototype, fabricate the final prototype(s) and install, site, or demonstrate the use of the prototype(s) on at least one of the following segments of the Trail System: Morgan Creek, Dry Creek and/or Bolin Creek. The final prototype(s) design must be able to be replicated by the Town throughout the Greenways Trail System at a cost ranging from \$250 - \$2,500 per unit and in accordance with submitted designs. Selected artist(s) will

be compensated at least \$25,000 for completion of this phase, inclusive of design drawings, prototype(s) fabrication, travel and lodging.

The complete text of the 2006 Greenways Master Plan may be accessed at:

http://townhall.townofchapelhill.org/parks_rec/facilities_greenways_parks/greenways/plans/greenways_master_plan/.

Maps of the Greenways Trail System may be accessed at:

http://townhall.townofchapelhill.org/parks_rec/facilities_greenways_parks/greenways/.

How to Apply

Artists and teams may send a compact disc containing application materials through the post to Jeffrey York, Public Art Administrator (address provided below) or in a .zip file sent to chapelhillarts@gmail.com.

Each application must include:

Ten (10) Images of Relevant Work

Each image must be a PC-compatible JPEG file at 72 pixels per inch, as close to but no larger than the following dimensions: 750 pixels wide by 560 pixels tall. Each JPEG file must be named in the following format – lastname_01_title.jpg – where the artist's last name is followed by underscore, two-digit identification number, underscore, title, file extension. If you wish to show a detail, include it within the required number of images. Please do not present your work as a montage of images (ie., in a PowerPoint file); each image must be a separate JPEG.

Annotated Image List

A word file (.doc) listing JPEG images by two-digit identification number, followed by artist, title of work depicted, year completed, media, location, dimensions, and budget.

Resume

A word file (.doc) providing resume(s). If you are applying as a team, include all team member resumes within one document.

Letter of Interest

A word file (.doc) not to exceed 6,000 characters. The statement will explain the artist's or artist team's interest in the project and past experience. The letter should also include proposed methods for involving community members in the research and concept design phase of the project. If the Letter of Interest is on behalf of a team, please identify the lead artist and indicate if the individuals and/or organizations have previously collaborated and the nature of the association. If the artist or artist team has worked with a landscape architect, neighborhood organization, local government, or other similar and relevant agencies, please describe the relationship as well as the design process. Describe any experience with the fabrication process.

References

A word file (.doc) listing three professional references (commissioning agency or organization, design or arts professional, architect, landscape architect, engineer, etc.) with knowledge of your work and working methods. Include the name and date of the project(s), complete address, telephone numbers, and email for each individual. If an organization is serving as a professional reference, please identify a contact name.

Selection Process

A Public Art Review Committee comprised of arts professionals, representatives from the Arts Commission, the Greenways Commission, the community, the Parks and Recreation department, Chapel Hill Town Council, the Chapel Hill Town Manager's Office, and members of the project's design team will review all of the submissions and select up to three finalists. This committee will interview finalists in Chapel Hill, North

Carolina and its final recommendation of an artist/artist team will be approved by the Chapel Hill Town Council. Finalists will be compensated for their travel and lodging, and receive a flat rate fee of \$500. Since the prototype concept will result from the residency, no proposal for an artwork will be required of the finalists.

Schedule for Artist Selection (subject to change)

September 1, 2008: **Deadline for Application Materials**

September 15, 2008: Artist Recommendation Committee selects finalists

October 9, 2008: Finalists interviewed in Chapel Hill, North Carolina

October 16, 2008: Project Awarded

November/December, 2008: Residency

Fall, 2009: Prototype(s) Installed

Chapel Hill Information

The Town of Chapel Hill is located principally in Orange County, in the north central portion of North Carolina on the Piedmont Plateau, approximately equidistant between Washington, DC, and Atlanta, Georgia. The area's topography is characterized by rolling hills. The Town, which was incorporated in 1819, presently covers an area of 21.3 square miles and has a population of approximately 53,400. The Town is the home of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the nation's oldest public university. Chapel Hill is a thriving community and is frequently listed as one of the best places to live in the United States.

The Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department manages the Town's Greenways. The Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department provides a variety of services to the citizens of Chapel Hill and Orange County. Their mission to enhance the quality of life of all citizens and foster a sense of community by providing superior recreational, cultural, and educational services and effectively maintaining and protecting the Town's natural resources.

Established in 1992 by a resolution of the Town Council, the Chapel Hill Public Arts Commission is the Town advisory board responsible for advising the Council on art-related matters, working with Town Public Art staff to administer the Percent for Art program, increasing public access to the arts through programming initiatives, and promoting public understanding and awareness of the arts.

Additional Information

If you have questions or need any additional information please contact the Town of Chapel Hill Public Art Office:

Jeffrey J. York,
Chapel Hill Public Arts Administrator
Chapel Hill Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
E: jjork@townofchapelhill.org
T: **919-968-2750**