



City of Ontario, CA Public Art Program

Block C/Ovitt Family Community Library Public Art Project

Call for Artists/Request for Proposals (RFP)

Application Deadline: Friday, July 14, 2023 [5:00 P.M. PST (CA)]

Total Project Budget: \$90,000

Summary:

The City of Ontario, California is accepting proposals from artists for a mural that will be located on the parking structure opposite the Ovitt Family Community Library in downtown Ontario, as well as a smaller complimentary mural inside the library's youth section. Up to three finalists will be selected and paid a \$500 stipend to do a virtual interview, presenting their proposals. Artists working in Southern California who have experience designing, fabricating, and installing murals with a similar budget and scope are encouraged to apply.

Applications are due by Friday, July 14, 2023 (5:00 PM, PST.)

Public Art Project Budget:

The total public art project budget is \$90,000 for the two installations. The project budget is all-inclusive of project costs, including artist's fees and expenses, taxes, materials, permit fees, travel, shipping and crating, insurance fees, permitting, site preparation, fabrication/installation, and execution of the artwork.

Overview:

In 2022, Ontario completed the five-level, 411-space 'Block C' parking structure, located on the corner of Lemon Avenue and C Street in downtown Ontario, CA. The structure is directly adjacent to the Ovitt Family Community Library and just east of historical Euclid Avenue. Part of the downtown area's redevelopment efforts, the design is meant to celebrate the rich heritage of the community while creating a modern urban street front.

Additionally, Ontario City Council recently approved renaming the library's youth area as the Beverly Cleary Young Reader's Room, in recognition of the award-winning author's early history as a resident of Ontario, California.

The City of Ontario has allocated funds to enhance the south wall of the parking structure with a large-scale mural, as well as provide an opportunity for the community

to work with the selected public artist to create a smaller related mural inside youth section of the library.

The public art will be implemented as a part of the City of Ontario's new public art program.

Site Description:

The public art will be sited in two locations:

1. The south wall of the five-story parking structure, located on the corner of Lemon Avenue and C Street in downtown Ontario; the south wall spans approximately 34 feet high and 14½ feet wide.
2. The wall directly behind the front desk in the youth area, which spans approximately 6 feet high and nearly 16 feet wide. For this mural, it is expected that the selected artist will also engage the community with its design and installation.

Public Art Scope and Project Description:

The scope for the public art project focuses on the selected artist designing and installing murals that:

Mural 1:

- Enhance the parking structure so that it provides visual identity to downtown Ontario while also celebrating community and enjoyment of reading.
- Celebrate access to literacy and learning for all ages through books, technology, and community spaces.

Mural 2:

- Enhance the interior of the library with a second mural focusing on author and former Ontario resident Beverly Cleary, her children's books, and youth literacy.

Selection Process:

An artist selection panel will be convened to evaluate all submissions and select 3 – 4 artist finalists for virtual interviews, where they present their proposal. Pending interviews, one artist and an alternate will be selected for the project. Finalists will receive a \$500 stipend.

Selection criteria include the applicant's professional qualifications, proven ability to complete projects of a similar scope, artistic merit as evidenced by the submitted materials, demonstrated ability to work with government agencies and stakeholders in the creation of site enhancements for a public art project, and a commitment to community engagement in creating public art.

The selected project artist will be recommended by the selection panel for approval by the Ontario Public Art Commission, based on the review of the proposal, relevant

images, and other application materials. The selected artist will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Ontario. The Public Art Commission reserves the right to reject any or all applications.

City of Ontario's Public Art Program:

The City of Ontario is committed to enriching the lives of the city's residents and visitors by integrating artworks within the community by way of public art. In 2022 the City Council established the Public Art Program that includes sections for public art for private development, acquisitions of public art via loans or donations, and murals. The City of Ontario hopes that public art will encourage dialogue and interaction, enhance locations through visual place-keeping and wayfinding, and is a means to driving tourism as Ontario defines itself as a destination location.

Ontario, California:

Founded as a Model Colony, based on innovation, planned development, community service and family values, the City of Ontario has become the economic heart of the region. The City Council is committed to maintaining Ontario's leadership role in the Inland Empire by continuing to invest in the growth and evolution of the area's economy while providing a balance of jobs, housing, and educational and recreational opportunities for our residents in a safe, well-maintained community.

Timeline*:

- Friday, July 14, 2023 — Deadline for response to RFP (5:59 P.M. PST)
- August 2023 — Finalist notifications, interviews
- September - October 2023 — Artist selection and contract development
- November - December 2023 — Final design approval
- January 2024 — Fabrication, site prep, and installation
- February 2024 — Project complete

**Subject to change.*

Eligibility:

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is open to all professional and emerging artists residing in Southern California that are over the age of 18. Inland Empire artists are encouraged to apply. Entries not meeting eligibility requirements will be withdrawn from consideration. Artists must demonstrate that they have successfully completed similar works in the past when submitting their qualifications.

Application Delivery:

Applications are being accepted via the Submittable.com website. No other form of application will be accepted. Late or incomplete applications cannot be considered.

All materials submitted become the property of the City of Ontario.

Submission Requirements:

1. Artist resume. Teams must submit one resume/CV per team member.
2. Letter of interest (1 – 2 page), including outline of your qualifications, relevant experience, and your general approach to this project, method for community engagement, and narrative explaining proposed designs.
3. Digital Images: Five (5) digital images of previously completed artwork within the past five years. You will also need to include descriptions for each image, including: art title, date, dimensions, type of media, location for installation (City, State) and commission cost.
4. Design Proposal: Two (2) images total, one for the parking structure wall, and one for the wall within the youth section.
5. References: Two professional references.

Award of Contract

The City of Ontario reserves the right to accept or reject any submittals and to alter or extend the selection process as needed. This RFP and the selection process shall in no way be deemed as a binding contract or agreement of any kind between the City and the artist. Award of a contract is contingent upon recommendation by the Public Art Commission. The artist selected and approved will contract with the City for the entire duration of the project.

The selected artist will be required to secure and maintain various types of insurance, including Automobile Liability, General Liability, and other insurance as needed. The finalist(s) will be contacted regarding next steps, including an agreement with the City of Ontario (see the Sample Agreement). The selected artist may also be required to obtain an Ontario business license.

The artwork commissioned for this project shall become the property of the City of Ontario. The artwork will be maintained as part of the City's public art collection.

For Further Information:

All questions regarding this request for qualifications are to be directed to Kim Boganey, Museum, Arts and Culture Manager, City of Ontario, at kboganey@ontarioca.gov.

Mural Locations:

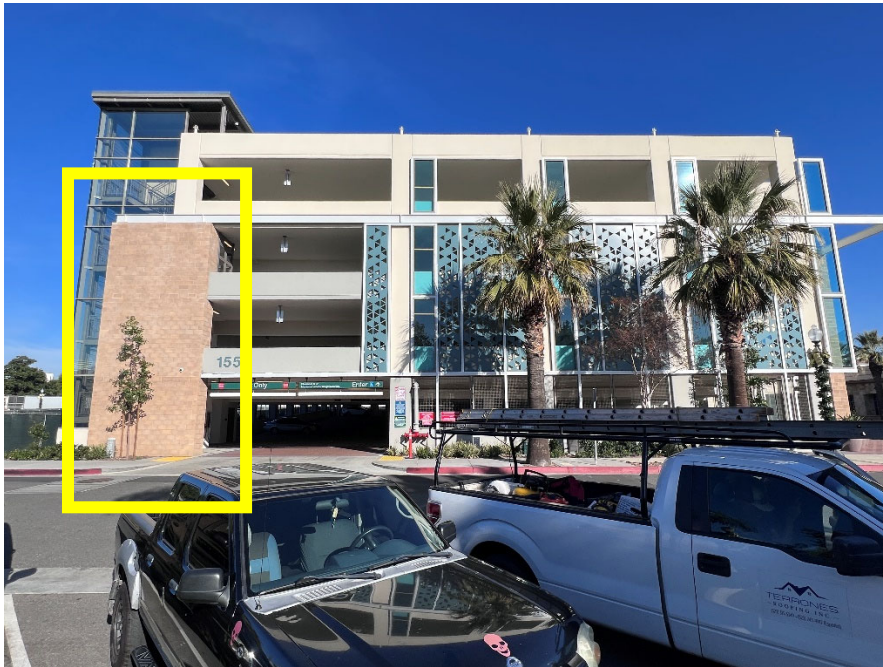


Figure 1. View of C-Block Parking Garage, located on E. C Street just west of the Ovitt Family Community Library on N. Lemon Avenue. Highlighted is where the mural is intended (tree will be relocated.)



Figure 2. View of interior of Ovitt Community Library, youth section. Mural is to cover back wall (curtains, books and signage will be relocated.)