
Request for Qualifications - Art in Public Places Opportunity Eastern Oregon University, Inlow Hall, La Grande, Oregon



The Oregon Arts Commission is accepting qualifications from artists or artist teams for a Percent for Art in Public Places opportunity at Eastern Oregon University's Inlow Hall. The Inlow Hall project renovations include: improvements to the building envelope including restoration of original architectural concrete work, roof replacement, and fenestrations. The project will address underutilized and ineffective space; optimize classroom capacity and distance education technologies; expand academic and partnership space; and improve building system efficiency. Seismic upgrades will also be made to the second story, mezzanine and attic system. The building is scheduled to reopen in August, 2024.

Submission Deadline: 5 p.m. PT on Monday, May 22, 2023

Eligibility: Professional artists and artist teams residing in the United States are eligible to apply. Artists from Eastern Oregon, and those from historically or currently underserved or marginalized communities, including (but not limited to) people of color and those from rural areas, are especially encouraged to apply.

Budget: The anticipated art budget for the project is **\$122,000**. The budget is inclusive of design fees, fabrication, permitting, insurance, shipping, travel, installation, documentation and any other project costs.

About Eastern Oregon University and Inlow Hall

Eastern Oregon University (EOU) was founded in 1929 as a teacher's college and today serves as a center for education, culture, and scholarship in Oregon's rural areas. In 2018, the Oregon Legislature officially designated EOU as "Oregon's Rural University."



EOU Campus view looking northeast.

The EOU campus is situated in the Grande Ronde Valley between the Eagle Cap Wilderness and the Blue Mountains.

The Elkhorn Range of the Blue Mountains provides a majestic backdrop for campus life and is a prime destination for hiking, photography, and outdoor recreation in all seasons.

Inlow Hall was built in 1929 as the Eastern Oregon State Normal School. The building is a modern adaptation of Italian Renaissance palatial architecture and includes a formal grand stair with overlook terrace. Originally, it housed all functions appropriate to a teacher training institution until a separate unit, J. H. Ackerman Laboratory School, was added to the campus in 1935.

Inlow Hall is now EOU's administrative building, housing the offices of the Registrar, Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Accounts, the Career Center, Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, University Advancement and more.

EOU Land Acknowledgement

We humbly acknowledge the original inhabitants of the land Eastern Oregon University is upon: the Cayuse, Umatilla, Walla Walla, and Nez Perce people. We celebrate their traditions, languages, and stories. We acknowledge their continuing connection to this land, water, and community and pay our respects to these original stewards of Northeastern Oregon.

Themes and Goals for the Art

The art selection committee has identified themes, goals and desired characteristics for the Inlow Hall project. The selection committee seeks artwork that:

- enhances the campus landscape;
- can act as a "bridge" between the local community and the University;
- is welcoming;
- provides gathering or sitting areas; and/or
- is communal or interactive.

Art Locations

There are two potential locations for exterior sculptural installations in front of Inlow Hall. Artists may consider site-specific artwork for one or both of the locations. Additional images of the locations are in the final pages of this document.

- 1: Landscape area on west lawn.
- 2: Landscape area in front of building entrance.



Selection Process

A selection committee for this project includes university faculty and administrators, arts professionals, the project architect, and is facilitated by a project coordinator contracted by the Oregon Arts Commission. The committee will review submitted qualifications and select up to three finalists for a proposal process.

The following criteria will be used to select finalists, based on submitted materials:

- Appropriateness of scale, material (including long-term durability), and style of past work as they relate to the project values/goals and site.
- Artistic and technical quality of past work, including mastery of skills and techniques, communication of a unique artistic perspective, and/or consistent application of professional practices, conceptual framework or use of materials.

- Demonstrated ability of the artist to successfully complete artwork with a project timeline, limited budget and input from community stakeholders.
- Completion of two or more prior public and/or private artwork commissions with minimum budget of \$50,000.
- If you are an established artist emerging into public art without the above experience, in your letter of interest address the reasons why you believe you are qualified for the opportunity and/or the steps you would take to ensure successful completion of a large-scale artwork commission.

Up to three finalists will receive a fee of \$1,250 per artist/artist team to design and propose an artwork. Travel expenses for artists to attend a site visit and project orientation will be provided, in addition to the artist fee. The design proposal will include: a concept narrative, description of materials and durability, visual representations of proposed work, estimated budget and timeline. Finalists will present their proposals to the selection committee. One artist/artist teams will be selected for a commission and awarded a contract to create and install site-specific artwork.

Estimated Schedule

May 22, 2023	Deadline to submit qualifications
June, 2023	Selection Process/Deliberations
July, 2023	Finalist's site visit
September, 2023	Design proposal presentations to selection committee
September, 2023	Artist selection
October, 2023	Contract awarded to selected artist
October, 2024	Artwork installed and complete

Committee meetings typically take place virtually. Site visit will be in person.

How to Submit Qualifications

To be considered for this opportunity, submit all required materials by 5 p.m. PST on Monday, May 22, 2023. Place your application materials in one folder on your computer and upload the folder to the following Dropbox File Request link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/HwhzCf9dMC03rODjeJKI>. Click on "Add Files" then choose "Folders from Computer" or drag and drop your folder into Dropbox.

Artists currently on the Oregon Art in Public Places Artist Roster may use Roster application materials for this opportunity, with the addition of a letter of interest specific to this project. Please email your letter to pegbutlerart@gmail.com and indicate that you'd like your Roster materials to be used.

Application Materials

Please follow the file naming protocol requested below. Be sure to include artist's name and contact info on each PDF submitted.

Letter. As a PDF file named with "artist's last name, first initial, letter" (doejletter.pdf). Please provide a short letter describing your interest in this project and how your artwork and art-making process would be a good fit for it.

Resume. As a PDF file named with "artist's last name, first initial, resume" (doejresume.pdf). Two pages maximum. For teams, include resumes of each team member. Please include your complete contact info: street address, phone number, email.

Images. As JPG files named as follows: "artist's last name, first initial, number that corresponds to the image information on the image list" (doej01.jpg). Up to ten images of your past work. File size: minimum 1200 pixels on the longest side and maximum 5 MB.

Image List. As a PDF file named with "artist's last name, first initial, list" (doejlist.pdf). Provide image file number (01,02, 03...), project title, location, date completed, media, dimensions, cost/budget, commissioning agency, project partners, and brief description of the project/conceptual information.

Assistance

For questions about the project and the application process, contact project manager Peg Butler, pegbutlerart@gmail.com, 503-928-3565.

The information in this RFQ is available in alternate formats upon request. For more information or assistance with the application process, contact Ryan Burghard, Oregon Arts Commission: Ryan.BURGHARD@biz.oregon.gov or (971) 374-3083.

Oregon's Percent for Art in Public Places Program

Managed by the [Oregon Arts Commission](#), the Percent for Art in Public Places program places art in state buildings and public universities throughout Oregon. The collection, including more than 2,500 works of art, is searchable via [Oregon's Percent for Art in Public Places Collection website](#).

Location 1: Landscape Area on West Lawn

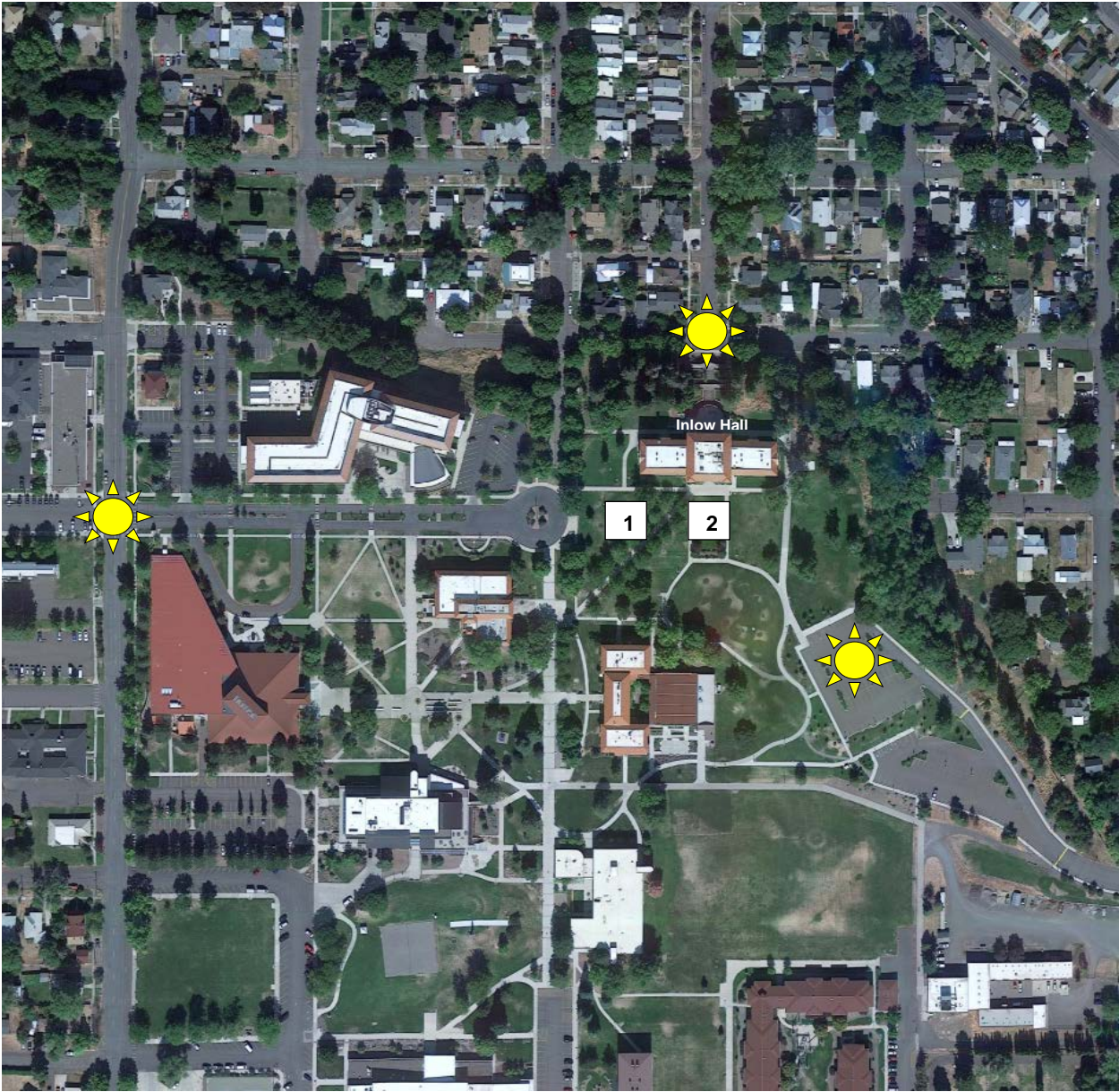



Red arrow shows approximate location of potential art area.



Location 2: Landscape Area Directly in Front of Inlow Hall Entrance



Neighborhood Context



 - Campus - Community Access Points

  - Potential Locations for Art