

Percent for Art Call for Artists **Intersection of Broad, Germantown, and Erie**



Project Budget: \$200,000
Deadline for Submissions: September 21, 2023

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
Jim Kenney, Mayor

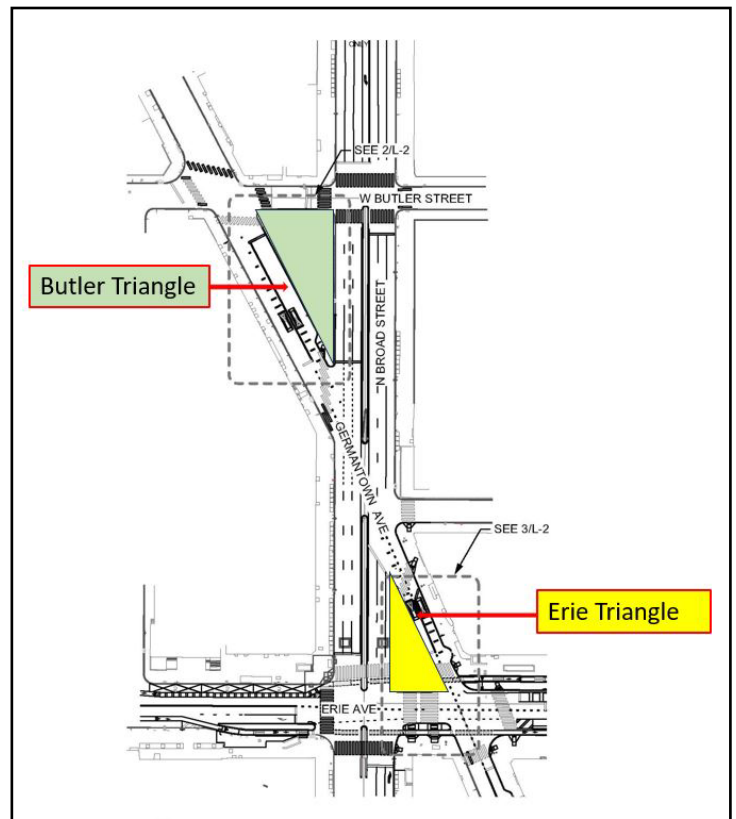
OFFICE OF ARTS, CULTURE AND THE CREATIVE ECONOMY
Kelly Lee, Chief Cultural Officer
Marguerite Anglin, Public Art Director

Project Overview:

The Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy (OACCE) and the City of Philadelphia announce a competition to commission site-specific public artwork to be installed at the intersection of Broad, Germantown, and Erie (BGE). This public artwork will be commissioned through the City of Philadelphia's Percent for Art program and is part of a large construction project that will transform the Broad, Germantown, and Erie intersection in the Nicetown/Tioga neighborhood in North Philadelphia. The intersection forms two triangles at Erie Ave and Butler St (The Triangles) where the majority of the site improvements will occur and where the art will be located.

The BGE Percent for Art project will provide several opportunities for two- and three-dimensional public artworks throughout the Erie and Butler Triangles. The artworks will be inspired by positive quotes and sayings that were selected by the community. The art may be expressed in a variety of artistic mediums, including etchings and mosaics, embedded into surfaces within the intersection as well as sculptural works. See pages 5-7 for available locations for public art opportunities within the site.

The City of Philadelphia's Percent for Art program invites all interested artists to apply for this public art commission and encourages artists to consider forming multi-disciplinary artist teams where appropriate. Priority will be given to artists or artist teams who reflect the diversity of the Nicetown/Tioga community, and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and female artists or artist teams are strongly encouraged to apply. Qualified local artists or artist teams who live or work in the community around the Broad, Germantown, Erie intersection will also be prioritized for this opportunity, but any artist may apply.



BGE Intersection: Site Plan

This is a two-part competition consisting of Part 1: Submission of Qualifications and Part 2: Finalist Proposals. In Part 1 of the competition, all artists or artist teams who are interested in this opportunity are invited to respond to this Call for Artists by submitting an application detailing their qualifications ONLY. Applicants will be narrowed into a smaller group of the four (4) best qualified Finalists who will move on to Part 2 of the competition where they will

receive a \$1000 stipend to develop thorough design proposals for the BGE art project. No design proposals are requested at this time.

Public input and participation will be vital to ensuring the voices of the community are reflected in the development of the artwork. Community engagement opportunities will allow Finalists to hear directly from members of the public about their ideas and aspirations for this project. Finalists will be encouraged to align their proposals with input and feedback provided by the community.

A total budget of up to \$200,000 has been allocated for this Percent for Art commission. This sum is inclusive of all artist(s) fees, insurance, fabrication, installation, engineering, foundations, travel, and all other project related expenses.

Project Background and Goals:

Nicetown-Tioga is a predominantly African American neighborhood in the North Philadelphia area comprised of children, working adults and senior citizens. The median household income is significantly below the average in Pennsylvania. In addition to issues with poverty, residents of the community have expressed concerns about challenges with addiction, crime and safety for children. Despite this, the Nicetown-Tioga community has shown strength and resilience and is engaged in efforts to bring about revitalization to their neighborhood. A focus on positively impacting local youth and creating opportunities that inspire the next generation has been at the forefront of these efforts.

In 2017, the Broad, Germantown, and Erie Task Force was formed as a collaboration between various City departments and neighborhood organizations to develop a plan to make the intersection safer for pedestrians, improve and create new public spaces, honor local history and culture, create jobs and support businesses.

The public spaces along the BGE intersection will be redesigned and reconstructed to provide spaces for community gatherings, outdoor eating, library programming, and events. The City will rebuild the streets, sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic lights, and bus stops at the intersection. There will also be a protected bike lane built on Erie Avenue and two new public plazas. SEPTA will also be building elevators down to the Broad Street Line's Erie Station. More information on the construction project is available at www.phila.gov/bge.

The City's public space investments have led to residents' concerns about gentrification. The intention of these public spaces is to serve existing residents, business owners, and workers, not to displace them. The Percent for Art Program aims to signal this intention through public art. The art should demonstrate that these improvements were designed with the neighborhood, for the neighborhood.

The BGE Percent for Art Project has the following important goals:

- 1) To provide a permanent, community driven public artwork at the BGE Triangles that reflects the culture, values, and diversity of the Nicetown/Tioga community.

- 2) To create powerful public art based on inspirational quotes, poems, and sayings that have been selected by members of the community.
- 3) To provide artwork that speaks to youth and empowers them to make a difference in their community.
- 4) To create public art that provides a visually cohesive experience at the BGE Triangles that is engaging for residents and visitors.

In order to determine the guiding themes and goals for this project, OACCE hosted two meetings with the community in November of 2022. The themes of **uplift, positivity** and **connecting with youth** were expressed. In addition, the idea of collecting **powerful words** in the form of quotes, sayings or poetry to inspire the artwork was established. Members of the community suggested over 40 quotes, and through a survey in March - April of 2023, the top ten favorites were determined.

Artists will be asked to consider the 10 favorite quotes, poems or sayings as source material to inspire their artwork. Artists can choose how to interpret the meaning of the quotes in the design of the artwork including which quotes and the number of quotes. For example, an artist/artist team may choose to select one, two, or more quotes as a theme to inspire multiple cohesive artworks within the Triangles.

Below are the top ten quotes voted on by the public:

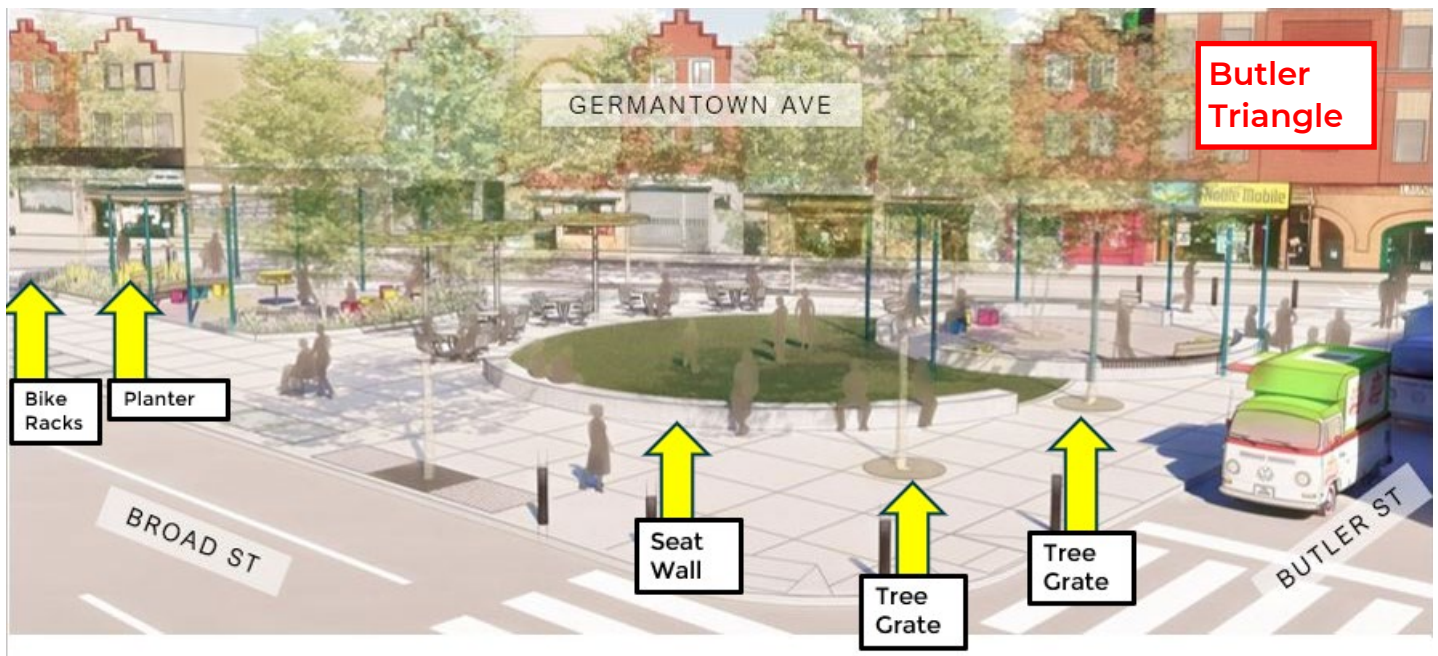
1. *"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."* Barack Obama
2. *"The soul that is within me no man can degrade."* Frederick Douglass
3. *"If not you, who; if not now, when?"* - Rabbi Hillel
4. *"You don't have to think about doing the right thing. If you're for the right thing, then you do it without thinking."* – Maya Angelou
5. *"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity."* - Martin Luther King
6. *"Build, brother, build"* - Rev. Dr. Leon Sullivan
7. *"Be brave. Be amazing. Be worthy."* – Shonda Rhimes
8. *"It's not where you live, but how you live"* - Unknown
9. *"Let's get in good trouble"* - John Lewis
10. *"i cannot stay home / on this sweet morning / i must run singing laughing / through the streets of Philadelphia. / i don't need food or sleep or drink / on this wild scented day / i am bathing in the waves of your breath."* Sonia Sanchez

Site Description and Artwork Locations

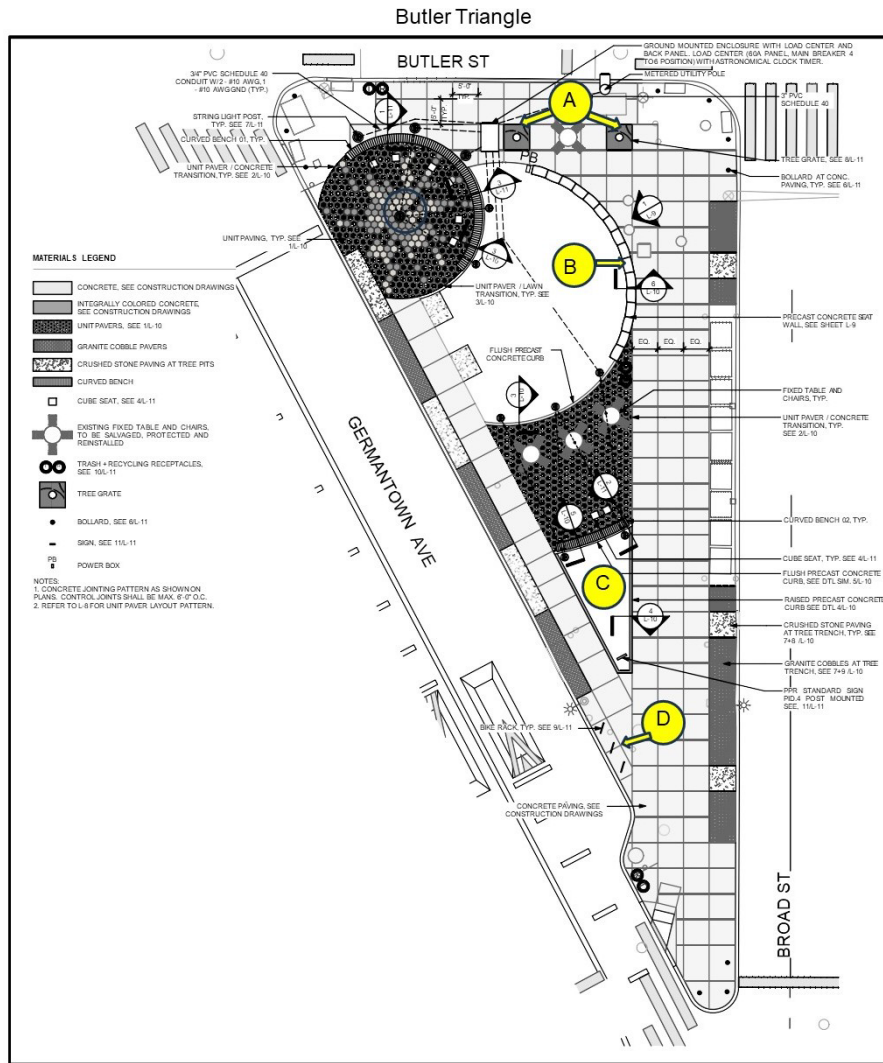
The intersection of Broad, Germantown, and Erie in North Philadelphia is home to some of the most remarkable architecture and important history in the city. BGE is also one of the largest transportation hubs in the city where twenty thousand people travel through the intersection each day. Within a ¼ mile radius there is a Broad Street Line subway stop (Erie Station) and bus stops for 6 different bus routes.

The BGE Percent for Art project will commission high quality, original, and site-specific two- and three-dimensional artworks throughout the Butler and Erie Triangles in several possible locations. Artists can select from a variety of options for locations where the art can be installed. Some options include installing the art onto existing features such as seat walls and planters. Other opportunities require the artist to fabricate and install new elements incorporating the art, including custom metal tree grates, seat backs, functional bike racks and other sculptural works. Each location affords different art medium possibilities such as metalwork, bas relief, tile, or glass mosaics, or as proposed by the artists. The artwork should be pedestrian focused and on a scale that people can see and engage with as they are walking through the intersection. See the map and details below for the specific possibilities in each location:

Design Rendering of Butler Triangle with Art Opportunities Marked



Site Plan of Butler Triangle with all possible art locations marked

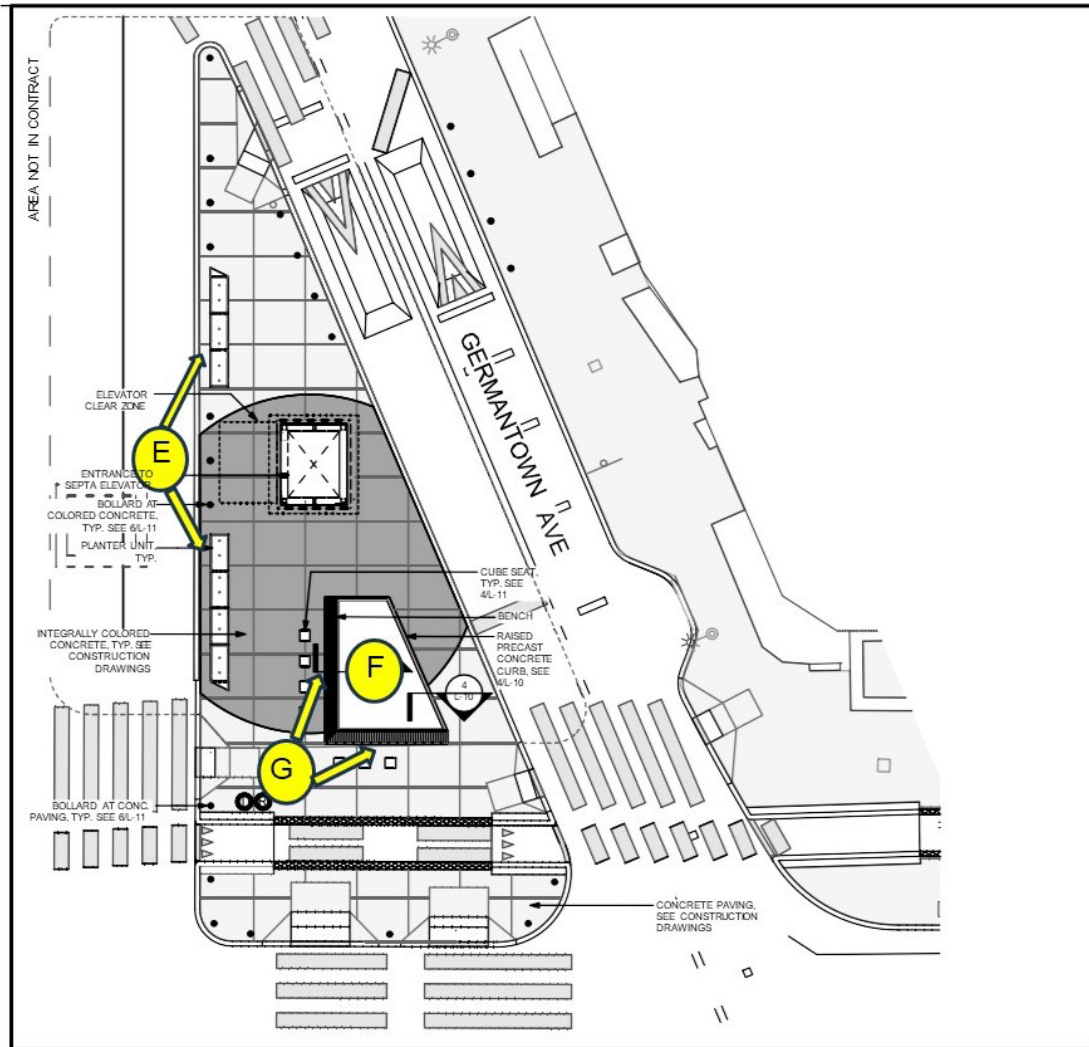


Butler Triangle:

	Location	Public Art Opportunities (to be inspired by selected quotes)
A	Metal Tree Grates	(Provide new custom fabricated metal grates (5' X 5') with relief or etching, Qty 2)
B	Precast Seat Wall	(Provide etching and/or mosaics on seat wall provided by the construction project, covering wall up to 25% max)
C	Butler Raised Planter	(Create small free standing 3-D sculpture inside the planter)
D	Bike Racks	(Fabricate new functional custom bike racks. Qty 3)

Site Plan of Erie Triangle with all possible art locations marked

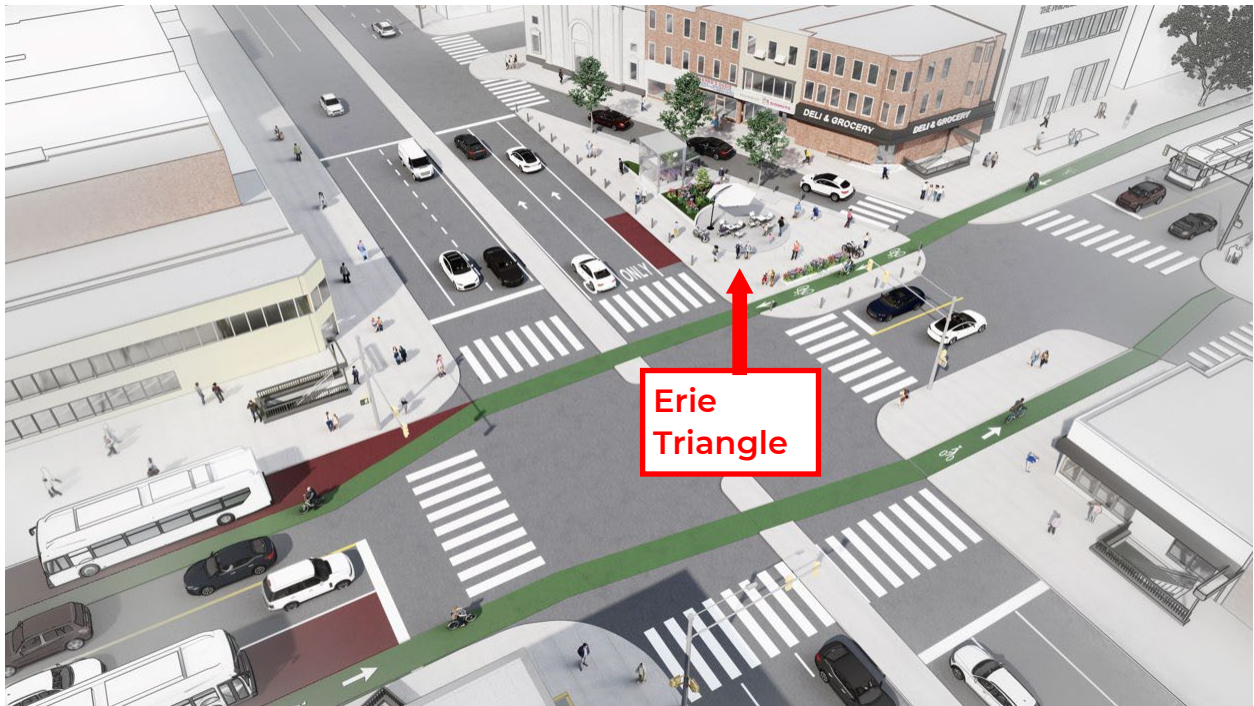
Erie Triangle



Erie Triangle:

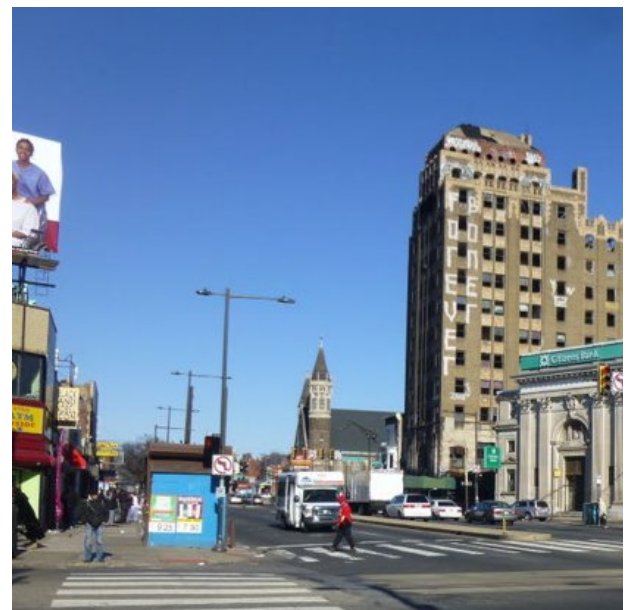
	Location	Public Art Opportunities (to be inspired by selected quotes)
E	Metal Planters	(Provide etchings or reliefs on metal planters provided by the construction project. Qty 7)
F	Erie Raised Planter	(Create small free standing 3-D sculpture inside the planter)
G	L Shaped Wood Bench	(Create new custom fabricated metal or wood bench backs with carvings or reliefs and attach to L shaped bench to be provided by construction project.)

Design rendering for the proposed intersection of Broad, Germantown and Erie including bike lanes and Erie Triangle.



Percent for Art Process:

The Percent for Art commissioning process is a two-part competition consisting of **Part 1: Submission of Qualifications** and **Part 2: Finalist Proposals**. All artists or artist teams who are interested in the BGE Percent for Art competition are invited to respond to this Call for Artists by submitting an application detailing their **qualifications ONLY**. **No design proposals are required at this time**. The Call for Artists Part 1 will be open for eight (8) weeks and the artists or artist teams will submit their application and materials through OACCE's free online application system called Submittable. **A total budget of \$200,000 has been allocated for this public art commission**. This sum is inclusive of all artist(s) fees, renderings, research, insurance, engineering, fabrication, foundations, installation, site construction, travel, and all other project related expenses.



PART 1: SUBMISSION OF QUALIFICATIONS

During Part 1 of the competition, interested artists or artist teams will submit an application detailing their qualifications only. Applicants will be narrowed down into a smaller group of Finalists who will move on to the next stage of the competition. Part 1 consists of the following:

Artist Informational Meeting

Early in the Call for Artist period, OACCE will host an optional Artist Informational Meeting for artists or artist teams interested in applying for the BGE Percent for Art commission. During this meeting, artists or artist teams can ask questions about the project, the application, and/or the process. All questions that are asked will also be answered in writing and posted on OACCE's website to provide all interested artists or artist teams with the information.

Selection of Finalists

At the end of the Call for Artist application period, all applications received will be reviewed by OACCE and the Percent for Art Committee, comprised of community members, residents, local arts and culture professionals, representatives from the Project Design team, members of the Honoring History Committee (a team of neighborhood history enthusiasts lead honoring history efforts) and representatives of OACCE and the City of Philadelphia.

The Percent for Art Committee will select the 4 best applications to move onto Part 2 as Finalists. Artists or artist teams competing for this commission must demonstrate past ability to create original, durable works of art that are engaging, evoke an emotional response and convey a positive visual experience that resonates with the viewer. Examples of past artwork should be indicative of the artist's or artist team's aesthetic, craftsmanship, and overall appropriateness for an outdoor site.

The four (4) best artist's/artist team's applications will be selected as the BGE Percent for Art Finalists. The applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Capacity and demonstrated ability to create high quality, durable works of art that are relevant to this public art opportunity and suitable for the public realm;
- Prior artwork that is engaging and evokes an emotional response from the viewer;
- Connection of the artist to the Nicetown/Tioga Community in North Philadelphia;
- Artist or artist teams that reflect the diversity of the Nicetown/Tioga Community;
- Unique point of view, approach, or style of work;
- Artist's approach to engaging diverse communities and youth through public art;
- Response to questions demonstrating the artist's understanding of the goals and importance of this public art project.

PART 2: FINALISTS PROPOSALS

During Part 2 of the competition, the four (4) Finalists who are selected by the Percent for Art Committee will create and propose original designs for the BGE art project. A winning artist or artist team will be selected from the competing Finalists and recommended by the Percent for Art Committee for ultimate approval by [the Philadelphia Art Commission](#). The four (4) Finalists will receive a \$1,000 stipend to develop a thorough design proposal for the BGE art project and will submit their design proposals by the due date in the timeline below. The stipend should cover the costs of producing a written and visual proposal including images, models, renderings, or other materials. The Finalists' design proposals will also be submitted using OACCE's free application platform, Submittable. Part 2 consists of the following:

Finalist Pre-Proposal Meeting and Site Visit

Shortly after the Finalists are selected, a mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting and Site Visit will be held to give Finalists more detailed information on the project, the site location, and the requirements for submitting a design proposal for The artwork. The artist or artist teams will receive an outline of information that should be included in their design proposals, including proposal evaluation criteria. Upon notice, all Finalists are required to sign the Artist Finalist Agreement/Acknowledgement Form attached. (**Note** this is separate from the contract that will be signed by the selected Finalist mentioned below).

Community Input Meeting #1

Prior to developing their proposals, OACCE will host a public meeting with the Finalists to allow the community to meet and provide input on what would be inspirational to them prior to the artist or artist teams creating their designs and proposals.

Finalists Create and Submit Design Proposals

The (4) Finalists will submit an original design proposal for the BGE art project including visual renderings and drawings of the artist's proposed designs and a written and audio narrative describing the artist's original concept, proposed materials, design approach, schedule, budget, and maintenance information.

Community Input Meeting #2

The Finalists will participate in Public Meeting #2 where they will present their design proposal renderings, drawings and/or models to the public, and the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and hear directly from the Finalist artists or artist teams about their designs. The designs should represent the artwork's finished form so that it is a clear representation to the public and Percent for Art Committee of what the finished artwork will look like. The images should be well-lit and show detail, whether it is in a rendered form, maquette, etc.

Public Survey and Feedback on Finalist Design Proposals

The (4) Finalists' design proposal drawings and audio and written descriptions of their concepts will be made available to the public via an online survey. The public will have opportunity during a four (4) week period to review the Finalists' design proposals, rank their favorite one and provide feedback. The Finalists will then have an opportunity to adjust their proposals to reflect public feedback (prior to presenting their design proposals to the Percent for Art Committee.)

Finalist's Proposal Presentations and Committee Selection of Finalist

The Finalists will each make presentations of their proposals to the Percent for Art Committee and OACCE and answer questions from the Percent for Art Committee about their designs. The Committee and OACCE will review all Finalists proposals, taking into consideration the public feedback to select one (1) winning artist or artist team's design proposal.

Design Development Phase

Once a winning artist is selected from the competing Finalists, a Design Development phase will occur where the winning artist coordinates with OACCE, the Design team and City operating agencies to further develop their design concept as needed to conform to technical parameters of the site. The winning artist is expected to work with OACCE and the City on technical concerns to ensure the full integration of the artwork into the site design.

During this design development stage, the selected winner may be required to make aesthetic and technical revisions and adjustments to their design to conform the art concept to the site. The artist is expected to make these changes prior to presenting to the Philadelphia Art Commission for final approval. Any upfront costs or labor incurred by the winning artist prior to the contract (during the Design Development phase or for preparing Art Commission presentation materials) is the responsibility of the artist. The first payment of the artist fee will not occur until after the City has executed a contract with the winning artist.

Philadelphia Art Commission Review

The winning artist will prepare a presentation to the Philadelphia Art Commission for final approval, which is the regulatory body that reviews and approves all public art to be placed on public property in Philadelphia.

Artist Enters into Contract with the City

Once an artist or artist team receives approval from the Art Commission, the artist or artist team will enter into a contract with the City of Philadelphia for the fabrication and installation of the artwork. Once a contract with the City is in place, the artist may begin receiving payment and start fabrication of the artwork.

PART 1- SUBMISSION OF QUALIFICATIONS APPLICATION:

Application Requirements:

OACCE collects applications and materials through the Submittable platform, which requires all first-time users to create a free account.

Click this link to apply via Submittable:

<https://oacce.submittable.com/submit/268032/percent-for-art-call-for-artists-broad-germantown-erie-part-1-submission-of-qu>

1. Artist(s) Info: Name, Address, Phone, Email, Website, Demographic information
2. Resumé/CV
3. Artist Statement/Bio

4. Response to 5 questions:

- I. Which of the public art opportunities at this site would you intend to pursue (if selected as a Finalist) and why does this art opportunity interest you?
 - II. How has your prior public artwork positively impacted, inspired and/or educated diverse communities and youth?
 - III. This project will create powerful public art based on inspirational quotes, poems, and sayings. In what ways can you engage the community and youth in the creation of your artwork through this theme?
 - IV. Do you have a personal history or connection to the Nicetown/Tioga community near the BGE Intersection? How would this connection lead to creating a successful work of public art that will relate to this community?
 - V. Why do you feel you should be selected as the artist/artist team for this unique project?
5. Five to ten (5-10) visual, relevant work samples such as jpgs, pngs, or another acceptable file of your previous artwork that meets the Finalist selection criteria listed on page 9. **Please select samples that reflect the artwork type and medium that you intend to propose (if selected as a Finalist) for this opportunity.**
6. Image Identification List that includes artwork Title, Year, Materials, Dimensions, Location, Project Budget.

To learn more about Percent for Art Projects, visit:
www.CreativePHL.org/public-art/percent-for-art/

If you need application assistance, please contact Rachel Schwartzman at Rachel.Schwartzman@phila.gov at least 7 days prior to the deadline.

Attachments:

- [Sample Contract between Winning Artist and City of Philadelphia](#)
- [Sample Artist Finalist Agreement/Acknowledgement Form](#)

Notification of Results:

All artists or artist teams that applied will be notified via email of their selection status either way. Artists or artist teams who are selected as Finalists are required to confirm their interest via email prior to moving onto the next stage.

Contract Award

Upon final approval by the Philadelphia Art Commission, the winning artist selected will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Philadelphia prior to commencing with fabrication and installation of the proposed artwork. No selection shall be deemed final until the proposal has been fully approved and an agreement is properly executed by the selected applicant and the City. Changes to the proposal may be required and/or requested by the City at any stage of the process. If a proposal is not selected from the group of Finalists, the City reserves the right to return to the original group of teams who responded

to this Call for Artists or otherwise solicit proposals. The City of Philadelphia reserves the right to change, modify, or revise the Call for Artists in part or whole, at any time without prior notice. The City of Philadelphia reserves the right to make no selection for this Call for Artists. The City reserves the right to reject any proposals or part ways with the winning artist at any time prior to entering into a contract if it is determined by OACCE to be in the best interest of the City and project to do so. An example contract is attached and is expected to be reviewed by all applicants. The selected artist must meet the Insurance and other requirements listed in the contract. If candidates have any questions or requests for changes to the contract, these should be raised prior to submitting their art proposals.

Broad Germantown Erie Percent for Art Project Timeline

**Schedule is subject to change.*

Activity	Schedule
PART 1 - SUBMISSION OF QUALIFICATIONS	
Call for Artists Application opens	August 3 rd , 2023
Artist Informational Meeting (Optional) RSVP Here	August 17 th , 2023
Deadline for Part 1- Submission of Qualifications	September 21, 2023
Selection of Finalists by Advisory Committee	September 28, 2023
PART 2 - FINALIST PROPOSALS	
Pre-proposal Meeting and Site Visit for Finalists (Mandatory for all Finalists)	November 9, 2023
Community Input Meeting #1 w/ Finalists (Mandatory for all Finalists)	Week of November 20 th , 2023
Submission Deadline for Part 2- Finalists' Proposals	January 10, 2024
Community Input Meeting #2 w/ Finalists (Public Presentation of Finalists' Design Proposals- (Mandatory for all Finalists)	Week of January 22, 2024
Public Voting and feedback on Finalists' Designs	February 2024 (4 weeks)
Finalist's Presentations to Advisory Committee /Selection of winning artist (Mandatory for all Finalists)	April 2024
Public Announcement of Selected winning artist	April 2024
Design Development Phase	Spring- Summer 2024
Finalist Artist presents to the Art Commission for Approval	Summer 2024
City Executes Contract with winning artist	Winter 2025
Start of Fabrication to Installation	TBD

About:

Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy

The Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy (OACCE) closes the gap in access to the arts for all Philadelphians and is committed to equitable support of culture and creativity throughout the city's neighborhoods. OACCE supports free cultural programming; creates opportunities for local artists and creative organizations; connects Philadelphians to quality arts experiences; and preserves the City's public art assets.

The Percent for Art Program was started in Philadelphia 60 years ago and requires that one percent of the budget of a City-funded construction project is designated for site-specific public art. Philadelphia's Percent for Art Program is a model that has been replicated in

cities across the country, reflecting the importance of having art in our public spaces and in our daily lives.

Percent for Art commissions beautiful and enduring artworks, which reflect the diversity of Philadelphia's residents and visitors, its rich cultural landscape, its many histories, and the variety of public spaces in Philadelphia's communities.