

# **Sculpture Garden Gate Landmark Design Competition**

## **Leslie Powell Foundation**

Closing Date: 20 June 2017

Location: Lawton, OK

Budget: \$25,000

### **Call Summary**

The Leslie Powell Foundation seeks to commission a professional artist to design and create site-specific exterior sculpture in the form of a decorative fence and gate for their sculpture garden, located adjacent to their gallery at 620 SW D Avenue, Lawton, Oklahoma. The sculpture garden will begin construction in the summer of 2017.

### **Artwork Goals**

The Leslie Powell Foundation Sculpture Garden will be an outdoor display area for three-dimensional artwork and serve as a gathering space for events such as receptions and live music.

Safety and security are imperative; durable, low-maintenance materials are recommended to withstand Southwest Oklahoma's intense weather conditions, including high temperatures, strong winds, large hail, and winter ice. The north side of the fence and gate will face street and sidewalk access and will serve to enhance the exterior of the adjacent gallery, allow entry into the sculpture garden through a handicap accessible gate no narrower than four feet, stand as a local landmark in conjunction with the space, and provide security against theft and vandalism during closed hours. Water features are highly discouraged.

The artist will have the opportunity to construct onsite or offsite or both. Weld plates will be installed in the concrete on a six-foot center for the fence to be attached to. For security purposes, the total height should be no less than 10 feet. The entry gate will open inward to the garden, or be a pocket door.

Among relevant concepts to consider is the architect's concept, which is available at [www.lpgallery.org/gate-design-competition/](http://www.lpgallery.org/gate-design-competition/). Any concepts that may be considered polemic, religious, or political should be avoided. Additionally, art stereotypes (such as brushes, palettes, easels, etc.) should be avoided. Artists should attempt to create a design that is at harmony with the overall sculpture garden design aesthetic.

Public art near this location includes "Women are Born in the Sky" by Benson Warren.

In order to be considered, submissions must comply with the requirements. Objects that are mass-produced or of standard manufacture are not eligible for consideration.

### **Artwork Location Description**

Site-specific exterior sculpture in the form of a fence and entry gate on the north side of the Leslie Powell Foundation Sculpture Garden.

### **Site History**

The Leslie Powell Foundation was created in 1983 in memory of local artist and benefactor, Mr. Leslie Powell. The mission of the foundation is to promote the arts in Lawton and Southwestern Oklahoma through regular art exhibitions and lectures. The Leslie Powell Foundation Gallery has been located at its current location since 2001.

### **Application Requirements**

Resume: 2 pages maximum

Work Examples: 5-15

- image dimensions: 1200 x 1200 pixels
- video dimensions: 720 x 480 (width x height) pixels in formats (mov, mp4, wmv)

Artist Statement: 500 word maximum

Letter of Interest: 500 word maximum

Please describe your initial impressions of and projected approach to this public art project. Specifically, please address your thoughts on location and medium and, if applicable, discuss any projects for which you used a similar approach (limit to 250-500 words.)

Concept and Design Drawings: Please include drawings for the front and back of the sculpture, as well as detail of the gate and how it will open (at least 3 and no more than 7). Image dimension restrictions the same as work examples.

References: 3

Artists are allowed to apply in teams.

Artists applying as a team must split the allotted number of work examples between themselves.

## **Selection Information**

### **Selection Process**

The Leslie Powell Foundation will select the artist that best meets the requirements based on the information contained in their response to the Request for Qualifications, any reference checks conducted, and the information presented during any interviews conducted as part of the selection process.

### **Selection Criteria**

Specifically, in the selection of finalists, the Leslie Powell Foundation will review and consider the following:

1. The conceptual basis for the artist's body of work as defined in the written statement.
2. The quality – technical and aesthetic – of the artist's past work as represented in the image submissions, as well as budgets that the artist has worked with.
3. The experience of the artist in successfully designing, fabricating, administering, and completing public art projects and/or custom architectural elements on time and in budget.
4. The artist's training and education.
5. The quality and comprehensiveness of the submission package.

All Designs will be considered; those within the confines of the budget will receive top consideration.

After evaluating the artists' submissions, the Leslie Powell Foundation will narrow the pool of applications to approximately two to five finalists to develop a model for presentation to the Foundation in Lawton, Oklahoma. The model will not be returned to the artist if they are selected.

The design proposals will be subject to review and acceptance by the Leslie Powell Foundation Board of Directors. If there occurs a lack of quality submissions, the Leslie Powell Foundation reserves the right not to award this commission.

### **Timeline**

Post Call to Artists: 20 April 2017

Written Inquiries must be received by: 19 May 2017

Responses to Inquiries: 26 May 2017

Submissions due by: 4:00 PM, CDT, 20 June 2017 (No late submissions are accepted)

Finalist(s) selected and notified: July 2017

Finalist(s) design Presentations: August 2017

Commission Awarded: TBD

Projected Completion: Winter 2017-18

### **Contact Information**

(For questions about the details of this call, or site questions, email us.)

Matthew D. Hughes, Executive Director

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