



**City of Portland, Maine
Public Art Program**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
WINSLOW PARK PUBLIC ART PROJECT**



Winslow Park Public Art

The City of Portland, Maine invites artists and design professionals with Maine affiliations to submit proposals for fully completed public art pieces for Winslow Park. This artwork will be installed in Winslow Park, a small green node located near Portland's Back Cove, at the corner of Preble Street and Baxter Boulevard. The site is adjacent to the Back Cove Trail, and within walking distance of the Bayside neighborhood and the University of Southern Maine campus. An aerial view of Winslow Park is attached to this document. The goals of the project include:

- Enhance the sense of gateway into the Back Cove area;
- Contribute to the distinct identity for the area,
- Respond to the physical, social and historical context of Winslow Park;
- Provide high visibility for the pedestrian from multiple points of view;
- Show year round in all seasons;
- Enliven and activate the space;
- Advance the traditions of arts in Maine; and
- Provide durability and ease of maintenance

Eligibility

This request for proposals is open to any professional artist, landscape architect, architect, or design professional who is based in Maine, or who can demonstrate a significant affiliation with the State. The work must be completely fabricated and finished at the time of the submittal of proposals, and available for immediate purchase and installation. It is not necessary that the work be that of living artists. Estate pieces will also be considered.

Budget

The Portland Public Art Committee has committed \$35,000 for the project. This includes cost to acquire the piece, transportation, installation, any pad or site work, conservation assessment, contingency fee, and other miscellaneous costs which may be determined.

Deadline

The deadline for submission is Friday, June 15, 2007. Please mail or deliver entries to: Carrie M. Marsh, Urban Designer, Department of Planning and Development, City of Portland, 389 Congress Street, Portland, Maine 04101, 207-874-8723, cmarsh@portlandmaine.gov.

Submission

Please include the following materials:

- **Letter of Interest:** State your interest in and qualifications for the project, and a brief statement of your philosophy of public art, in a letter of no more than two pages;
- **Slides or CD of digital images:** No more than five slides each of four different pieces. Slides must be submitted in a single clear plastic slide display sheet. Each slide should be numbered and marked with the artist's name and the title of the work.
- **Proposal:** A proposal sheet with the artist's name, title of artwork, dimensions, medium, date produced, price, location, description of maintenance requirements and sources of materials, and other information the artist deems pertinent.
- **Resume:** Resume or CV highlighting experience with public art.
- **References:** Three references from persons familiar with the applicant's artwork.
- **Self Addressed Stamped Envelope:** Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope large enough to return the slides with sufficient postage. Entry materials will be returned to the artist only if the artist provides appropriate packaging, postage, and insurance.

Selection Process

The Portland Public Art Committee has appointed a Winslow Park Public Art Selection Panel. The co-chairs of this panel are Sara Struever and Jay York. The Selection Panel will meet within a month of the close of the Request for Qualifications for this project to review all submissions. The Selection Panel will compile a list of semi-finalists who will be invited to submit further information and a proposal. The Selection Panel and/or the Public Art Committee may ask for additional information before selecting finalists. All applicants to this initial Request for Qualifications will be notified shortly thereafter.

Conflicts of Interest: Public Art Committee members or Selection Panel members will abstain from voting when they are associated with an artist or artwork under consideration for any percent for public art project if the relationship may compromise the objectivity of that process.

Selection Criteria

The selection of artwork will be based on the following criteria:

- **Quality:** The work should be of the highest standard with regard to workmanship, materials, assembly, content, placement, and appropriateness in theme and character as determined by the Public Art Committee.
- **Elements of Design:** The Artist/Artwork Selection Panel and the Public Art Committee will take into account the fact that, as differentiated from works in a museum context, art in public spaces may function as focal points, modifiers, definers of public spaces and/or creates identity within the public realm.
- **Style and Nature:** Work of any style or nature which is appropriate for the public art collection and responsible in scale, material, form and content with their surroundings will be considered. Works may be participatory in nature.

- **Media:** All forms allowed by ordinance may be considered.
- **Conservation:** Due consideration shall be given to structural and surface soundness and to performance in terms of relative proof against theft, vandalism, weathering, or excessive maintenance or repair costs.
- **Cooperation:** The demonstrated ability of the artist to work closely and cooperatively with the Committee, staff, and community.
- **Communication:** The artist must have the ability to clearly communicate concepts both visually and through clearly written materials. In addition the ability to develop specific drawings of the artwork placed at the site will be required.
- **Technical Feasibility:** The artist must be able to demonstrate his or her technical ability to complete the project proposed.

Portland Public Art Program

The Portland Public Art Program commissions art that engages with the surrounding environment to create, enrich, or reveal a sense of place, and to express the spirit, values, visions and poetry of place that collectively define Portland.

Information about the Public Art Program can be found at: <http://www.portlandplanning.org/cbpubart.htm>. Contact information for the program is as follows: Carrie M. Marsh, Urban Designer, Department of Planning and Development, City of Portland, 389 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101, 207-874-8723, cmarsh@portlandmaine.gov.

