

CALL FOR ARTISTS Percent for Art Program Barrett Playground - Rebuild Project



Project Budget: \$135,000 Deadline for Submissions: May 28, 2024

> CITY OF PHILADELPHIA Cherelle Parker, Mayor

REBUILD PHILADELPHIA

OFFICE OF ARTS, CULTURE AND THE CREATIVE ECONOMY Marguerite Anglin, Public Art Director

Project Overview:

The City of Philadelphia's Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy (OACCE) and Rebuild announce a competition to commission site-specific, permanent public artworks to be installed at Barrett Playground at 641 Lindley Ave in North Philadelphia. This public art commission is possible through the City's Percent for Art program and is part of a major Rebuild construction project at Barrett Playground that will include a new community building and significant outdoor site improvements.

The Barrett Percent for Art commission will provide an opportunity for one (1) artist or artist team to create two (2) complementary, indoor public artworks to be located in the main "Commons" area of the new community building. The first artwork will be a sculptural ceiling-hung art installation, and the second artwork will be an indoor art wall installation. See pages 4-5 for more details about the artworks requested for the site.

All interested artists are invited to apply for this public art commission. Given the multiple mediums required for these two artworks, **artists are strongly encouraged to form multi-disciplinary artist teams if/as needed to fulfill the requirements for creating both artworks**. Teams might include two or more artists working in various mediums with combined capability and skill to provide both 2D and 3D artworks as a team. All lead team members should be listed as part of this application. Teams cannot be formed after an application has already been submitted for this opportunity.

Priority will be given to artists or artist teams who reflect the diversity of the Logan 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 Barrett Playground will also be prioritized for this opportunity, but any artist may apply.

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 Barrett Playground art opportunity. **No design proposals are requested at this time.**

Public input and participation will be vital to ensuring the voices of the community are strongly reflected in the development of the artwork. Community engagement opportunities will allow Finalist artists to hear directly from members of the public about their ideas and aspirations for this project and what stories the artwork should tell. Finalists will be encouraged to align their proposals with input and feedback provided by the community during OACCE-led events, and will be expected to propose artistled engagement as appropriate if selected as a winning artist.

A total budget of up to \$135,000 has been allocated for this Percent for Art commission. This sum is inclusive of all artist(s) fees, insurance, drawings, renderings, models, fabrication, installation, engineering, lighting, structure, foundations, travel, artist-led community engagement, and all other project related expenses to support the creation and installation of the artwork.

Project Background:

Barrett Playground, located in the historic Logan neighborhood of North Philadelphia, has long been a cornerstone of community life, boasting a rich history dating back to the late 19th century. Serving as a vital communal space, it has been instrumental in fostering a sense of belonging among residents and hosting a myriad of recreational and cultural activities.

Despite enduring challenges such as economic fluctuations and demographic shifts, the resilient Logan community has remained steadfast, actively engaging in initiatives aimed at revitalizing public spaces and enhancing residents' quality of life. With ongoing development projects and a commitment to preserving its historical character, the neighborhood continues to evolve while honoring its roots.

Recognizing the significance of Barrett Playground as a cherished landmark, the City of Philadelphia's Rebuild Program has selected it for major improvements. Led by Rebuild and the Nicetown Community Development Corporation (CDC), the project has been shaped by extensive community engagement, with the goal of aligning with community needs and aspirations.

The scope of the Rebuild capital project, currently under construction, will include a new 15,000 sf recreation center featuring a gym, computer lab and multi-purpose spaces. Site enhancements will include new playgrounds, sprayground, plaza, small parking lot, trees, site furnishings, and open natural turf playing field.

Central to the redesign is a focus on promoting visibility, safety, and inclusivity across diverse user demographics. By revitalizing Barrett Playground and Recreation Center, this project not only preserves a piece of Philadelphia's cultural heritage but also reaffirms the community's commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive neighborhood for generations to come.

Goals of the Barrett Percent for Art Project:

- 1. To provide permanent, community-driven public artworks at Barrett Playground that reflect the culture, values and diversity of the Logan Community.
- 2. To create original artworks that make the Barrett Playground and community building a destination where all community members and visitors feel welcome.
- 3. To provide public art that is hopeful and empowering, reflecting the past, present, and future aspirations of Logan community members.
- 4. To provide artworks that reflect the intergenerational character of the community and shared goals of enhancing the quality of life in Logan.
- 5. To provide high quality, cohesive artworks that complement each other, enhance the architecture of the new Barrett Community building, and highlight the uplifting and light-filled character of the space.

Description of Artwork Locations:

The Barrett Playground Percent for Art project will consist of (2) complimentary works of art to be located in the main Commons area of the new community building.

Location 1: Sculptural Ceiling-Hung Art Installation (High Ceiling Area of Commons): The main entrance of the Barrett Playground Recreation Center opens to the Commons area, which has high ceilings that pop up above the roof level. With windows on all sides, this pop-up allows light into the space from above. The hanging sculptures will be located in the high ceiling area. Artists may use a variety of permanent and durable mediums such as metal, wood, fiberglass, etc. Artists may propose singular or multiple sculptures that form a composition.

Ceiling hung art installations will need to work with the existing architectural ceiling design and lighting and be appropriately designed for a ceiling-hung application. Finalist artists will be provided with structural information that will inform maximum allowable weight of the hanging sculpture(s). Artist teams will be expected to design and include all hanging apparatus, connections, and reinforcement, including any engineering into their budget as needed in order to connect the sculptures securely to the existing ceiling structure.

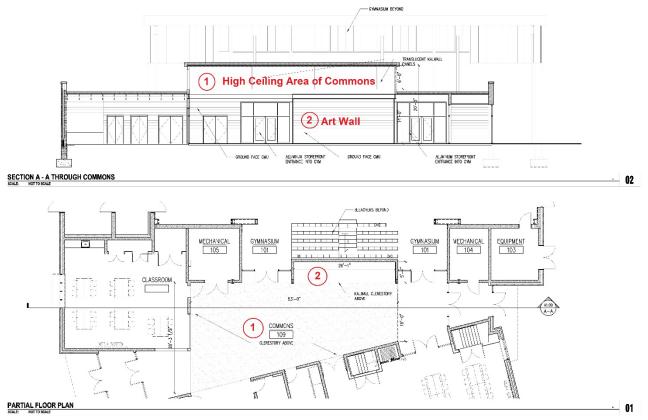
Location 2: Indoor Mural/Art Wall Installation (Commons Area):

The prominent locations of these works will provide a sense of identity and welcome for everyone who visits or uses the community building. In the Commons, there is a recessed wall area measuring approximately 26' wide x 12' high x 5' deep. The second work of art will be located on this wall. Artists may use a variety of mediums such as mural painting, glass/tile mosaic, or three-dimensional bas relief.

See the floor plans, renderings, and details below for the specifics of each location.



Design Rendering of Barrett Playground Recreation Center



Partial Plan and section through Commons (1: Sculptural Ceiling-Hung Installation, 2: Art Wall)

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 Barrett Playground 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 \$135,000 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 Artists period, OACCE will host an optional Artist Informational Meeting for artists or artist teams interested in applying for the Barrett Playground 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 Artists 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, 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 Barrett Playground Percent for Art Finalists. The applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Capacity & Relevant Expertise
- Emotional Quality of Prior Work
- Connection to Community
- Background & Diversity
- Uniqueness
- Project Understanding
- Approach to Community Engagement

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 Barrett Playground 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 <u>the Philadelphia Art Commission</u>. The four (4) Finalists will receive a \$1,000 stipend to develop a thorough design proposal for the Barrett Playground 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).

Artist Meet and Greet (Community Meeting)

OACCE will host a public meeting to allow the community to meet the finalists to provide input on what would be inspirational to them <u>prior</u> 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 Barrett Playground 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.

Artist Show and Tell (Community Meeting)

OACCE will host a meeting where finalists will present their design proposal renderings, drawings and/or models to the community, who 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 the committee selects a winning artist/artist team from the 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/artist team 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/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.

Notification of Results:

All artists/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 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 Semi-Finalists, the City reserves the right to return to the original group of teams who responded to this Call for Artists or otherwise solicit new 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. 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.

Application Requirements:

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

Click this link to apply via Submittable: <u>https://oacce.submittable.com/submit/290774/percent-for-art-call-for-artists-barrett-playground-part-1-submission-of-gual</u>

- 1. Artist(s) Info: Name, Address, Phone, Email, Website, Demographic information
- 2. Resumé/CV
- 3. Artist Statement/Bio
- 4. Response to 6 questions:
 - I. Why does this Percent for Art opportunity at Barrett Playground interest you?
 - II. How has your prior public artwork positively impacted, inspired and/or educated diverse communities?
 - III. In what ways can you engage youth in this community in the creation of your artwork?
 - IV. Do you have a personal history or connection to the Logan community near the Barrett Playground? How would your connection lead to creating a successful work of public art that will relate to this community?
 - V. How does your past experience show your capacity to create similar artwork of scale, size, and medium as required for this opportunity?
 - VI. Why do you feel you are the best artist/artist team to be selected for this 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 7-8. 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 Marie Manski at <u>marie.manski@phila.gov</u> at least 7 days prior to the deadline.

Attachments:

- Sample Contract between Winning Artist and City of Philadelphia
- <u>Sample Artist Finalist Agreement/Acknowledgement Form</u>

Barrett Playground Percent for Art Project Timeline

Activity	Schedule
PART 1 - SUBMISSION OF QUALIFICATIONS	S
Call for Artists Application opens	March 29, 2024
Artist Informational Meeting (Optional)	April 15, 2024
Deadline for Part 1- Submission of Qualifications	May 28, 2024
Selection of Finalists by Advisory Committee	July 5, 2024
PART 2 - FINALIST PROPOSALS	
Pre-proposal Meeting and Site Visit for Finalists (Mandatory for all Finalists)	July 18, 2024
Community Input Meeting #1 w/ Finalists (Mandatory for all Finalists)	July 25, 2024
Submission Deadline for Part 2- Finalists' Proposals	October 4, 2024
Public Voting and feedback on Finalists' Designs	November 2024 (4 weeks)
Finalist's Presentations to Advisory Committee /Selection of winning artist (Mandatory for all Finalists)	February 2025
Public Announcement of Selected winning artist	February 2025
Design Development Phase	February-April 2025
Finalist Artist presents to the Art Commission for Approval	May 2025
City Executes Contract with winning artist	June-November 2025
Start of Fabrication to Installation	December 2025
Schodula is subject to shapped	I

*Schedule is subject to change.

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.

Rebuild Philadelphia

Rebuild is a historic investment of hundreds of millions of dollars in neighborhood parks, recreation centers and libraries across Philadelphia. As part of the City's vision for a more equitable Philadelphia, Rebuild promises to acknowledge history, engage the community, invest intentionally, seek to uplift pivotal community spaces, empower neighborhoods, and promote economic opportunity through diversity and inclusion.

Nicetown Community Development Corporation

The NTCDC mission is to dynamically improve the quality of life in Nicetown and surrounding communities, by establishing sustainable community economic development. We fulfill our mission with a holistic and inclusive approach to goals and objectives that prioritize public safety; mobilization through "re-education" and training; affordable housing development; commercial corridor revitalization; arts & culture, and land care. The capacity to implement these goals and objectives is optimized by our strategic partnerships, collaborations, and volunteerism, with those that share a common purpose with our mission.