

SHORT NORTH ALLIANCE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

875 N High St. 3rd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
P/ 614.299.8050

SAFETY OFFICE

1181 Mt. Pleasant Ave
Columbus, OH 43215

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700 N HIGH ST MURAL PROJECT REQUEST FOR ARTIST QUALIFICATIONS

DATE ISSUED: May 20, 2024

TO APPLY: application details [here](#)

Email application to rachel@shortnorth.org by 11:59 pm on June 20, 2024

OVERVIEW

The Short North Alliance is commissioning an artist to design and install an approximately 115 square foot permanent mural on the exterior wall of a newly-constructed eatery in Columbus, Ohio's Short North Arts District.

BACKGROUND

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.

The Short North Alliance, working in collaboration with the owners of the new Sweetgreen eatery, Wood Companies, seek to help the community achieve its bold goals for public art through the commission of an original mural on the exterior wall of a new highly-visible restaurant located in the heart of the Short North Arts District.

The artist selected for this project will be expected to participate in a live mural-painting demonstration at the mural site on September 7, 2024. This is the 40th anniversary of the first Short North Gallery Hop, a now-iconic monthly event which celebrates the creativity and vibrancy of the neighborhood. This anniversary event, part of the SNA's Hops on High series, is expected to draw tens of thousands of visitors to the district.

SITE LOCATION AND AVAILABLE DIMENSIONS

The site for the artwork is located at 700 N High St, Columbus, OH 43215. The site is currently under construction, with an anticipated completion date of October, 2024.

The mural site is on the north-facing exterior wall fronting E Lincoln St. and across the street from the well-known "Short North Gothic" mural, with approximate dimensions: 11' 6" high and 10' wide (115 square feet). Site and location images are located in [Appendix A](#).

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PROJECT GOALS & CONSIDERATIONS

The artwork should draw up themes and images that evoke elegance and color, potentially inspired by food, vegetables, or plant-forward, sustainable and earth-friendly themes that celebrate the culinary artists in our city. The artwork should not contain text. 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.

A successful project would maximize the site-specific nature of the building as canvas, leveraging its unique architecture, while creating deliberate linkages between the artwork and the pedestrian.

PROJECT TIMELINE

**Timeline subject to change*

May 20, 2024	Request for Qualifications Opens
June 20, 2024	Request for Qualifications Closes
June 24, 2024	Three Semi-Finalists Invited to Submit Full Proposals
July 12, 2024	Deadline for Semi-Finalist Full Proposal Submissions
July 16, 2024	Final Artist Selected
August 13, 2024	Italian Village Commission to Approve Artwork
Sept 7, 2024	Live-Painting Demonstration at Hops on High Event
Sept 30, 2024	Deadline for Completed Artwork Installation

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SELECTION PROCESS & CRITERIA

RFQ submissions should be sent as attachments to rachel@shortnorth.org, subject line: “**700 N High St Application**” by 11:59 pm on June 20, 2024. Details on what is required for this application can be found in [Appendix B](#)

Semi-finalists will be selected to submit full proposals based on an evaluation of the following:

- Artistic Excellence
- Comparable Project Experience
- Ability to Achieve Project Goals

Semi-finalists 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.

Artworks must be approved for placement on the building by the Italian Village Commission, a historic architectural review commission of the City of Columbus.

Final approval of the artist and commissioned artwork is made by the property’s owner, The Wood Companies.

ADDITIONAL RULES & 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.

BUDGET

The three semi-finalist artists will each receive a \$500 project proposal fee for the creation of their final proposals. The selected final artist will receive additional compensation of \$1,500 for the mural creation. This includes artists fees and supply budget for any materials and/or equipment required to execute a painted exterior mural. Artists will manage a supply budget that includes all materials necessary to finish the project and will be responsible for providing a certificate of liability insurance and for all taxes associated with their compensation.

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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, development of maintenance plans, and related permits.

CONTACT

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.

PROJECT SUPPORT

The 700 N High St Project is made possible with support from the Ohio Arts Council, The City of Columbus, Franklin County, and the Short North Alliance Art Fund.

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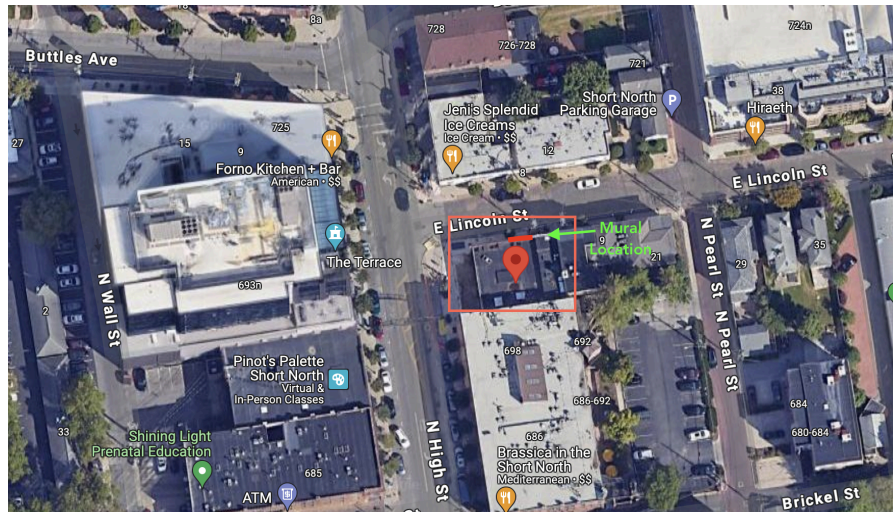
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APPENDIX A: SITE PLAN AND IMAGES

Note: This property is currently under construction. Renderings and elevations are provided in lieu of photos of the site.



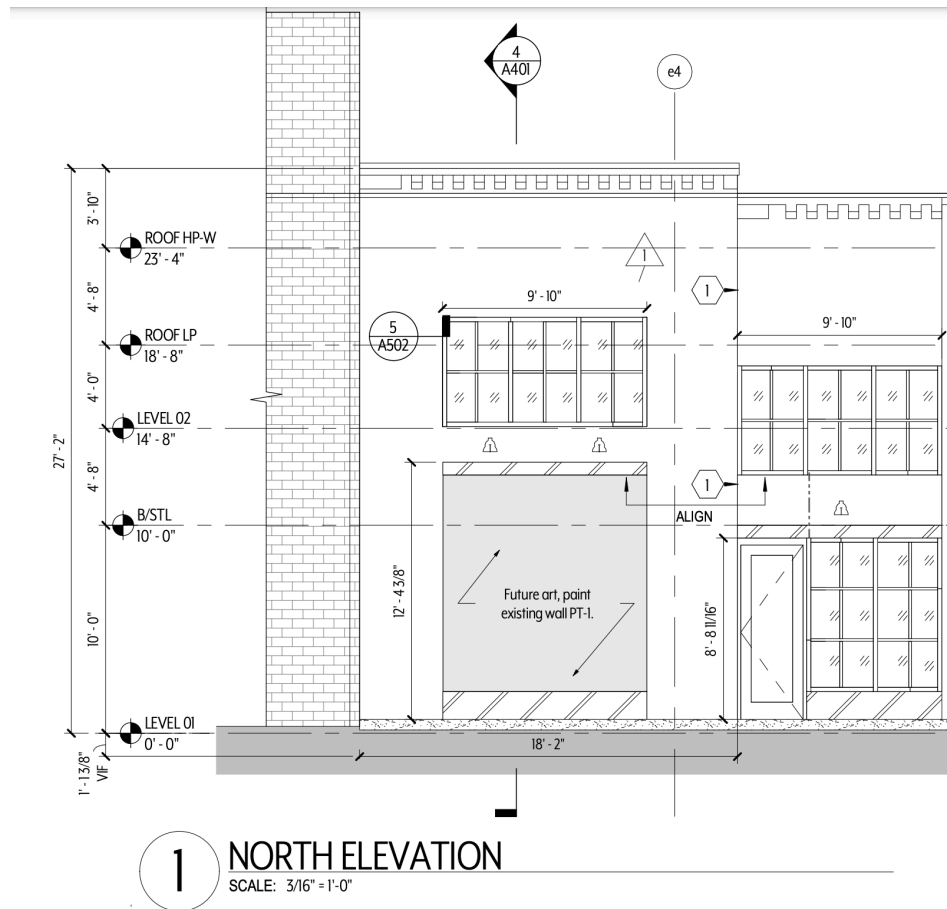
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APPENDIX B: RFQ SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

RFQ submissions should be sent as attachments to rachel@shortnorth.org

Subject line: **"700 N High St Application"**

Due by 11:59 pm on June 20, 2024

Required information for this application:

A. Résumé/CV

Submit a brief, current résumé or CV including:

1. Contact information
2. Your web address or other online presence
3. Previous relevant art commissions
4. Exhibitions, awards, grants
5. Education

B. Letter of Interest

Please include the following in a letter of no more than 500 words:

1. Name, address, telephone, email, and website/socials
2. Your interest in this project and your experience working on comparable projects. 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.

C. Artwork Images & Information

As an attachment, please submit at least three (3) and up to five (5) different completed artworks or past commissions. You may include multiple images of each project to provide additional context or perspective. For each completed artwork, please specify the title of the artwork, location, year completed, medium, and dimensions. This may be attached as a separate document.

Images must be JPEG or PDF file format with a minimum of 620px width and a maximum file size of 5MB.

D. References

Please include at least three (3) art and/or design professionals who have detailed knowledge of your work and working methods, including fulfilling deadlines, working with the community, etc. Include contact name, organization, telephone, and email for each reference.

E. Other:

You are welcome to submit up to three (3) optional supporting materials. This could include news articles, videos, or other content that helps convey information about past work.