Artist Design for Park Sculpture

Burnet Park

Call for Proposals

Deadline: 30 October 2018
Call for Proposals

Public Art Opportunity – Town of Oakville
Artist Design for Park Sculpture

Burnet Park
Deadline: October 30, 2018 EST
Artist Fee: $4,000 CAD (maximum)

Artist Opportunity

The Town of Oakville invites artists to submit proposals to create a public artwork at Burnet Park to commemorate Oakville’s early Black History. The final artwork must incorporate lake stones from the foundation of 104 Burnet Street and reflect on Oakville’s early Black community.

Eligible artists will be emerging and/or professional Canadian artists with outdoor, installation or public art experience. This call is open to national artists, however preference will be given to artists living within the Greater Toronto Area community. Artists with demonstrated connections to Oakville’s Black history will be given priority.

*As per the Canada Council’s guidelines, a professional artist is defined as an individual who has specialized skills and/or artistic training, has a history of public exhibitions in a professional context, ** has produced an independent body of work, and is critically recognized as an artist.

** A professional context is one that is recognized by a professional curator, gallery owner, art dealer, collective of professional artists or jury of professionals in the field.

Competition

An artwork proposal is requested at this time. Applicants are reviewed based on the merit of artist’s past work, qualifications, experience and concept design.

The selected artist will enter into a contract with the Town of Oakville for the artwork design. The installation phase of the project will be coordinated by the town. The final artwork to be unveiled in spring/summer 2019.
Project Goals

The goals of this project are to:

- recognize, educate and commemorate Oakville’s early Black community;
- provide visual interest and enhance the park with an inspiring public artwork;
- foster dialogue, engage the community at large, at all age levels, and in the neighbourhood;

Background

Historical significance about 104 Burnet Street

The 104 Burnet Street property has historic associations with Oakville’s early Black community which this commission proposes to recognize and commemorate.

The subject property is located on the southwest corner of Burnet Street and Kerr Street, south of Lakeshore Road West. The significant historic associations of the property are related to the owners beginning in 1909 when it was purchased by Jeremiah B. Adams, the son of Samuel Adams, a freed slave and prominent member of Oakville’s African Canadian community. Jeremiah worked for the local Chisholm Brothers Mill and raised five children with his wife, Eliza Butler. The property at 104 Burnet Street was passed through Jeremiah’s descendants (in order of families, Wayner; Duncan and Skeet; Skeete and Unett; and Unett) until its recent sale in 2015.

Although the residence was not suitable for retention, the lake stones from the property’s foundation walls were recovered. Burnet Park, located across the street at the corner of Kerr and Burnet Streets, has a view to the property.

Historical significance of the lake stones

The foundations of many 19th century buildings in Oakville were made of shale and many of the old walls lining the estates along Lakeshore Road East are examples of the use of lake stone. Before the availability of concrete, a constant supply of building stone was essential. From the 1830s until after World War I, the Lake Ontario water
front was mined for blocks of shale and loaded onto small sail-driven vessels known as stonehookers. A stonehooker would anchor as close to the shore as possible, and a cargo would be gathered by sending out a small, flat scow or barge onto which loads of stone would be piled. Slabs of shale would be pried from the lake bottom using long rakes with prong-like forks. The invention of the rake used for stone hooking is attributed to Samuel Adams.

The town has reclaimed 6 skids of lake stones from the 104 Burnet property which are available for the final artwork.

Additional information:


104 Burnett Street Heritage Assessment Report, Town of Oakville

Oakville Museum: https://www.oakville.ca/museum/

Oakville Historical Society: http://www.oakvillehistory.org/

Oakville Central Library – The Oakville Room: https://www.opl.on.ca/


Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton http://www.ccah.ca/

Halton Black History Awareness Society http://www hbhas.ca/

Project Considerations

The artwork must adhere to the following design parameters:

- be an exterior, sculptural installation, suitable for exhibition in a public space;
- be appropriate for the site in scale, execution, materials, budget and creativity (refer to appendices);
• be fabricated using reclaimed lake stones from 104 Burnet Street property as well as high quality, long-lasting materials that are highly resistant to theft, vandalism and weathering. There are six skids of reclaimed lake stones (not all have to be used);
• not restrict or obstruct visitors’ movement in the park or compromise accessibility standards;
• not pose a risk to public safety (i.e. no sharp points, no slip hazards etc.);
• must incorporate themes related to Oakville’s early Black community and significance of the property 104 Burnet Street;
• must consider the parkland area and not negatively affect any trees.

Artwork Location

The primary location for the artwork will be sited at Burnet Park, located at Kerr and Burnet Streets. This location has a view of the 104 Burnet property. It is an open flat grass park area. The trees cannot be removed.

• South East Corner, Burnet Park, maximum size 7 x 7 metres (requested)

Project Budget

The artist fee for the artwork design is a maximum of $4,000 Canadian dollars. This is the total amount available for all related expenses of this public art project design including but not limited to: artist fees, all applicable taxes, detailed renderings, and approvals or other expertise as required, travel to meetings and to the site, and an artist statement for the completed work.

The fabrication and installation phase of the project will be coordinated by the Town of Oakville. Preliminary budget for any additional materials/finishes/fabrication that will be required not to exceed $8,000.

The selected artist will enter into a contract with the Town of Oakville for the artwork design. The final artwork to be unveiled in spring/summer 2019.
Selection Process

The public art concept will be selected by a specially-convened independent selection committee, made up of visual arts professionals, community representatives, and Town of Oakville staff. The selection committee will review all applicants based on the selection criteria. The selection committee may conduct interviews as part of the deliberation process. The selection committee will choose the successful artist based on the merits of the concept proposal and technical feasibility. The selected artist will then enter into a contract with the Town of Oakville for the artwork design phase of the project. The artist must guarantee the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

The selected artist must be able to travel to Oakville Ontario for a minimum of three visits: to attend a technical consultation meeting; to consult with the installation of the artwork; and to engage with public dialogue (i.e. artist talk/public unveiling event).

Reserved Rights of the Town of Oakville

The Town of Oakville is the administrative lead for this project. The Town of Oakville, at its sole discretion, reserves the following rights to:

- request clarification or additional information, as it deems necessary to evaluate submissions;
- determine the suitability of the submission and capability of the prospective artist(s);
- select the artist(s) that it deems most appropriate for the project;
- choose to not recommend any application, proposal or finalist and to terminate or re-advertise any project;
- issue public announcements regarding the competition.

Estimated Project Timeline (2017–2018)

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Public call for concept proposals opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Deadline for concept proposals due 4 p.m. EST</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Selection committee meets to review applications and select artist</td>
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Public Art Opportunity, Burnet Park, Town of Oakville

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>2018 December</td>
<td>Award of project, selected artist enters into a contract with the Town of Oakville</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 January – March</td>
<td>Design of final artwork produced by artist</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Spring</td>
<td>Installation of artwork on site by Town staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Summer</td>
<td>Public celebration with Emancipation Day activities</td>
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The schedule above is provided as a guideline only and is subject to change.

Submission Requirements

Applications are due on or before the deadline date: October 30, 2018 EST. Applications to be submitted by email to public.art@oakville.ca. Submissions must not exceed 15MB total size. Do not attach zip files. Please use subject line: Surname_First Name_Public Art. You will receive an email notification that your application has been received.

Artist(s) will retain copyright over their proposals, however the proposals may be used by the Town of Oakville in meetings with stakeholders and town staff. Please note that proposals will not be returned.

Submissions must include:

1. Application form (page 10).

2. Artist curriculum vitae (resume). Provide a list of your training/education, exhibitions, grants/awards and other professional art experience (maximum three pages), and briefly list the highlights of your artistic work in the past 24 months.

3. Artwork proposal and design. A maximum of 5 images.
   - Submit a proposal outlining your ideas and how they relate to the project goals and considerations (maximum two pages). Include any additional materials and/or finishes proposed for each element of the work. Identify the material selection relative to its durability and the long-term nature of the work. Time frame to be considered is 25 years.
• Outline your experience and approach to creating artwork for the public realm.
• Preliminary budget for any additional materials/finishes/fabrication that will be required. Material budget not to exceed $8,000.
• Visuals. Include preliminary drawings, sketches and designs for the final artwork concept. (Maximum 5 images).

Experience with permanent public projects is an asset, but not a requirement.


5. References. Provide the name, address, phone number and email for two references who have been directly involved with your artistic practice and/or past public art projects.

Note: Image preparation

Images must be titled with image number, name of artist and title of artwork.

Example: 01ArtistName_ArtworkTitle.jpg

Images must conform to the following requirements:

• 1MB maximum size per image. Images must be PC compatible in JPEG format, (maximum resolution of 1024 x 768 pixels at 72 dpi). Do not embed images in documents such as Word, PDFs or PowerPoint.
• A corresponding image list. Label all materials and list the works numerically, indicating each title, year of production, materials used, overall dimensions, and location of artwork (if applicable).
• Do not submit original artwork or hard copies. Application materials will not be returned.
Appendices

Appendix A: Burnet Park site (requested)

Appendix B: Burnet Park site (yellow area), Burnet and Kerr Streets
Appendix C: Lake stones (6 skids in total – not all have to be used)

Appendix D: Example of a local lake stone walls
## Application Form

Applications are due on or before Deadline: 30 October 2018 EST. Applications to be submitted by email to [public.art@oakville.ca](mailto:public.art@oakville.ca)

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The applicant is in agreement with the Eligibility and Selection Criteria as outlined in this document:

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<th>Signature of applicant:</th>
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Contact: Tonia Di Risio, Program Supervisor - Culture Public Art Competition, Recreation and Culture Town of Oakville 1225 Trafalgar Road Oakville, ON L6H 0H3 905-845-6601, ext. 4614 [tonia.dirisio@oakville.ca](mailto:tonia.dirisio@oakville.ca) [oakville.ca](http://oakville.ca)