

Call for Artist Proposal

Burien Honors Black Lives Matter Movement



Call Out: January 22, 2021

Call Due: March 12, 2021

Email submissions to:
artscommission@burienwa.gov

Project Goals: To invigorate and energize the Burien community and honor the Black Lives Matter movement by creating a visual art piece that can be permanent or temporarily installed for at least one year. Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) artists are encouraged to apply.

Background: In response to community requests, the Burien City Council requested a project that “honors the Black Lives Matter movement.” The Burien Arts Commission made a recommendation that was approved by the Burien City Council at their December 7, 2020 public meeting. This project is made possible by the Burien Art in Public Place Fund.

About Black Lives Matter: The Black Lives Matter movement began in July 2013 after the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, a Black teenager. The movement became nationally recognized for street demonstrations following the 2014 deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner, which resulted in protests. Since the 2014 protests, participants in the movement have demonstrated against the deaths of numerous other Black people by police actions or while in police custody. In the summer of 2015, Black Lives Matter activists became involved in the 2016 United States presidential election. The originators of the hashtag and call to action, Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi, expanded their project into a national network of over 30 local chapters between 2014 and 2016. The overall Black Lives Matter movement is a decentralized network of activists with no formal hierarchy.

The movement returned to national headlines and gained further international attention during the global George Floyd protests in 2020 following the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin. An estimated 15 million to 26 million people participated in the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests in the United States, making it one of the largest movements in the country's history.

The phrase "Black Lives Matter" can refer to a social movement, a political action committee, or a loose confederation of groups advocating for racial justice. As a movement, Black Lives Matter is grassroots and decentralized, and leaders have emphasized the importance of local organizing over national leadership. The movement comprises many views and a broad array of demands that center on criminal justice reform.

(Source: Wikipedia)

Criteria:

- **Eligibility:** This call is open to both emerging and established professional, practicing artists residing in Washington state. Burien and South King County artists are strongly encouraged to apply. Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) artists are encouraged to apply. Artists(s) should be invested in Burien or have the ability to immerse themselves in Burien culture and community to develop this project. Artists should have experience collaborating with community.
- **Theme:** Proposals should be based on the theme of honoring the Black Lives Matter movement.
- **Medium:** An array of mediums will be considered based on the project proposal. As a site or location has not been determined, the City requests that the medium reflects the needs of the site the artist suggests in their proposal. Examples of possible mediums include, but are not limited to, traditional visual arts and installation

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arts installed in storefronts and/or City facilities, weatherproof materials installed in city parks, wall murals, banners, projection mapping, etc.

- **Site/Location:** As there is not a designated site or location for this project, we request the artist develop a site plan based on the project plan, material needs, and community involvement needs. Examples of possible sites include but are not limited to storefronts, city buildings, city parks, virtual options, partnerships with building owners for murals , etc.
- **Public Involvement:** This project requires public involvement including participation from Burien’s Black community to ensure the final project is meaningful and represents the interests of our Black residents and business community members. Please provide descriptions of COVID-safe options for public involvement (to help develop your Covid safe plan: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/>) .

Commission: Up to \$10,000. Finalists will be chosen by a jury panel. Budget needs to cover all aspects of project including public engagement, materials, creation of work, installation, insurance, etc.

Timeline:

- Applications due: March 12, 2021
- Selection Panel: March/April 2021
- Review by Arts Commission and Council approval: April/May 2021
- Selected artist under contract: May/June, 2021
- Project to be implemented: June–December, 2021

Selection Criteria:

- Complete qualifications submitted prior to the application deadline.
- The artist’s body of work reflects artistic excellent, innovation, and originality.
- The artists’ work is appropriate to the goals and locations of the project.
- The artist has adequate professional experience to meet the demands of the project, including a combination of: education and training as an artist; an exhibition record in museums, galleries, and/or nonprofit art spaces; previous public or private commissions; or other related activities indicative of a professional art practice.
- Ability to meet project deadlines and to perform work in a timely and professional manner.

To Apply:

- Artists are required to submit their proposal in the format specified below by March 12, 2021, 5 p.m.
- Email submissions to artscommission@burienwa.gov. Include your:
 - Contact information: name (first and last), phone, email, mailing address.
 - Letter of interest or artist statement: including a short narrative explaining interest in the project and general artistic approach.
 - Description of community involvement: who would be involved with project and what would involvement look like? Please describe COVID-safe options.
 - Description of possible site or location options.
 - Resume: Limited to two pages. Demonstrate professional history and skills, or experience as a professional working artist.
 - Description (itemized) of budget plan.
 - Images: Limited to ten images of previous work.

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- Annotated image list: Limited to two pages. Provide a brief description of each image, detailing the titles, date, media, and dimensions of artwork.
- Professional references: Limited to one page. Provide three references, including name, organization or title, phone number, and email.

Applicants are responsible for all costs incurred in preparing or responding to this request for qualifications. All materials and documents submitted become the property of the City and will not be returned.

Please email artscommission@burienwa.gov with questions about this opportunity or request to meet for application writing support.