



## **CALL FOR ARTISTS: Workshop Opportunity - Going Public: A Public Art Incubator**

### **Charlotte, North Carolina**

**RFQ ISSUE DATE:** Wednesday, February 1st, 2023

**VIRTUAL PRE-SUBMITTAL MEETING:** Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

This is an opportunity for potential applicants to learn more about the ASC Public Art program and ask questions regarding the directory and submission process. **Select the link below to RSVP for meeting login information.**

[February 16th, 2023, Virtual Pre-Submittal Meeting](#)

### **SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

**Friday, March 3rd, 2023, by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).** Applications must be received via (<https://asc.slideroom.com>), an online application system. There is no fee to submit qualifications.

### **PROJECT BACKGROUND**

The Arts & Science Council (ASC) is accepting qualifications from professional, regional artists for participation in *Going Public: A Public Art Incubator*. This workshop opportunity will share the skills necessary to become competitive candidates for regional public art projects managed by ASC.

ASC facilitates a joint Public Art Program of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, which establishes opportunities for artists to create site-specific artwork in the public sphere. The program is funded through two separate ordinances created individually by the City and County that established a 1% for art allocation for all eligible capital improvement projects. The Public Art Program develops a broad collection of artworks that support and enhance the vision of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region.

*Going Public: A Public Art Incubator* is made possible by the financial sponsorship and partnership of Lowe's. Building a skilled public artist pipeline and developing business acumen within selected participants are foundational elements of this new cohort program. Lowe's supports the communities it serves to make homes and hometowns better for all. This extends throughout its hometown of Charlotte, including support of local artists who make neighborhoods and communities vibrant places to live and work.

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Public art is an incredible source of revenue and professional development for artists working across various concepts, media, and scales. Making the transition from a studio or gallery-based visual arts practice to the competitive field of public art can be challenging. This series of workshops will help artists better understand the process behind public art from applying to commissions, working with stakeholders and

communities, and making their vision a reality. ASC's goal is to better equip artists and prepare them for opportunities and challenges they may face while working in public space.

*Going Public: A Public Art Incubator* is a series of 3 workshops facilitated by ASC Public Art staff and practicing public artists who have participated in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg public art program. Each workshop will cover a specific subject relevant to the public art process through artist presentations, question and answer sessions, and hands-on experiences. Artists will be asked to produce an artistic outcome aligned with each topic. Workshop sessions will be six hours in length with a catered meal. Session topics include:

1. *Answering the Call to Artists (Applying for Opportunities)*: Participants will learn what types of opportunities are available for public artists and how to apply. Artist facilitators and ASC staff will share helpful tips for creating an application that stands out, give behind-the-scenes insights into the artist selection process and help participants understand how to grow their professional practice. A mock "Call to Artists" will allow participants to gain hands-on experience of the process.
2. *Public Art Is a Team Sport (Community Engagement)*: Working with communities is an important part of the ASC public art process. ASC staff and artist facilitators will share the good, the bad, and the strange of involving communities in the artistic process. Special focus will be given to developing intentional strategies for working with communities and developing a personal communication style. This session will end with a community roleplay scenario, allowing participants to test approaches and receive instant feedback.
3. *Making It (Project Management for Artists)*: The last workshop session will focus on public art project management strategies. Participants will receive a crash course in the various project phases they will be responsible for as commissioned artists. Artist facilitators and ASC staff will provide insight and helpful tips for managing a budget; working with clients, collaborators, and subcontractors; and designing for public spaces. Various approaches to fabricating artworks will be discussed as well as what to expect when installing a work of art. The session will end with a budgeting exercise that familiarizes participants with the process and gives them a template to use on future projects.

**PLEASE NOTE: Participation in ASC's Going Public: A Public Art Incubator does not guarantee a commission.**

**ARTIST STIPENDS:** Selected artists will receive a **\$500 USD** stipend.

**ARTIST ELIGIBILITY:**

Six regional artists will be selected to participate based on their resume/CV, statement of interest, and portfolio. No previous experience completing public art commissions is required. Participants will be selected based on the strength of their applications by a panel of ASC staff and Lowe's stakeholders.

Applicants not meeting the following eligibility guidelines will be withdrawn from consideration:

- **Artists must reside in Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, or Rowan County.**
- Submittal of a complete application
- Work samples that demonstrate a professional studio practice.

- The artist’s resume demonstrates evidence of professional artistic achievements.

**TO APPLY**

Applications are available through **SlideRoom** (<https://asc.slideroom.com>), an online application system for calls for entry. There is no fee to submit qualifications. Applications will not be accepted after the **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**, 11:59 p.m. (EDT) deadline. Please note that Arts & Science Council staff will be available to answer questions about this call until 5:00 p.m. (EDT) on the deadline date.

The following materials will be required to be uploaded to SlideRoom:

- **Credentials:** a Resume/Curriculum Vitae (CV) or a Biography demonstrating professional history and skills or experience as a professional artist (maximum two (2) pages).
- **Images of Past Work:** up to ten (10) images of recent work or three (3) digital video or movie files limited to 2 minutes each - completed within the past ten (10) years.
- **Statement of Interest or Video of Interest:** a brief introductory narrative that provides insight about your interest in working as a public artist (one (1) page maximum or video no longer than 3 minutes in length).
- **Annotated Slide List:** titles, date, media and dimensions of artwork.
- **References:** three professional references. Include name, organization phone number, and email.

For help with SlideRoom application-related questions, contact customer service [via our formsite](#) or by emailing [support@slideroom.com](mailto:support@slideroom.com). Hours of operation: Monday – Friday, 8 AM – 6 PM EDT

**SELECTION PROCESS**

Participants will be selected based on the strength of their applications by a panel of ASC staff and Lowe’s stakeholders.

**PROJECTED TIMELINE**

February 1, 2023	RFQ applications accepted
February 16, 2023	Pre-submittal Meeting @ 6pm via Zoom
March 3, 2023	RFQ applications deadline
March, 2023	Artist Selection Panel convenes (Select 6 artists)
April 2023	Artist’s contract execution
May 2023	Workshop I – Answering the Call to Artists (Applying for Opportunities)
June 2023	Workshop II – Public Art is a Team Sport (Collaboration)
July 2023	Workshop III – Making It (Project Management)

**FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFQ**

For further information regarding the RFQ, please contact Randella Foster, Program Director, Public Art @ [Randella.Foster@artsandscience.org](mailto:Randella.Foster@artsandscience.org).

**ABOUT THE ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL**

Since 1995, the Arts and Science Council has managed the public art programs for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. The Public Art Commission is responsible for the community-based artist selection and design review process for each public artwork. The commission is an appointed board of volunteer citizens from the arts, education and business sectors. In 2003, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and the Charlotte City Council adopted ordinances that appropriate one percent of eligible capital improvement project funds for public art. The ordinance helps ensure that artworks enhance our public spaces and become an integral part of urban and economic development efforts. See more at: <http://www.artsandscience.org/>

## **ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Arts & Science Council (ASC) is committed to serving a diverse range of individuals and organizations through its programs and services and does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or any characteristic protected by law.

## **ABOUT LOWE'S**

Lowe's Companies, Inc. (NYSE: LOW) is a FORTUNE® 50 home improvement company serving approximately 19 million customer transactions a week in the United States and Canada. With fiscal year 2021 sales of over \$96 billion, Lowe's and its related businesses operate or service nearly 2,200 home improvement and hardware stores and employ over 300,000 associates. Based in Mooresville, N.C., Lowe's supports the communities it serves through programs focused on creating safe, affordable housing and helping to develop the next generation of skilled trade experts. For more information, visit [Lowe's.com](https://www.lowes.com).

