



MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – RESTROOM WAITING AREAS (DESIGN ONLY) | REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Release Date: Monday, February 24, 2020

Artist Design Fees: \$15,000 (per three installations)

Deadline: Monday, April 6, 2020 at 11:59 pm

Eligibility: Any artist currently living and working in Memphis, TN or Shelby County Artists are invited to apply as a team if desired.

BACKGROUND

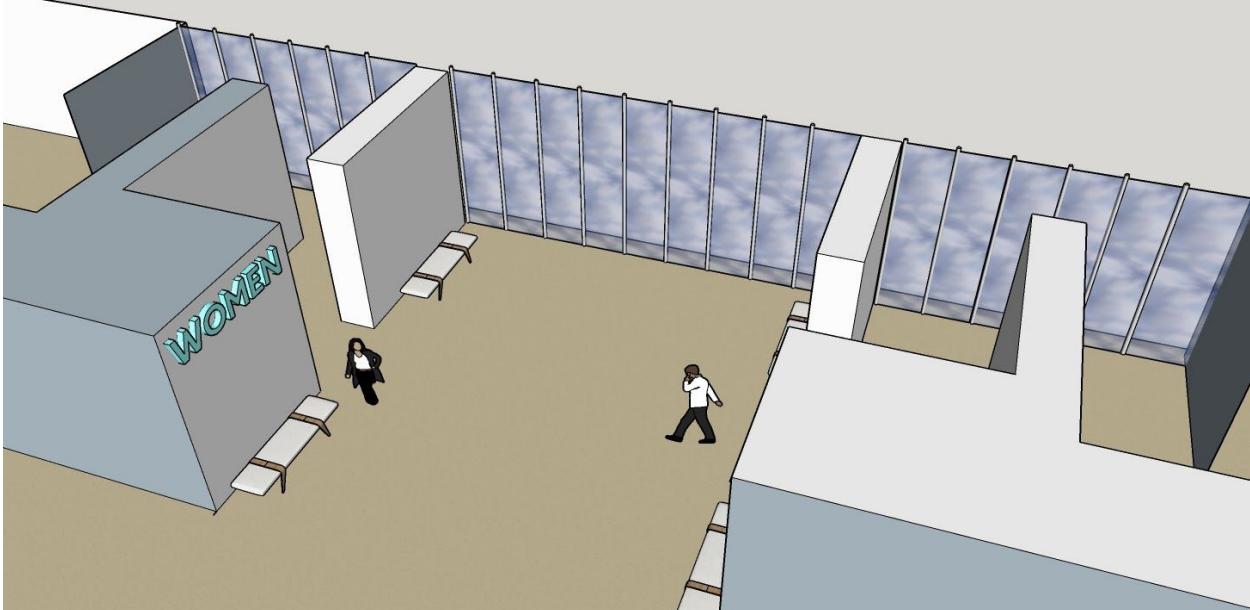
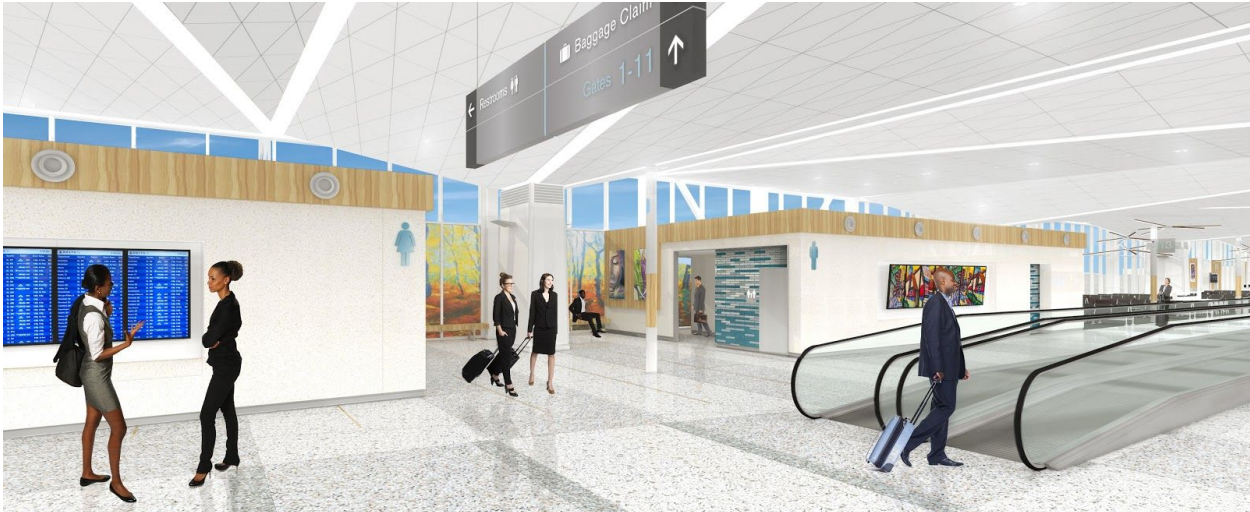
The Memphis International Airport is being reimagined as the facility undergoes an important renovation. A dramatic enhancement of the B concourse is currently underway, and will be completed by April 2021. Memphis's aviation industry dates back to 1927, when city Mayor Watkins Overton formed the Municipal Airport Planning Commission. The Commission broke ground on a 200-acre tract of open countryside seven miles from Downtown, and the Memphis Municipal Airport opened for regular passenger and mail service in 1929. The current terminal, a modern design by architect Roy P. Harrover, was dedicated in 1963. The growing facility changed its name to Memphis International Airport, and in 1974, the building expanded into its current configuration.

The renovated concourse B pays homage to Harrover's mid-century modern design, with sweeping vaulted ceilings and minimalist furniture, along with updates like larger windows, natural wood accent walls, and a contemporary color palette. This modernization will provide visitors and Memphians alike with an inviting experience, and a taste of what Memphis has to offer.

As part of the overall reimagining of the airport, \$1.5 million has been allocated to produce new site-specific public art projects at key locations throughout the facility. These projects include a large suspended sculpture, a permanent exhibition of 2D work by local artists, and three art glass installations.

SITE SPECIFICS

The renovated concourse features three restroom facilities, each consisting of a men’s room and a women’s room adjoined by a central waiting area. An approximately 9’ x 13’ translucent glass privacy wall obscures the windows in each restroom, and an approximately 9’ x 27’ translucent glass wall obscures the windows in the adjoining waiting area. These glass installations may be thought of as three separate sections, or as one continuous 9’ x 53’ wall. The glass will be divided into panes to accommodate the art glass process, and aligned with the existing window mullions in the new concourse.



SCOPE OF WORK

UrbanArt Commission (UAC) is partnering with the Memphis Shelby County Airport Authority (MSCAA) to commission glass artworks for three waiting areas and restrooms in the new concourse. Selected artists will be commissioned to create designs only, which will be printed with ceramic ink on architectural glass panels. UAC will contract directly with a glass studio to fabricate the pieces and an installation team. The studio will collaborate closely with the selected artists to translate their commissioned artwork onto glass. The selection committee expresses an interest in a public art piece that will:

- Provide travellers with an experience of the diverse voices and visions of Memphis' contemporary artists, designers, photographers, painters, printmakers and creatives
- Feature designs that will be meaningful and engaging for airport patrons, both now and in the future
- Respond to the aesthetic of the reinvented concourse, which features warm tones and natural wood, minimalist contemporary furniture, vaulted parabolic ceilings, and natural light from long curtain-wall windows

The selection committee will select nine finalists for the three installations based on their portfolio, application materials, professional qualifications, and demonstrated ability to meet deadlines. The three commissioned artists will be selected based on the strength of their proposals, which will be presented to the selection committee.

UAC is committed to equity and inclusion in our work, both in the artists and organizations supported through the development of public art. UAC is especially interested in applications from artists who have not previously received public art commissions. People of color, differently-abled persons, indigenous peoples, LGBTQ+, seniors, and women are strongly encouraged to apply.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Darrell Thomas	CEO, Thomas Consultants, Inc.; MSCAA Board of Commissioners
Pamela Clary	Executive VP, ComCap Partners; MSCAA Board of Commissioners
Gregory Fletcher	MSCAA Board of Commissioners
Richard Lou	Professor and Chair of Fine Art, University of Memphis
Faith Morris	Chief of Marketing & External Affairs, National Civil Rights Museum
Whitney Hardy	Founder, 3RDSPACE

Maggie Russell	Visual Artist
Lucy Woodson	Founder, Worlds Away
Jim Keras	Owner, Jim Keras Automotive; MSCAA Board of Commissioners
Brenda Duckett	Community Leader
Metcalf Crump	Owner & Architect, The Crump Firm
Brian Bullard	Owner & Architect, UrbanARCH Associates
James Hay	Director of Development, MSCAA
Glen Thomas	Director of Strategic Marketing & Communications, MSCAA
Scott Brockman	President & CEO, MSCAA (non-voting)

PROJECT TIMELINE

Monday, February 24, 2020	RFQ released
Wednesday, March 11, 2020 (5:30 – 7pm)	Information session hosted by UAC
Thursday, March 26, 2019 (3 – 7pm)	Office Hours hosted by UAC
Monday, April 6, 2020	RFQ deadline
By Friday, April 25, 2020	Notify finalists of RFP invitation
Monday, June 1, 2020	RFP deadline
Week of June 1, 2020	Finalist presentations to committee
September 2020	Final designs complete
April 2021	Installation complete

DESIGN FEES

Three artists will receive \$15,000 each for design fees for commissioned artwork.

FINALIST REQUIREMENTS

Each finalist will be asked to prepare a schematic design or mockup, followed by a presentation to the selection committee. Each finalist will receive a \$1,500 honorarium for an original design developed specifically for the site.

GUIDELINES

Please submit the following materials online by following the “Memphis Airport Waiting Areas” link at uacmem.org/calls-to-artists:

- Completed application form

- A typed letter explaining your interest in the project and your general approach/concept to its design and production. *Please do not submit design proposals at this point.*
 - Up to 20 images of past work including title of work, date, medium, budget and project partners, if any.
 - Résumé or CV, not to exceed 2 pages.
 - List of three professional references, including current phone and email.
1. To apply to an open Request for Qualifications (RFQ) or Request for Proposals (RFP), go to uacmem.org/calls-to-artists. Click on the opportunity that you are interested in to view more details.
 2. Clicking on the Submit button will redirect you to our Submittable page, which contains all of our current open opportunities. Click the Submit button next to the opportunity that you wish to apply for, or if you are already within an opportunity, scroll down to the Create your account / Have an account? Sign in form.
 3. If you already have a Submittable account, click the Have an account? Sign in tab to sign in to your account. If you don't remember your password, use the Forgot? link on the login form.
 4. If you don't have a Submittable account, you must create one to apply. Create your free account by filling out the Create your account form. Fill in all information and click the Create Account and Continue button to continue with the submission process.
 5. From there, you will be able to complete and submit your application. You can now use this account login when submitting to all future UAC opportunities. Once you have submitted your application, you will receive a confirmation email that confirms receipt of your full application.

For more information please contact:

Wendy Young, Program Manager
901.343.6983 / wendy@uacmem.org

This RFQ and support materials may be downloaded at uacmem.org/calls-to-artists.

DISCLAIMERS

Applicants will be notified as to the status of their application. Commissioning of artists by UAC and the pursuit of all UAC activities are implemented without preference to racial or ethnic origins, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, disability or age.

UAC reserves the right to modify this solicitation and to request additional information from participating artists.

UAC reserves the right to accept or reject, at any time prior to the commissioning of a work, any or all proposals when the acceptance, rejection, waiver or advertisement would be in the best interest of the project.

The staff of UAC will be responsible for all correspondence and communication by and between applicants and members of selection panels. Discussion regarding these projects by and between any applicant and any member of a selection panel outside of regularly scheduled meetings during the selection process may be grounds for the disqualification of the applicant. Such determination shall be in the discretion of UAC.