

### Thursday, June 20, 2019

# Denver Public Art calls for qualified artists for a new project at National Western Center

The City and County of Denver is pleased to announce a National Western Center Denver Public Art commission.

The City of Denver's Public Art Program seeks to commission an artist or artist team to work with the National Western Center (NWC) Campus Plaza design team to explore public art opportunities in the NWC Main Campus Plaza. The selected artist or artist team will collaborate with the National Western Center design team and Denver Public Art Program staff and help finalize designs for the plaza and create public artwork(s) for the site.

The selection panel seeks one or more site-specific unique artworks that demonstrate an authentic connection between human activity and the land, and tell the agricultural, historic, social and ecological story of the National Western Center and surrounding neighborhoods, as well as reflect the aspirations and mission of the NWC redevelopment. The artwork will be fully integrated into the design and construction of the plaza, and artists will have access to selected historic artifacts and salvage materials from the site that may be repurposed for the artwork.

The public art project budget for the NWC Main Campus Plaza is approximately \$750,000 USD and the call is open to local, national or international artists.

Applications will be accepted at <u>www.callforentry.org</u> through Monday, July 15, 11:59 p.m.

Funding for this project comes from the City of Denver's 1% for Public Art Ordinance.

In addition to the NWC Plaza project, Denver Public Art will soon be announcing calls for qualifications for two more National Western Center art projects: the NWC South Platte River Bridges project and the NWC Riverfront project.

For more information on this and other Denver Public Art opportunities, please visit <u>www.denverpublicart.org/for-artists.</u>

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#### About Denver Arts & Venues

Denver Arts & Venues' mission is to amplify Denver's quality of life and economic vitality through premier public venues, arts and entertainment opportunities. Arts & Venues is the City and County of Denver agency responsible for operating some of the region's most renowned facilities, including Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre, the Denver Performing Arts Complex, Colorado Convention Center, Denver Coliseum and McNichols Civic Center Building. Arts & Venues also oversees the Denver Public Art Program, Create Denver, SCFD Tier III granting process, Arts Education Fund and other entertainment and cultural events such as the Five Points Jazz Festival, Urban Arts Fund, P.S. You Are Here and implementation of IMAGINE 2020: Denver's Cultural Plan. Denver Arts & Venues is committed to diversity, equity and inclusiveness in all our programs, initiatives and decision-making processes. www.ArtsandVenues.com

#### About Denver Public Art

Denver's Public Art Program was established in 1988 as an Executive Order under Mayor Federico Peña. The order, enacted into Ordinance by Denver City Council in 1991, directs that 1% of any capital improvement project over \$1 million undertaken by the City, be set aside for the inclusion of art. Over the past 30 years these artworks, along with the historic and donated works of art, make up the City's Public Art Collection. The Public Art Collection has expanded the opportunity for Denver residents to experience art in public places.

www.DenverPublicArt.org

#### About National Western Center (NWC)

The National Western Center is a reimagined campus nearly doubling the grounds which have housed the National Western Stock Show for more than 110 years. The new campus will be a vibrant, dynamic, and accessible educational and entertainment environment in the heart of Denver that celebrates Colorado's western heritage and solves global issues through research and collaboration.

https://nationalwesterncenter.com/about/what-is-the-nwc/

## About NWC Main Campus Plaza

The NWC Public Art Master Plan has identified the Main Campus Plaza as the first of several art projects to be integrated into the development site. The Main Campus Plaza extends from Bettie Cram Drive north through the site and is bordered by the Western Stock Show Association's Legacy Building on the east and the Colorado State University's Animal Health building, one of three new CSU buildings on the west. Further north on the campus, the plaza is bordered by the Livestock Center and the Equestrian Center. The Main Campus Plaza is the gateway to a very active part of the development and will host many events and outdoor activities associated with site programming throughout the year.