

SHORT NORTH ALLIANCE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

875 N High St. 3rd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
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SAFETY OFFICE

1181 Mt. Pleasant Ave
Columbus, OH 43215

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SUMMER SPRAY 2024 REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

DATE ISSUED: APRIL 19, 2024

TO APPLY: email rachel@shortnorth.org; details [here](#).

Overview

The Short North Alliance is commissioning several artists to design and install a portion of an approximately 1,300 square foot mural wall and display their works in a temporary pop-up gallery in Columbus, Ohio's Short North Arts District.

Background

Now in its fifth year, Summer Spray is a multi-weekend summer program that elevates diverse emerging Columbus artists through two avenues: the collaborative creation of a 1,280-square-foot mural wall and a pop-up artist exhibition in the Short North Arts District.

Up to ten artists will be selected to both create a mural and showcase their work in an exhibition space in the Short North Arts District. The mural will be created through an iterative process over multiple weeks, where each artist's work builds upon that of the last artist. The project should represent both unity and diversity among the artists and their collective creation.

The Short North Arts District is the most vibrant spot in the Columbus region. Home to nearly 350 creative art, dining, boutique retail, service provider, and nightlife businesses along with numerous arts and cultural non-profits, the neighborhood is a point of pride for the City of Columbus.

Site Location and Available Dimensions

The site for the mural is located on the cap on Goodale St. between Park St. & High St.

The mural wall is approximately 160 ft long and 8 ft tall. Each artist will have approximately 136 square feet of space (17 ft long, 8 ft tall). Final dimensions will be communicated following artist selection. See [Appendix A](#) for site plan and images.

Project Details

Up to ten artists will be selected with the help of our Short North Public Art Committee. Emerging artists and those representing underrecognized identities and communities are encouraged to apply and will be prioritized in artist selection. Selected artists will:

- design and live-paint a section of the Summer Spray mural on a weekend to be determined in the summer of 2024 (July - September)
- exhibit their own work to thousands of district visitors as part of a group show in a temporary gallery space throughout the summer of 2024, including at the Short North's monthly Gallery Hop events
- be invited to present live art making demonstrations during Gallery Hop and participate in staffing the gallery space
- access guidance from an experienced artist-curator who will facilitate the collaborative process for selected artists, guide mural development, and support with the exhibition

Once artists are selected, there will be an orientation event that brings together the artists and curator to begin planning the mural. Mural designs should be inspired by

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current events, lived experiences, community themes and ideals, and the work of the other participating artists.

Each artist will be commissioned to create one mural segment approximately 17 ft long and 8 ft tall on one assigned weekend from July 6 to September 7, 2024. The mural concept is to be shared with and approved by the curator of the Summer Spray program and Short North Alliance leadership prior to the first artist's installation.

Artists will also be commissioned to create a personal exhibition of their work at an assigned location in the Short North Artist District as part of a group exhibit of the 2024 Summer Spray Cohort artists. The show will open July 6, 2024 at Gallery Hop and run through the September 7, 2024 Gallery Hop, which will also be an open-streets event with thousands of visitors expected in the district.

Finally, each artist is expected to staff (or provide staff) for the group exhibit for at least two 4-hour shifts during the summer, not to coincide with their scheduled mural painting. Artists and curator will work together to arrange a mutually agreeable schedule for operating the Summer Spray gallery.

Project Goals

The primary goals for this project are to support the implementation of the Short North Arts District's strategic community priorities for public art:

- **Stimulate Conversation** Public art can stand out, engage, and inspire residents and visitors intellectually, aesthetically, emotionally.
- **Tell the Story** Public art can embody our community spirit and aspirations by honoring the past and envisioning our future.
- **Speak to Diversity** Public art can speak to the many people and neighborhoods united by High Street.
- **Take Risks** Public art can be bold, challenge our understanding of art, and express our ambition.
- **Level Up** Public art can represent the highest expression of culture and elevate the profile of our city.

Additionally, each piece of art must follow these basic guidelines:

- Artworks must be the original artwork of the selected artist.
- Artworks cannot include the use of trademarked or copyrighted material.
- Artworks cannot contain nudity.
- Artworks cannot contain profanity or derogatory language.

Project Timeline in 2024

**Timeline subject to change*

April 19, 2024	Request for Qualifications Opens
May 12, 2024	Request for Qualifications Closes
May 16, 2024	Notify Selected Artists
May 30, 2024	Artist Orientation (<i>Subject to Change</i>)
Weekend of July 6	Pop-Up Gallery at Gallery Hop - Group Show Opens
Weekend of July 13	Artist 1 Paints Mural; Gallery Open
Weekend of July 20	Artist 2 Paints Mural; Gallery Open
Weekend of July 27	Artist 3 Paints Mural; Gallery Open
Weekend of Aug 3	Artist 4 Paints Mural; Pop-Up Gallery at Gallery Hop - Gallery Open
Weekend of Aug 10	Artist 5 Paints Mural; Gallery Open

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Weekend of Aug 17	Artist 6 Paints Mural; Gallery Open
Weekend of Aug 24	Artist 7 Paints Mural; Gallery Open
Weekend of Aug 31	Artist 8 Paints Mural; Gallery Open
Weekend of Sept 7	Artist 9 Paints Mural; Pop-Up Gallery at 40th Anniversary Open-Streets Gallery Hop - Group Show Closes

Selection Process and Criteria

Artists will be selected based on an evaluation of the following:

- Artistic Excellence
- Comparable Project Experience
- Ability to Achieve Project Goals
- Priority will be given to artists who identify with underrecognized communities (examples: Black, New Americans, LGBTQIA+, Person of Color, Indigenous American, women)

Artists should be based in the Columbus metropolitan area.

Artists will be selected by the leadership of the Short North Alliance, at the recommendation of the Short North Alliance Public Art Committee, a volunteer body of community members composed of fine artists, design professionals, gallerists, arts professionals, consultants, and property owners. Artist finalists will also require the approval of the Columbus Art Commission.

Budget

Each artist will receive a \$1,250 artist fee as compensation for mural creation and execution and exhibition. All supplies needed to install the mural and exhibition will be the responsibility of the artist. Each artist must coordinate with the Short North Alliance main contact and Summer Spray curator to select weekends for their mural creation and exhibition staffing.

The Short North Alliance will administer all aspects of the project outside of the costs listed above. These include but are not limited to: administration, subcontracting, temporary street closure expenses, installation, development of maintenance plans, safety equipment, related permits, taxes, and insurance.

Additional Rules and Guidelines

- The Short North Alliance is not liable in any way for any costs incurred by any artists in preparation for the submission of the RFQ.
- The Short North Alliance is not responsible for any travel or lodging for the artist.
- The Short North Alliance has the right to reject any and all proposals.
- The Short North Alliance has the right to issue additional solicitations for qualifications.
- The Short North Alliance reserves the right to modify selection criteria for this call if necessary at any time.
- The selection process is subject to change.
- The Short North Alliance reserves the right to withdraw this call at any time.
- Artist(s) have the right to withdraw their qualifications at any time.

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RFQ Submission Instructions & Materials

All materials should be sent as attachments to rachel@shortnorth.org, subject line:
Summer Spray 2024, Application

Required information for this application:

A. Résumé/CV: Submit a brief, current résumé or CV including:

- Contact information (phone, email, and address)
- Your web-site address
- Previous relevant art commissions
- Design team experience
- Exhibitions, awards, grants
- Education

B. Letter of Interest: Please include the following in a letter of no more than 500 words:

- Name, address, telephone, email, and website for all artist/design team members.
- Your interest in this project and your experience working on comparable projects. Include your experience with architectural and engineering project teams. Include your philosophy on commissioned art, its integration into the surrounding environment and how your work and experience will complement this project. Describe how your experience fits the criteria outlined for this project from the Selection Criteria section of this RFQ.
- Any connection and/or interest in the Short North and Columbus Community.

C. Artwork Images: Images must be JPEG file format with a minimum of 620px width and a maximum file size of 5MB. Horizontal images are recommended. Please upload individually.

D. Other: You are welcome to submit up to three optional supporting materials. This could include news articles, videos, or other content that helps convey information about past work.

The deadline for submissions is May 12, 2024, 11:59 PM Eastern Time.

Contacts & Communications

Project inquiries may be made by contacting Rachel Kengeter, Deputy Director, Projects & Operations via email at rachel@shortnorth.org.

Additional Information & Resources

For information about the Short North Alliance and the Short North Arts District, visit shortnorth.org.

Support

This project is made possible with support from the Ohio Arts Council, The Short North Rotary Club, and the Short North Alliance Art Fund.



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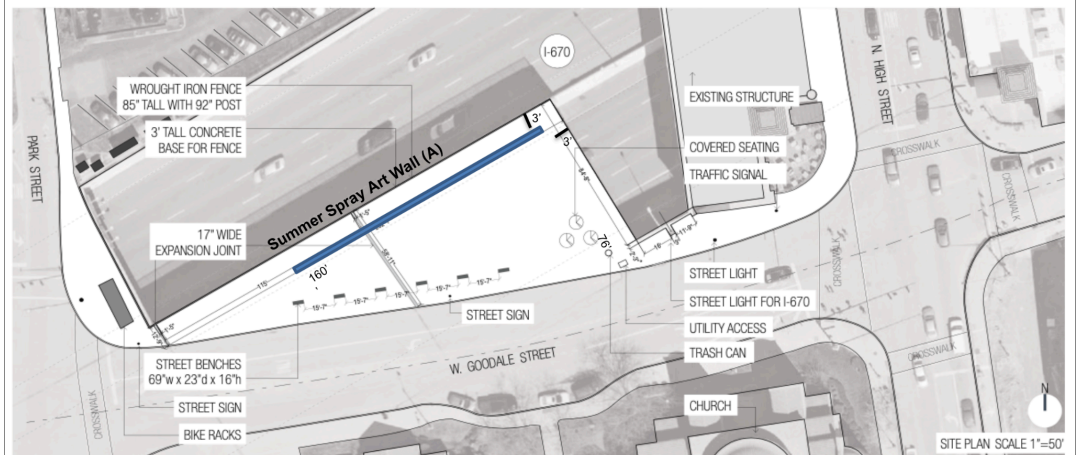
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APPENDIX A: SITE PLAN AND SITE IMAGES

SITE PLAN



Side A: 160 ft, 40 panels intended for artists

W. GOODALE SITE PLAN

SHORT NORTH ALLIANCE

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SITE IMAGES

