

City of Gainesville/Alachua County

CALL TO ARTISTS

The City of Gainesville Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs and the Art in Public Places Trust invite artists or artist teams to submit applications for the Gainesville Regional Utilities' Eastside Operations Center.

Background

Gainesville Regional Utilities, also known as GRU, is a multi-service utility owned by the City of Gainesville. GRU is the 5th largest municipal electrical utility in Florida, serving approximately 90,000 retail and wholesale customers in Gainesville and surrounding areas. GRU offers various services including electric, natural gas, water, wastewater, and telecommunications maintenance.

City of Gainesville Art and Public Places Trust (APPT)

The APPT is an Alachua County and City of Gainesville appointed five-member citizen advisory board established to manage and oversee the purchase of public art.

Project Details

The artwork should relate to the GRU Eastside Operations Center and enrich the environment. The theme is left to the artist's discretion, but the artist must keep in mind that the design must include a link between the public artwork and the functions of the Operations Center. This public art project may enhance the aesthetic quality in one of several locations: the interior spine of the main building; the hallway, boardroom and green roof of the training building; the exterior courtyards of the main building, or the exterior area immediately adjacent to the training building for those who use its services every day. The artwork will be accessible and contribute to Gainesville's community pride. The GRU Eastside Operations Center will be LEED certified. Additional elevation images are posted here:

<http://www.argianpress.net/GRU/Campus map.pdf>

<http://www.argianpress.net/GRU/GRU Utility Buildings.pdf>

<http://www.argianpress.net/GRU/Training Center.pdf>

The APPT has expressed an interest in functional work as well as work that may relate to energy, water and solar, such as kinetic or light sculpture. Groups of artists are encouraged to apply. Artwork should withstand Category Two and Three hurricane winds, long term exposure to salt and strong sun, and casual public interaction.

Budget

The APPT is requesting that proposals include the allocated amount required for services rendered. The total budget is \$80,000. The budget must include all design costs and/or costs to the artist i.e. design coordination, site design, insurance, construction drawings, travel and sales tax.

Artist Eligibility

This project is open to all artists age 18 and over residing in the United States. Artist teams are eligible to apply, including teams of artists from multiple disciplines.

Selection Process

Based on proposal images and support materials, the artist submissions will be reviewed and selected by a selection committee consisting of the APPT Advisory Board and GRU Eastside Operations Center representatives. The committee will select up to three finalists for interviews.

Application Materials

One artist or a team of artists will be selected after the following information has been reviewed. The following documentation must arrive by the postmark deadline of Thursday, March 31, 2011.

1. Letter of Interest: This one page maximum letter should outline the artist's approach to public art. Please highlight relevant past experience on projects of similar budget and scope.
2. General Design Concept/Theme Proposal: Describe your overall theme and style of artwork. Include artist name, fees for all service, drawings, and any additional services provided upon invoice. Explain your proposed schedule, process, medium and method by which you will involve the GRU Eastside Operations Center users in concept development and/or design development.
3. Professional Resume: Resumes should not be more than two pages. Please note that artist teams should submit a resume for each team member.
4. Annotated Image List: The image list must be provided with the Artist's name, title, location, medium, dimensions, date of work, budget, the corresponding image number and short description of images (up to 10 maximum). The format for this submission should be on a CD in .jpg format, with each image no larger than 1 MB.
5. Return Envelope: Self-addressed and stamped.

Mail Application Materials (Postmarked by Thursday March 31, 2011) to:
City of Gainesville Art in Public Places Trust
GRU Eastside Operations Center
Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs
P.O. 490, Mail Station 30
Gainesville, FL 32602-0490

Inquiries

For additional questions please contact John Hayes, Public Art Coordinator, City of Gainesville Division of Cultural Affairs. E-mail: hayesjm@cityofgainesville.org

For building elevations and detailed plans please see:

<http://www.argianpress.net/GRU/Campus map.pdf>
<http://www.argianpress.net/GRU/GRU Utility Buildings.pdf>
<http://www.argianpress.net/GRU/Training Center.pdf>