Call for Proposals
2018 Temporary Public Art Installation
Waterville, Maine

Overview:
The Waterville Cultural Blueprint, which was completed in April of 2017 after over a year of diverse community input, identified that 90% of survey respondents believe that public art is important to the future of Waterville as an arts destination. In response to this feedback, one of the goals established in the cultural plan is “to provide diverse encounters with art, culture, and creativity in the public realm through public art, the city streetscape, neighborhood programs and enhancements, and public performances in both traditional and nontraditional venues.”

Waterville Creates! Public Art Task Group invites artists to submit proposals for a temporary public art installation from May 1 through September 30 of 2018. A minimum of two artists (or groups of artists) will be selected to provide works of art for exterior display, installation, and/or performance in the City of Waterville. This invitation is open to artists whether they live within or outside of the state of Maine.

Theme:
Proposals should relate to the artist’s reflections on the Kennebec River as a focal point of Waterville’s past, current, and future identity.

Sites:
Artists are encouraged to propose specific sites that they have identified. Any site within the city of Waterville is eligible, though preference will be given to sites with high visibility and/or high volumes of pedestrian traffic, such as the downtown district, the South End, Quarry Road, etc. Waterville Creates! will fund projects on privately owned property provided the artist has a written agreement with the property owner. Please note that the riverfront property at Head of Falls will be under construction for much of the period of this exhibition as the new River Walk project is built!

Media:
All media, including performance art, sound, projection, and light installations, are eligible for consideration. Performance art pieces may be one-time, multiple, or ongoing occurrences. All work will be professionally documented through photographs and/or video at the expense and under the supervision of Waterville Creates!, who will maintain all rights to the resulting images and video.

Compensation:
The maximum stipend will be $5000; should Waterville Creates! or the City of Waterville choose to purchase a piece for permanent display, the stipend shall serve as a deposit toward the total purchase price. Any private purchase will be independent of this process and arranged directly between the purchaser and the artist.
Installation:
Artists are responsible for transporting, installing, and removing the artwork after the exhibition. Exterior artwork should be durable and require no maintenance during the exhibition period. Waterville Creates! will work with the City of Waterville to provide site specific installation assistance as required. Limited funds in addition to the artist stipend may be available to assist with this process. Attention to public safety issues and resistance to vandalism are also important considerations. Approval of artwork will be contingent on satisfactorily addressing liability issues and assuring structural integrity.

Review Criteria & Process:
Proposals will be reviewed by the Public Art Task Group of Waterville Creates! with additional representation from the City of Waterville. Proposals will be scored based on:
- Relevance to the theme
- Visibility / visual impact
- Appropriateness / availability of the site (if one has been identified)
- Artistic excellence
- Evidence of durability / public safety

Project Timeline:
- October 4, 2017: Call for Proposals opens
- December 1, 2017: Proposals are due
- December 7, 2017: Public Art Task Group finalizes selections
- December 15, 2017: Phone interviews with selected artists
- January 15, 2018: Contracts signed between WC! and artists
- April 27-30, 2018: Artworks are installed
- June 2018: Opening Event (date TBD)
- September 2018: Artist talks at Common Street Arts gallery
- After September 30, 2018: Removal of artworks

Application Requirements:
Interested artists should provide the following:
- **Letter of interest.** Please explain why you would like to be considered for this exhibition, how you would address the theme, and the artwork you would create, including a proposed location should you have one identified.
- **Proposed budget.** Please provide a budget for your proposed project and clearly state the amount of your request. The maximum request is $5000.
- **Current Resume.** Include information about previous work, commissions, public art installations, and exhibitions.
- **Digital Images/Videos/Audio Files.** Please include a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 jpeg images (no larger than 1 MB per file) representative of your work. Please include title of work, dimensions of the work, and materials used. For performance pieces or pieces with an audio/visual component, please submit no more than 3 links to relevant audio/video files.

*All materials must be emailed to marie@watervillecreates.org by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 1.*