

# ATLANTA CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL ETERNAL FLAME PROJECT

Request for Qualifications

## ETERNAL FLAME FOR ATLANTA CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL ON ATLANTA CITY HALL GROUNDS



MAYOR'S OFFICE  
OF  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

# OVERVIEW

## CALL FOR ARTS

- The City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs invites architects, visual artists, and designers to submit qualifications for the design and installation of an *Eternal Flame Monument* for the Atlanta Children's Memorial. The monument will be located on the grounds of City Hall. Interested Artists are invited to submit their portfolio and a letter of interest for review and consideration.

## BACKGROUND

- Over a two-year period from 1979 to 1981, a minimum of 30 black children, adolescents and adults were killed. Wayne Williams was convicted of committing two of the murders, but many of the cases remain unsolved. The legacy of Atlanta's missing children had a huge impact on a generation of Atlanta's youth and was an international outcry. How will Atlanta memorialize these children 38 years after?
- The honorable Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms grew up in one of the impacted neighborhoods and has made it a priority that the City of Atlanta will never forget these children.
- In 2019, Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms issued an administrative order to establish the Mayor's Advisory Committee: Atlanta Children's Memorial Taskforce. The taskforce is comprised of mayoral appointees from the community and is charged with determining an appropriate acknowledgement of the lives cut short during the Atlanta Child Murders.
- "It is important for Atlanta to acknowledge the innocent lives lost during one of our city's darkest hours," said Mayor Bottoms. "This taskforce will determine a lasting and appropriate tribute for the victims and their families, and serve as a testament that those lives mattered. That African American lives matter."
- The Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs is sponsoring this eternal flame as an Atlanta Children's Memorial which will be displayed prominently at Atlanta City Hall on the exterior grounds. The *Eternal Flame Monument* is described as a permanent sculptural memorial that incorporates a flame or torch that burns continuously for an indefinite period. This monument proposal calls for site development that includes the design of supporting infrastructure such as a small plaza, below grade foundation, lighting, and descriptive etchings for narrative. The selected artist or design team must be able and willing to work closely with the Memorial Taskforce and other stakeholders for development of the commemorative elements and narratives.



# CITY OF ATLANTA MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

- The [City of Atlanta's Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs \(OCA\)](#) was established in 1974 to encourage and support Atlanta's cultural resources. Today the OCA understands that the arts play an essential role in defining the cultural vitality of the city and is working to enhance Atlanta's reputation as a cultural destination. The OCA aims to provide programs that contribute substantially to the city's economy and quality of life.

## ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

- This is an open call to both local and national design teams and individual artists. Additionally, all artists on the **City of Atlanta Artists Registry** which includes both local and nationally recognized artists will be eligible. All qualifying applicants, regardless of race, sex, religion, nationality, origin or disability will be considered.

## BUDGET

- If selected, you will be awarded up to \$200,000 and given 8 months to complete the project.
- If awarded the project, the artist designer will be responsible for creating the *Eternal Flame Monument*, including engraved historical narratives, sculptural elements, lighting, a structural foundation, and surrounding plaza. The artist designer is responsible for all associated installation and travel costs.

## BUDGET DESCRIPTION

### Payment Schedule TBD:

- Total All inclusive award up to: \$200,000.00

# SELECTION CRITERIA

- **Three finalists will be selected to develop and present final proposals through a competitive process through an Artist Selection Panel.**

**The selection evaluation is based on the following criteria:**

- Expressed interest in creating artwork for the opportunities presented by this request for proposals.
- Artist merit and technical expertise.
- Demonstrated successful and innovative approach to design and projects of a similar scope.
- Artist should be sensitive in response to the subject matter.

**Each of the 3 announced finalists will be awarded \$1,000.00 to develop the final proposal over a 6 week period.**

## REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

- Statement of Intent: In one page using no smaller than 10 pt. font, address the conceptual approach of the project;
- Résumé outlining professional accomplishments (maximum 2 pages per person). Include three professional references (name, affiliated organization, email address and phone number).
- Past work samples with a list of works submitted for review that includes title, location, date completed/performed, media, brief description of the project/conceptual information, and budget (if applicable).
- Please note: **Artists will not be compensated for their RFQ submittals.**

# TIMELINE

## Questions:

- Questions and requests for clarification regarding this RFQ must be directed in writing to the contact person listed below by Monday, Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:59PM. All responses that are material in nature will be shared with all registered applying artists.

For Questions, Please Contact:

- Robert Witherspoon

Public Art Program Manager

[rwitherspoon@atlantaga.gov](mailto:rwitherspoon@atlantaga.gov)

## How to Apply:

Send completed digital portfolio, as 1 .PDF document, to [PublicArtatlantaga@atlantaga.gov](mailto:PublicArtatlantaga@atlantaga.gov) with the subject line.

ATLANTA CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL ETERNAL FLAME MONUMENT– *ARTIST NAME*

## Qualifications due:

- Electronic submittals must be received no later than **Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm.** Proposals received after **December 16<sup>th</sup>** shall not be considered.

## Schedule Dates:

- **Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** : Last day to submit questions about the RFQ
- **Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>** : Qualifications and Portfolios due
- **Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** : Three finalist artists or artist teams selected and announced
- **December 2020** : Anticipated completion