

Unalaska Public Library Request for Statement of Interest from Artists and Craftspeople

City of Unalaska / Unalaska Public Library

The Unalaska Public Library is seeking **statements of interest** from artists and craftspeople who would like to propose art projects **and functional pieces** that we will integrate into the library expansion and improvements.

Selection Process

The selection process includes two steps.

First, show interest by submitting an statement of interest with examples of your work and references.

Second, if invited to submit a proposal, you will be given a small stipend to develop a proposal for a specific location of your choosing within the library. The proposal will include a rough sketch and narrative that describes the materials, installation, artistic intent and estimated cost.

If your proposal is selected, a contract for the final design and installation will be developed to incorporate your work into the project.

Eligibility and Purpose

This call to artists and craftspeople is open to current or former Unalaska residents and all Alaska residents capable of professional level work.

Artwork and crafts incorporated into the Unalaska Public Library should be appropriate in scale, media and context to the intended display location and the overall mission of the Unalaska Public Library.

Mission: The Unalaska Public Library educates, enriches, and inspires community members by connecting them to the world and each other.

How to send a Statement of Interest

Required Documents

A letter including the following:

1. Experience with similar projects. Include medium, year, cost and installation methods.
2. List of current projects
3. Three reference for past projects
4. Confirmation of ability to complete and install work within the design and construction schedule.
5. Reason for interest in developing a proposal for this project.

Deadline for response to this call to Artists for Statement of Interest

June 12, 2019 by 3pm Alaska Standard Time.

Responses may be delivered in person, by carrier, or email. Mailed deliveries should be **received** by the due date to be considered. Responses emailed but should be sent at least 1 hour prior to the deadline to allow for confirmation of receipt.

Email Response Send to: karenz@ecialaska.com with the subject heading Unalaska Library Artist

Mailed Response Send to: Unalaska Public Library
 c/o Karen Kresh
 64 Eleanor Drive
 PO Box 1370
 Unalaska, AK 99685

Hand Deliver Response to: Unalaska Public Library
 c/o Karen Kresh
 64 Eleanor Drive
 PO Box 1370
 Unalaska, AK 99685

** Please note the library is open Monday–Friday, 10 AM–9 PM and Saturday–Sunday 12 PM–6 PM. It is closed on Monday, May 27.

Questions

Questions may be emailed to karenz@ecialaska.com with the subject heading Unalaska Library Artist QUESTION

Responses to questions will be available to all artists through posting on the Unalaska Library Improvements blog <https://unalaskalibraryimprovements.com/>

Background Information

1. **Project Description:** The Unalaska Public Library will be expanding about 3,300 sq. ft. toward the existing parking area to accommodate a new children's and teen areas, improve adult reading areas, add study rooms, and make space for additional library materials. An improved entry and large gathering area for community events are also included. Within these areas of improvement there are many opportunities for incorporation and integration of artistic expression. Projects may be artistic interpretations of building elements as well as stand-alone art objects or applied art. Possibilities include circulation desk, fire place hearth, ornate door handles, entry benches, murals, sculpture, mosaics and many other creative ideas.
2. **Locations for Art:** The committee does not want to limit the possibilities for location and will be open to locations proposed by the artist as well as those identified as having potential. Some potential locations include walls within the entry lobby, areas above and to the side of the new fire place, benches within the entry, seating at windows, exterior landscape elements, exterior book drop, exterior entry wind break, walls within the gathering room, and children's room walls.
3. **Budget:** The overall project budget for all of the building improvements is approximately \$4.5M. The project team is interested in investing a small percentage of the construction budget toward contracted art installations. A preliminary budget of \$45,000 has been established for the incorporation of art into the project but an exact amount has not yet been determined. The Library is not required to spend any amount and may choose to spend all or some of the budget once it is finalized.
4. **Selection Committee:** The selection committee is made up from local community members and library project designers. From the qualified applicants, the committee will select artists for invitation to develop proposals. The committee's decisions are final.
5. **Compensation:** Selected proposers may be paid up to \$300 stipend for completed proposals. Proposals will identify the concept, media, location, size, and approximate budget through sketches and narrative for the Artistic installation.
6. **Final Project Selection:** Of the submitted proposals, the committee may choose any number of proposed installations to be incorporated into the project.
7. **Understanding:** The committee, nor the City of Unalaska are at no obligation to expend any or all of the funds that may be set aside for Art. The total budget may be divided in any manner the selection committee determines most effective and no particular area or artwork is designated with a specific budget at this time.

Please see the Unalaska Library Improvements page for more background information on the overall expansion project <https://unalaskalibraryimprovements.com/>