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## Call to Artists - Request for Qualifications and Request for Proposals: Meridian Mural Series

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### PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Meridian Arts Commission (MAC) invite artists to take part in the Meridian Mural Series project, a mural campaign designed to bring energy and visual interest to our community. Three buildings around Meridian have already been selected as the sites for the mural series. These sites are of various scales and surface textures. Once selected, the artist(s) will work with the property owner and the Meridian Arts Commission to develop an outstanding mural design that represents Meridian's values combined with our presence as an urban, dynamic, and growing community.

This Call is open to applicants regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, or disability. Teams of artists, designers, and/or engineers are welcome to apply. Treasure Valley artists, BIPOC and members of underrepresented or marginalized communities are encouraged to apply. Incomplete or late submissions will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered.

The Arts Commission welcomes all artists, organizations, or teams to apply for any or all of the mural sites. The budgets listed for each location are the maximum amount available for any and all costs related to installation of the mural, including, without limitation, costs for the selected artist's commission, insurance, travel, engineering, materials, equipment, fabrication, permitting, and contingencies.

### MURAL LOCATIONS

#### **SITE #1: Boise Co-op (2350 N. Eagle Road, Meridian, Idaho)**

**Site Description:** The Boise Co-op is a community- owned, natural food grocer in Meridian. The location for the mural faces east, towards a new housing development and Kleiner Park, easily visible for traffic heading west on E. River Valley St. and passing traffic on Records Way. The surface of the wall is unpainted brick. The total proposed space is 760 square feet, 19ft tall and 40 ft wide. This location also contains five windows on the lower half and two lights on the upper half.

**Content Suggestions from Stakeholders:** As a community hub with a focus on local, organic food as well as cooking and nutrition, the stakeholders of this project would like to see this mural design focused on food and community. Specifically, how healthy food serves as a connector. Food is one thing that we all have in

common. Not only is it key to our survival, but it can serve as a way to carry on traditions, make new friends, bridge cultures, and enhance celebrations and milestones in life.  
**Budget:** A budgeted amount of \$12,000 total is available for the completed mural at this location.



**SITE #2: Meridian Cycles (1203 N. Main Street, Meridian, Idaho)**

**Site Description:** A family owned and operated bicycle shop, Meridian Cycles is located in Downtown Meridian, right on Main Street. Formerly a church, the building is unique and memorable to passersby. The wall dedicated for this mural faces north, where it is on full view for traffic headed south on Main Street.



The wall is divided by a ledge that cuts diagonally through the space. It is anticipated that the mural will focus on the space below the ledge, about 193 square feet, between 6 ft and 10 ft tall and about 24 ft wide.

The surface of the wall is painted plaster. A basement window and a single light also occupy the space

**Content Suggestions from**

**Stakeholders:** The stakeholders of this project envision a street scene from early Meridian or local iconic buildings with date appropriate bikes being a foreground focus. This scene would preferably be done in an Art Deco style.

**Budget:** A budgeted amount of \$3,000 total is available for the completed mural at this location.

**SITE #3: SagePoint Financial (720 N. Main Street, Meridian, Idaho)**

**Site Description:** A multi-unit building, SagePoint Financial has been located in Downtown Meridian for over 15 years. The wall intended for this mural series faces west, towards Main Street. Located right on the sidewalk, this wall will catch the eyes of anyone on Main Street. The total space proposed for the mural is about 392 square feet, 16 ft tall and 24.5 ft wide. The site is centered between two windows on the first



floor and stops at an upper ledge. The surface of the wall is painted stucco. There are no windows or lights on this wall, however there is a bench located in front that is immovable.

**Content Suggestions from**

**Stakeholders:** The stakeholders of this project would like to see this mural design based on a landscape of Idaho, perhaps including mountains with a lake or river. The stakeholders would also like to see the artist creatively include a musical element in the mural design.

**Budget:** A budgeted amount of \$6,300 total is available for the completed mural at this location.

## **PROCESS:**

The evaluation and selection process will generally occur as follows; dates are subject to change as may be necessary due to scheduling issues or other circumstances. Any information submitted is subject to release to the public as required by Idaho Public Records Law.

1. **Call to Artists (RFQ/RFP)** issued October 19, 2020.
2. **RFQ open.** To be considered for this project, the following materials must be received by MAC by 11:59 PM, on Monday, December 7, 2020, by mail or personal delivery (during business hours) to 33 E. Broadway Avenue Suite 206, Meridian, ID 83642, or by e-mail to [mac@meridiancity.org](mailto:mac@meridiancity.org):
  - a. A 250-500 word informational statement about the Applicant and/or resume(s);
  - b. A summary of the Applicant's qualifications and experience with similar projects;
  - c. Up to fifteen (15) images of artwork that are representational of the Applicant's style and skills. Please also include information about each image (title, date, medium, budget, commissioning agency, artistic partners, short statement about the project, project timeline, etc.);
  - d. A letter of interest from the Applicant stating which location(s) are preferred AND what interests or inspires the Applicant about the preferred mural location(s).
  - e. Up to five (5) references.
3. **Artists selected.** Between December 8, 2020, and December 31, 2020, a Selection Panel, comprised of members of the Public Art Subcommittee and the respective mural site property owners, will evaluate the applications and select an artist/team to prepare a mural design for each property. (The panel shall reserve the right to select any, all, or no applicants for this purpose, as to any or all location sites.) In assessing the applications received, the Selection Panel will consider:
  - a. Applicant's adherence to the criteria set forth in this RFQ;
  - b. Applicant's past work experience and references on a similar type project;
  - c. Applicant's demonstrated competence in the performance of the type of work to be provided (including the quality and relevance of similar completed work and feedback from professional references); and
  - d. Consistency of proposal with City policy and community and stakeholder values.Following this evaluation, the Selection Panel will invite the selected artists to advance to the RFP phase.
4. **RFP open to selected Artists.** Artists selected for advancement to the RFP phase will be notified by January 5, 2021 and offered a written agreement with the City. The agreement shall establish benchmarks for payment following completion of each of the following steps, and shall further state that both subsequent payments and the installation of the mural are contingent on the approval of the final design by the property owner, MAC, and City Council. Following receipt of the artist's signed agreement and completed W-9 form, the City will issue a payment to the Artist for preparation of three (3) mural design proposals, to include general installation timelines and long-term maintenance information.
5. **Proposals presented.** Artist will present to the Selection Panel, at a public meeting, Artist's three (3) proposed mural designs. This presentation is tentatively scheduled to take place on Thursday, March 18, 2021, at 6:00 PM, at Meridian City Hall. Following the presentation, the Selection Panel will discuss the proposed designs presented by the artist, to include feedback pursuant to this criteria:
  - a. Proposal's incorporation of stakeholder content suggestions as set forth above;
  - b. Suitability of proposed designs as to materials to be used, location, scale, material, durability, safety, and maintenance; and
  - c. Consistency of proposal with City policy and community and stakeholder values, aesthetic and cultural vitality, and sense of place.

Following this evaluation, the Selection Panel will invite the Artist to incorporate the feedback provided and prepare one (1) final design proposal for presentation to MAC. The Selection Panel may ask the Artist to work with the mural location property owner to finalize the design.

6. **Final design presented to MAC.** Artist will present to the Meridian Arts Commission, at a public meeting, the final mural design, with a detailed installation timeline and long-term maintenance information. This presentation is tentatively scheduled to take place on May 13, 2021, at 3:30 PM, at Meridian City Hall. MAC will evaluate the proposal, considering the criteria set forth above.
7. **Final design presented to City Council.** MAC will present its recommendation to Meridian City Council, on or around its meeting on Tuesday, June 22, 2021.
8. **Mural installed.** Following approval of the final mural design by City Council and execution of an easement with the property owner, the Artist will install the artwork, in accordance with the timeline set forth in the agreement.

**ESTIMATED TIMELINE:**

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| <input type="checkbox"/> October 16, 2020      | Call to Artists (RFQ/RFP) issued                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December 7, 2020      | Deadline for submission of RFQ responses                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By December 31, 2020  | Selection Panel convenes to review RFQ responses                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By January 5, 2021    | Applicants notified of Selection Panel's decision                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By January 20, 2021   | Deadline for submission of Artist's signed agreement and W-2 form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> March 18, 2021        | Artist presents response to RFP - three (3) design proposals      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By May 13, 2021       | Artist works with property owner to finalize design               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> May 13, 2021          | Artist presents final design to MAC                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> June 22, 2021         | MAC presents final design recommendation to City Council          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By July 15, 2021      | Stakeholder conveys easement to City for mural location           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By September 30, 2021 | Mural is installed  |

Please contact MAC via email ([mac@meridiancity.org](mailto:mac@meridiancity.org)) or phone (208-489-0399) with any questions.

**Thank you for your interest!**