

***Please note that there are TWO SEPARATE RFQs, each with a different location and artwork specifications; However, artists may apply for BOTH.**

RFQ #1

Call for Artist(s)

Request for Qualifications (RFQ): Community Learning Center Art Installation for Homewood-Brushton Branch YMCA

RELEASE DATE: July 26, 2022

APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 14, 2022 at 11:59pm EDT. Please submit your application via this [form](#).

PROJECT BUDGET: \$8,000 (includes artist fee, materials, labor, and installation)

INFORMATION SESSION: Thursday, August 4, 2022

I. Project Intent:

Neighborhood Allies seeks to commission a qualified artist, or artist team (up to 2 people), to design and execute one original work of hangable art such as, but not limited to: a mural, painting, wall mounted sculpture etc. for the new Homewood-Brushton Youth Learning Center, located at the Homewood-Brushton YMCA (7140 Bennett Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208). The Learning Center will be an exciting and inclusive maker space for youth and their families to access digital tools, receive training in advanced technologies, participate in STEAM education, hone entrepreneurship skills and gain exposure to career pathways in STEM. The Learning Center aims to empower Pittsburgh residents with the digital tools and knowledge to achieve multigenerational success.

The Learning Center is intended to be a place to *imagine, design, create and connect* and embody the core YMCA values of *caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility*. Therefore, the artwork for the Learning Center should reflect the goals and hopes for the Center and will be placed in a prominent location, the welcome area, for all to see when entering the Center.

The artwork should embody the following intentions:

- Welcoming, inclusive, and reflective of the local community
- Reflective of the YMCA's values

- Inspiring, transformational, imaginative, unifying
- Work should celebrate the Homewood-Brushton community's legacy and/or imagine the community's bright future
- Content should be family-friendly and a single vision instead of a mosaic of work

II. Artwork Specifications:

This call for art addresses the design and placement of art that can be hung on a load-bearing wall behind the welcome desk.

- Dimensions: approximately 7'-3" W x 4'-8.5" H. Depth to not exceed 4".
- Weight: up to 50 lbs.
- The art piece **cannot** be of a historical figure
- Art must be 1 cohesive art piece (ie. if there are 3 panels they must show a continuous flow of 1 image)
- Completed artwork must be ready to hang

III. **Budget:** \$8,000 total. This amount is inclusive of the artist fee, cost of materials, labor, and installation. 50% of the total will be paid at time of contract, and remaining balance will be paid net-30 days after installation.

IV. Eligibility & Selection Criteria

This opportunity is open to all visual artists or artist teams (up to 2 people) that meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be 18 and older (applies to all members of artist team)
- Must be a resident of Allegheny County
- Applicants must be able to complete the art aligned with the project's timeline requirements

Preference is given to artists who have a connection to the Homewood-Brushton community. Neighborhood Allies is committed to equitable opportunities and just practices, and prioritizes submission for women and minority artists.

Applicants will be reviewed based on the following selection criteria:

- A letter of interest that demonstrates an understanding of and interest in the project goals
- Previous work that:

- Shows a strong, consistent, and clear artistic voice;
- Demonstrates an ability to execute creative concepts;
- Has achieved sustained impact or value;
- Facilitates collective expression, shared meaning, and/or community engagement

If applying as an artist team, the application must include examples of prior work with each other that meets the above criteria.

V. Timeline:

Tuesday, July 26	RFQ Distributed
Week of August 1	Information Session (recording available)
Sunday, August 14 at 11:59PM EDT	Application window closed
Week of August 22	Finalists notified and invited to submit proposals
Sunday, September 4 at 11:59PM EDT	Proposal submissions & concepts due
Week of September 12	Selected artist/artist team notified and contract extended
Friday, September 16 at 5PM EDT	Signed contract due
Friday, September 23	Final artwork concept approved
Friday, October 21	Artwork completed
Week of October 24	Artwork installed on-site
Fourth Quarter of 2022	Learning Center grand opening

VI. How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically via the following Google Form on or before August 14, 2022 at 11:59PM EDT:

<https://form.jotform.com/222145798662162>

To apply for this call for artists, please submit the following items:

- **Letter of Interest** (350 words or 1.5 pages double-spaced): Describe your interest in this project and how your past experience makes you the best candidate for this commission. If applying as a team, please describe your previous experience working together.
- **Artist Bio/Statement** (150 words or 300 words for artist team): A brief artist bio and description of your work and practice. Teams may submit a team bio/statement or individual bios/statements.
- **Samples of Artwork** (maximum file size of 10MB): Provide 3 examples of your work w/ a brief description (50 words). Image files must be in JPEG or PDF format. Please title files as “01_LastName_FirstName_ArtworkTitle,” “02_LastName_FirstName_ArtworkTitle,” etc. If applying as a team, please include at least one example of an artwork created collaboratively and indicate the lead artist.

If access to a computer or internet is a barrier, please contact: Karen Lue at: 412-471-3727 ext. 230

VII. Selection Process

The Selection Committee made up of representatives from Neighborhood Allies and the YMCA will review all artist submissions and select three finalists to move on to the RFP phase.

Funder with recommendations from the Selection Committee will select the final artist/artist team.

Phase 1: Request for Qualifications

Artists will submit a letter of interest, artist bio/statement, and samples of artwork to Neighborhood Allies. The Selection Committee will review submissions and select three artists (or artist teams) to move to Phase 2: Request for Proposals.

Phase 2: Request for Proposals

The three finalists selected out of Phase 1 will be asked to submit a design proposal for the artwork to be commissioned. The proposal should include a mock-up of the final artwork, artwork medium, instructions on how the artwork will be installed, and a general budget outline. The Selection Committee will then notify the final artist/artist team and extend the contract.

Phase 3: Finalizing Artwork Concept

Once the contract is countersigned, the artist/artist team will make any requested changes to the artwork concept and resubmit the final concept for approval. The first half of the budget (\$4,000) will also be paid at this time.

Phase 4: Artwork Execution and Installation

Once the Selection Committee approves the final artwork concept, the artist/artist team may begin creating the artwork. Install on-site at the Learning Center will be coordinated among all necessary parties. The remainder of the budget (\$4,000) will be distributed at this time.

VIII. Organization Overview

Neighborhood Allies is a local economic development nonprofit organization dedicated to the vision that all neighborhoods will be resilient, thriving, and equitable. Our mission is to engage Pittsburgh area residents and organizations with innovative tools that expand opportunity for transformative community change. We strive to eliminate barriers by uplifting creative community ideas and creating access to advanced accessible technologies and programming in Homewood-Brushton.

IX. Contact for Application Questions

Karen Lue
Senior Program Manager for Digital Inclusion & Innovation
Neighborhood Allies
karen@neighborhoodallies.org

RFQ #2

Call for Artist(s)

Request for Qualifications (RFQ): Community Learning Center Art Installation for CCAC Homewood-Brushton Center

RELEASE DATE: July 26, 2022

APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 14, 2022 at 11:59pm EDT. Please submit your application via this [form](#).

PROJECT BUDGET: \$8,000 (includes artist fee, materials, labor, and installation)

INFORMATION SESSION: Thursday, August 4, 2022

I. Project Intent:

Neighborhood Allies seeks to commission a qualified artist, or artistic team, to design and execute one original work of hangable art such as, but not limited to: a mural, painting, wall mounted sculpture etc. for the new Homewood-Brushton Adult Learning Center, located at the CCAC Homewood-Brushton Center (701 N Homewood Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15208). The goal of the Learning Center is to provide community residents access to digital skills training, STEM education, career development, and small business/entrepreneurship education leveraging advanced technologies.

The Learning Center is intended to be a place of inspiration, education, and connection. Therefore, the artwork for the Learning Center should reflect the goals and hopes for the Center and will be placed in a prominent location, the welcome area, for all to see when entering the Center.

The artwork should embody the following intentions:

- Welcoming, inclusive, and reflective of the local community
- Inspiring, transformational, imaginative, unifying
- Work should celebrate the Homewood-Brushton community's legacy and/or imagine the community's bright future
- Content should be family-friendly and a single vision instead of a mosaic of work

II. Artwork Specifications:

This call for art addresses the design and placement of art that can be hung on a load-bearing wall behind the welcome desk.

- Dimensions: approximately 12'-0" W x 3'-7.5" H. Depth to not exceed 4".
- Weight: up to 50 lbs.
- The art piece **cannot** be of a historical figure
- Art must be 1 cohesive art piece (ie. if there are 3 panels they must show a continuous flow of 1 image)
- Completed artwork must be ready to hang

III. **Budget:** \$8,000 total. This amount is inclusive of the artist fee, cost of materials, labor, and installation. 50% of the total will be paid at time of contract, and remaining balance will be paid net-30 days after installation.

IV. **Eligibility & Selection Criteria**

This opportunity is open to all visual artists or artist teams (up to 2 people) that meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be 18 and older (applies to all members of artist team)
- Must be a resident of Allegheny County
- Applicants must be able to complete the art aligned with the project's timeline requirements

Preference is given to artists who have a connection to the Homewood-Brushton community. Neighborhood Allies is committed to equitable opportunities and just practices, and prioritizes submission for women and minority artists.

Applicants will be reviewed based on the following selection criteria:

- A letter of interest that demonstrates an understanding of and interest in the project goals
- Previous work that:
 - Shows a strong, consistent, and clear artistic voice;
 - Demonstrates an ability to execute creative concepts;
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To apply for this call for artists, please submit the following items:

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If access to a computer or internet is a barrier, please contact: Karen Lue at: 412-471-3727 ext. 230

VII. Selection Process

The Selection Committee made up of representatives from Neighborhood Allies and the CCAC will review all artist submissions and select three finalists to move on to the RFP phase.

Funder with recommendations from the Selection Committee will select the final artist/artist team.

Phase 1: Request for Qualifications

Artists will submit a letter of interest, artist bio/statement, and samples of artwork to Neighborhood Allies. The Selection Committee will review submissions and select three artists (or artist teams) to move to Phase 2: Request for Proposals.

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strive to eliminate barriers by uplifting creative community ideas and creating access to advanced accessible technologies and programming in Homewood-Brushton.

IX. Contact for Application Questions

Karen Lue

Senior Program Manager for Digital Inclusion & Innovation

Neighborhood Allies

karen@neighborhoodallies.org