

# Invitation to Submit Qualifications to Design, Fabricate, and Install

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Project Name: Florida Space Exploration Monument

Submission Deadline: December 31, 2023

## Project Description

In 2023, the Florida Legislature established the Florida Space Exploration Monument to commemorate the state's continuing contributions to space exploration, including the contributions of those individuals who have so far gone unrecognized.

Florida's space exploration milestones date to 1865, when Jules Verne envisioned the state as the launch site for astronauts in his popular novel *From the Earth to the Moon*, and in 1950, "Bumper 8" became the first rocket launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida. In 1969, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched Apollo 11 from the John F. Kennedy Space Center on Merritt Island, beginning the first mission that would land humans on the surface of the moon. With the Cape Canaveral Spaceport, comprising NASA's John F. Kennedy Space Center and the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florida maintains a robust commercial aerospace industry and a highly trained workforce.

## Project Location

An exact location for the monument has not yet been identified. However, it is anticipated to be positioned prominently within the Capitol Complex Memorial Park in downtown Tallahassee. Please note, this is an outdoor location and thus all materials shall be of permanent and enduring qualities and weather resistant.

## Project Timeline

December 31, 2023:	Deadline for Submissions
January and February 2024:	Submissions Reviewed by Selection Committee
March 2024:	Winning Artist Selected and Notified
July 1, 2024:	Plan Due to the Florida Legislature

## Project Budget

The budget for this project has not yet been determined. For reference, past budgets for Capitol Complex monuments and memorials have been approximately \$400,000. Each interested candidate will be required to submit an estimated budget for their submission. The estimated budget for each submission will be a significant factor in determining the awarded candidate.

**Disclaimer:** Although this monument has been established by the Florida Legislature, it has not been funded. In accordance with section 265.009(2)(c), F.S., this invitation solely represents the selection of an award for the plan that is to be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than July 1, 2024.

If the monument is funded, the selected candidate will be required to create an account in the MyFloridaMarketPlace Vendor Information Portal. If a selected candidate is unwilling to create an account, a new award winner will be selected.

### Submission Requirements

Interested candidates must submit the following:

- I. A brief letter articulating their interest and vision of the monument (one page maximum).
- II. A digital rendering of the monument that encapsulates:
  - Florida's role in the history of space exploration including past, present, and future contributions.
  - A tribute to the Florida residents for their role in space exploration.
  - The contribution of all individuals and their families who have gone unrecognized for their impact on U.S. achievements in space.
- III. A comprehensive list of required materials, estimated fabrication timeline(s) for all components, and a recommended maintenance schedule.
- IV. An estimated budget breakdown, including costs for design, materials, fabrication, storage, sitework, and installation.
- V. A portfolio of your experience in public or private monument commissions of similar scale (three to five images).
- VI. A comprehensive resume detailing:
  - Your complete contact information.
  - Academic qualifications, including major awards, grants, exhibitions, and/or fellowships.
  - Three professional references familiar with your work expertise. Include contact information for each reference.

### Submission Method

All submissions must be attachments emailed to [Kent.Blosser@dms.fl.gov](mailto:Kent.Blosser@dms.fl.gov). Submissions must include all items listed in "Submission Requirements." Applications that are missing any item or submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

### Selection Process

A selection committee will be established to evaluate and select a winning submission based each item listed in "Submission Requirements." The Selection Committee meetings will be open to the public in accordance with section 286.011, F.S.

The committee will comprise:

- One representative from the Department of Management Services
- Two representatives from Space Florida
- One architect
- One representative from the Division of Cultural Affairs of the Department of State

### Questions

To request additional information about this project, contact:

DMS Community Engagement Liaison, Kent Blosser: 850-363-0125 or [Kent.Blosser@dms.fl.gov](mailto:Kent.Blosser@dms.fl.gov).