



Forecast Public Art

Request for Qualifications CALL FOR ARTISTS

Commissioned Art Opportunities for Augsburg College's
Hagfors Center for Science, Business, and Religion



About Augsburg College

Set in a vibrant neighborhood at the heart of the Twin Cities, Augsburg College offers more than 50 undergraduate majors and nine graduate degrees to nearly 3,500 students of diverse backgrounds. The trademark of an Augsburg education is its emphasis on direct, personal experience. Guided by the faith and values of the Lutheran church, Augsburg educates students to be informed citizens, thoughtful stewards, critical thinkers, and responsible leaders. Augsburg demonstrates its commitments through the work of four signature centers: the Christensen Center for Vocation, the Center for Global Education, the Sabo Center for Citizenship and Learning, and the Strommen Center for Meaningful Work.

About the Hagfors Center for Science, Business, and Religion (HCSBR)

As the centerpiece of the Augsburg Campus Space and Master Plan (2011), this signature building—its siting, design, construction and its ultimate use by the community—will set a new expectation for the entire campus as it illustrates a sense of beauty, harmony with place, and commitment to hospitality. The Hagfors Center for Science, Business, and Religion is scheduled to open in 2017, will feature a variety of original works of art by talented artists in the region, as well as artists with a strong connection to Augsburg College. The HCSBR will not simply blend into the current campus, but shall be the lever for expressing the college's aspirations for a 21st century urban campus. Connected to Augsburg's core identity of deep traditions, durable faith, inclusion and experiential learning, there are several guiding principles for the College's Art and Identity initiative:

- It will have a bias toward enhancing the student experience, reflecting Augsburg's vision to be a "new kind of student-centered urban university, small to our students and big for the world."
- It will express in its design and in artistic and concrete ways throughout the building a firm belief in the intersections and fluidity of boundaries between the academic disciplines resident in the building, as well as others across campus.
- It will express in many ways Augsburg's identity as a Lutheran Christian institution, firm in its faith tradition even as it engages in deep hospitality with those of other faiths and with its community.
- The review and selection process will engage a dedicated team of volunteers representing diverse perspectives (the Arts + Identity Committee).

Invitational Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Augsburg College has engaged Forecast Public Art to facilitate the commissioning of art works for the new Hagfors Center for Science, Business, and Religion. You are among a select group of artists who are hereby invited to submit qualifications to be considered for this opportunity.

Following the selection process, a group of up to 20 artists will be selected to create artworks for wall spaces throughout the new Hagfors Center, responding to one or more of the following disciplines housed in the building:

- **Biology**
- **Chemistry**
- **Physics**
- **Religion**
- **Business**
- **Psychology**
- **Computer Science**
- **Math**

Finalists will receive a stipend of \$500 to develop concepts for commissioned works to be installed at sites throughout the building, adjacent to the areas where each discipline is housed. Implementation of each proposed project will be contingent on funds being raised by Augsburg. The creation of compelling designs and thoughtful proposals will play a critical role in the development phase.

A variety of two-dimensional and relief media are desired, including painting, printmaking, photography, collage, textile, ceramic tile, glass, wood, metals, etc. Works will range in size, including framed artworks to large-scale wall pieces and serial works. Each artwork must be designed to respond to one or more of the disciplines listed above, serve the goals of the building, and create a welcoming environment that encourages exploration and inquiry.

Selection Criteria

Selection of finalists will be based on the following criteria:

- Letter of interest
- Quality of work samples
- Ability of artist/team, as evidenced in biographical materials

Eligibility

- Open to experienced visual artists and artist-led teams residing in the Twin Cities region (**BY INVITATION**)
- Augsburg alumni, faculty, and former faculty residing in the United States (**OPEN CALL**)

Selection Process Overview

The Augsburg Art + Identity Committee will review applications and select up to 20 finalists to participate in a concept development phase. Each finalist will be paid a stipend of \$500 to prepare design concepts for proposed artworks to be commissioned. Deliverables include renderings or graphic depictions of the proposed artwork, and a brief narrative description, along with budget and timeline. Finalists will have approximately seven weeks to prepare preliminary concepts prior to presenting to the Committee (in person or virtually).

Schedule

- **JUNE 14, 2016:** RFQ announced
- **JULY 19:** Deadline for RFQ submission; all required materials must be received by 4 p.m. CST
- **JULY 25:** Committee review and selection of finalists
- **AUGUST 1:** Finalists announced; Design contracts awarded
- **AUGUST 24** (tentative): Ideation and Brainstorming Session with Finalists and Faculty Members (attendance required—in person or virtually)

- **OCTOBER 17** (tentative): Finalists present first round of design concepts to Committee and Faculty (attendance required—in person or virtually)
- **NOVEMBER 21**: (tentative): Finalists present final design concepts to Committee and Faculty (attendance required—in person or virtually)
- **NOVEMBER-DECEMBER**: Augsburg begins securing funding to commission artists
- **DECEMBER 1: Selected artists announced; Commission contracts awarded**
- **JANUARY 2017**: Commissioning process commences (as funds are secured)
- **NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2017**: Artworks installed in Hagfors Center
- **JANUARY 2018**: Building Open for classes

Required Submission Materials (in digital format only):

Please provide the following text in 12-point font, in a single Word document:

- Contact information applicant artist (name, email, phone, address).
- One-page letter of interest, including a description of working methodology and which discipline(s) are of interest (see listing above). If you don't have a preference, please indicate you are open to being assigned.
- One-page biographical information or resume; if you apply as a team, please provide biographical information for each team member (on one page).
- Work Samples: Up to 10 digital images of recent work (image files should not exceed 1 MB). Individuals and teams are limited to 10 images maximum. Save all images as standard JPEG and label each with applicant's full name and number in sequence with list of work samples.
- One-page listing of each work sample, including a brief description.

Please submit all RFQ materials via email to: RFQ@ForecastPublicArt.org. All materials must be received by **4 p.m., CST, Tuesday, July 19, 2016**. No RFQs will be accepted after this time.

If you need clarification or further information, contact project consultant Jack Becker at Forecast Public Art: Jack@forecastpublicart.org

About Forecast Public Art

Forecast Public Art is an internationally known nonprofit public arts service organization and publisher of *Public Art Review*. Headquartered in St. Paul's Creative Enterprise Zone, Forecast specializes in collaborations between artists and communities, facilitating public art projects, and providing expert advice and guidance with commissioning efforts. Visit www.ForecastPublicArt.org.