



CALL TO ARTISTS
TIDEMARKER ART INSTALLATION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
INITIAL SUBMISSIONS DUE: FEBRUARY 15, 2023

SUMMARY: An artist will be selected to create a site-specific public art project for the environmental non-profit Elizabeth River Project at the site of their new Ryan Resilience Lab in Norfolk, Virginia to be installed September 2023 with a total budget of \$50,000.



BACKGROUND

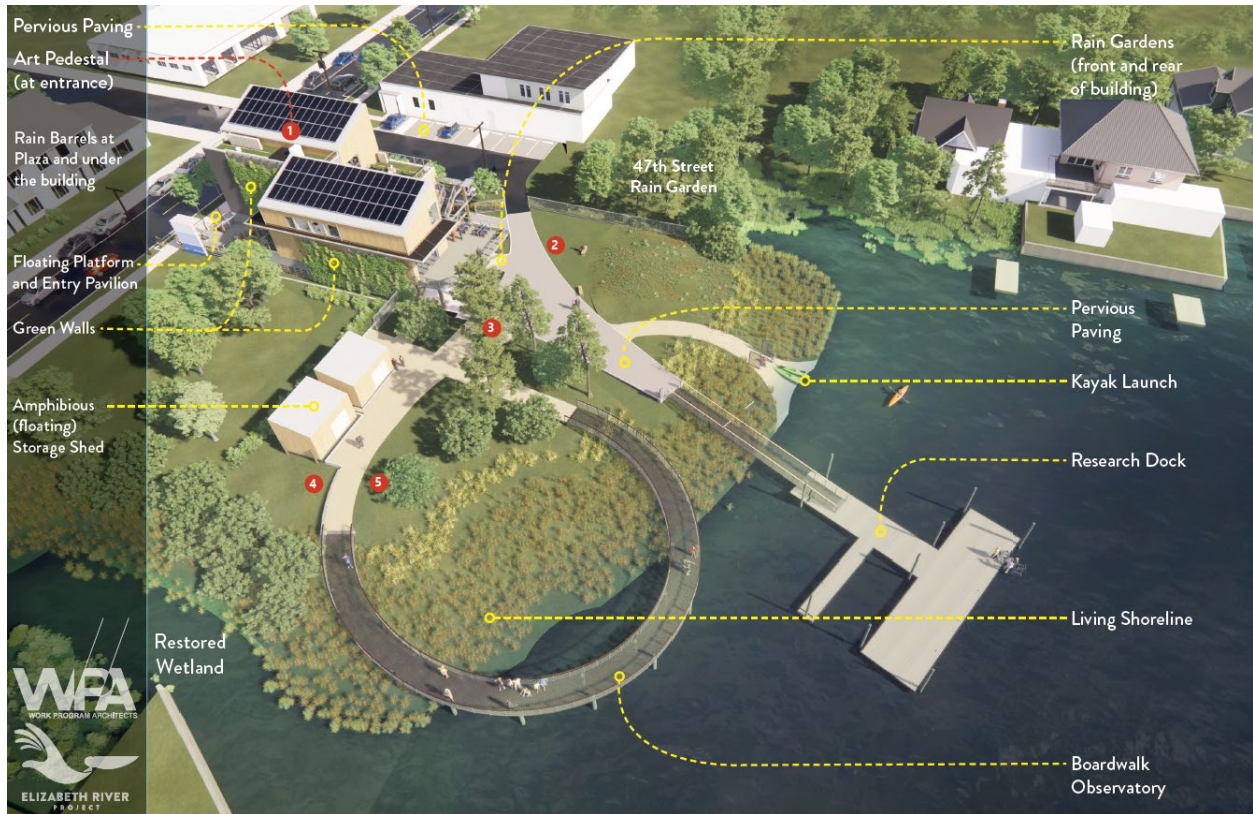
Founded in 1993, the Elizabeth River Project is a collaborative, community-focused environmental non-profit organization leading the effort to restore the health of our urban river. Rooted in the power of partnerships, we are a collection of community members, businesses, governments, students, educators and public servants working together to 'Do Something Beautiful' by restoring our home river.

As communities everywhere wrestle with the growing impacts of climate change, the Ryan Resilience Lab of the Elizabeth River Project will serve as a global model for urban coastal communities that protects both them and the natural ecosystem as sea levels rise. Now being built along Knitting Mill Creek in Norfolk, VA, the U.S. city second in vulnerability to sea level rise, this \$8 million living laboratory is currently under construction with a target completion of late summer 2023.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Elizabeth River Project's Ryan Resilience Lab will be a multi-purpose learning lab that incorporates advanced and easily replicable sustainable/resilient design technologies and techniques throughout the building and site, demonstrating environmental resilience to sea level rise.

The tidemark art installation will be located in the Learning Park along the waterfront of the Ryan Lab. The art location is not predetermined, though some suggested locations have been identified (see image below), and the artist will participate in selecting the site. Artist hard-hat tours can be arranged to visit the construction site, get a sense of the area, and see in-person the locations identified in the site map as potential public artwork installation locations. Locations marked "pedestal" have been identified as possible sites, and the artist is not necessarily constrained to mounting the piece on a pedestal.



ART GOALS

The Ryan Resilience Lab seeks to inspire equitable engagement of diverse audiences in the mission of the Elizabeth River Project: "Together, to restore a healthy Elizabeth River for all." The Ryan Resilience Lab uses art and science in support of that mission, with an emphasis on inspiring resilience to sea level rise for the protection and flourishing of the ecosystem including its humans.

The tidemark art piece should demonstrate acknowledgement and celebration of the day of abandonment of the structure in 30-50 years due to the measurable scientific trigger point of the conservation easement retreat. This acknowledgement is the educational emphasis that informs the sculpture. Other tidal moments (extreme highs and lows) and interactions could be considered as well to help create the piece. The ideal Tidemark art piece should create feelings of connection with nature and an empowerment to care, rather than incite fear.

COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

The piece must fit within the environmental "Best Practices" of the ERP and the Ryan Resilience Lab. Any impact to the river and watershed must be minimal and/or positively impactful in some way.

The tidemark artwork proposal must demonstrate durability in relation to outdoor site conditions which include flooding, wind and salt corrosion. Piece must also be eco-aware in that it is wildlife friendly and constructed with sustainable materials. Consideration must be given to ease for flora and fauna to coexist (e.g., barnacles, crabs, oysters, wetland grasses, etc.).

BUDGET - \$50,000

The budget includes all costs associated with, but not limited to: design; materials; travel; insurance; fabrication; installation, and documentation of the artwork.

ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION PROCESS

The project is open to all experienced professional artists as well as artists who are new to the field of public art. Artists who have experience interacting with community are also encouraged to apply. The selected artist must provide proof of general liability insurance coverage.

The application and selection process will happen in two primary stages: in the first, an initial online application will include general information about the artists' qualifications and interest/concepts. The second stage will fund selected applicants to submit a more complete application. For submission details, selection criteria, and application, please visit <https://elizabethriver.org/bids-proposals/call-to-artists-tidemarkers-art-installation/>.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Initial proposals must be received by 5pm EST on February 15, 2023. Proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Casey Shaw at the Elizabeth River Project, cshaw@elizabethriver.org.

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