

Call to Sculptors for Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden Project

City of Sebastopol - PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE

7120 Bodega Avenue Sebastopol, California 95472

DATE: **September 7, 2023**

The City of Sebastopol Public Arts Committee (PAC) is seeking proposals from Sonoma County based sculptors for the design, fabrication, and installation of durable and low-maintenance original public art suitable for placement in the Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden (CSG), Ives Park, Sebastopol, California.

Submission Deadline: **December 7, 2023, 4 pm, to nmahungu@cityofsebastopol.org**

Project Contact: nmahungu@cityofsebastopol.org, 707-823-6167

About Sebastopol

Sebastopol, located in Sonoma County, California was incorporated in 1902. Sebastopol is a 'general law' Council-Manager city with five Council members elected at large. Boards and Commissions include the Public Arts Committee.

Sebastopol has a unique and highly-valued small-town character. An incorporated City of 7,600 residents located in the San Francisco/North Bay region, Sebastopol is the hub of west Sonoma County, which is known as a creative center within the County. While the incorporated area is small, Sebastopol serves a much larger unincorporated area stretching to the Pacific Ocean and the Russian River. Persons with a 'Sebastopol' mailing address number over 25,000. The City's 'market area' comprises a population of approximately 40,000-50,000 people, who, to varying degrees, use Sebastopol as their 'town' for goods, services, and recreational and cultural activities. Thus, the town has far more economic activity, as well as recreational and cultural services than would be apparent based simply on the incorporated area's population.

The City has an extraordinary location, being surrounded by farmland, vineyards, orchards, rural residential and wetlands, located minutes from the Sonoma Coast and the Russian River area, and just 60 miles north of San Francisco. Sebastopol is at the crossroads of two State Highways, Highways 116 and 12, and is eight miles from Sonoma County's largest city, Santa Rosa.



Project Description

Selected sculpture will be installed in the Sebastopol Sculpture Garden for a duration of two years from installation (January 2024 to January 2026).

There will be No Jurying Fee.

The City of Sebastopol provides infrastructure, including sculpture pads, site signage, site delineation, site improvements and some installation assistance.

The PAC will determine selection and placement of selected sculpture.

Artists and PAC will host initial Show Opening Event.

Artists will be responsible to attend and help publicize show.

Artists will be responsible for: installation, maintenance and removal of artwork. Installation and removal will be in coordination with the Sebastopol Public Works Department.

Sale of available sculpture will go to:

25% for project support and infrastructure, 75% to artist.

Sold Sculpture will be available to buyers at the conclusion of a minimum of one year duration from the CSG Opening Event.

Artists will be responsible for removal and transportation of sculpture at the conclusion of the show.

Project Objectives

- Recognition, appreciation and encouragement of the creativity of Sonoma County community members
- Display of sculpture not commissioned by the City, but juried or selected by the PAC for the sculpture garden
- To provide a specific context and location for residents and visitors to enjoy the efforts of area sculptors, and for those artists to have a specific location to display non-commissioned artwork
- Foster a sense of beauty, multi-layered meaning, or have other compelling attributes
- Be appropriate for a public space
- Help create attractive public places
- Enhance the pedestrian environment
- Foster cultural understanding

Project Requirements

Be durable, safe, and low-maintenance appropriate to long term installation outdoors in a location open to public traffic.

Sculpture, and base if included, designed to be bolted securely by sculptor to cement platform provided by City.

Sculpture Size to be appropriate to setting and durability.

No logos, specific historic figures, mascots, or any expressions of hate are to be used.

Sculpture is already fabricated or confirmed to be ready for installation no later than the week of **January 22**.

Site

Area 2 in Ives Park Renovation Master Plan map: "#2 : Install sculpture garden along entry walk from South Hight Street." Area is approximately 250 feet long by 20 to 35 feet wide.

See Attached Site Plan Map.*

Sculpture Pads are 4 feet by 4 feet. There are currently 5 pads available.

Eligibility

This competition is open to sculptors living in Sonoma County.

The PAC may choose to designate some of the sculpture sites for work from specific individual artists or arts organizations.

Selection Criteria

The art concept will be evaluated based on appropriateness to the site, aesthetic quality, durability, stability, maintenance requirements, and safety considerations.

The selected artists must, if necessary, be available to meet with City staff, Public Works, the Public Arts Committee and, if needed, the City Council. An agreement with the selected artists will establish a minimum number of such meetings.

Durability, Maintenance and Safety: All applicants please read this section carefully

The durability, maintenance requirements, and safety of sculpture submitted for this project are essential elements in the selection process.

Selected sculpture will be exposed to the area's physical elements and public traffic.

All applicants are expected to consider the issues of long-term durability, clean-ability, resilience, and low or no maintenance. The project is located outside on the lawn of a popular public park adjacent to downtown Sebastopol. It will be exposed to weather and physical and environmental stresses, as well as potential vandalism. The project should be fabricated of highly durable, low-maintenance materials and be of sound construction and ensured stability. Keep in mind that larger pieces may be more resistant to vandalism. Selected sculptors are strongly encouraged to apply an anti-graffiti coating to their finished artwork.

The environmental effects of this project, during and after installation should also be considered. The City will ensure conformity with city standards of maintenance, durability and public safety considerations.

Selection Process

The City Council will confirm selections.

Selected artists will be required to sign a Liability Waiver before installation (See Attached)

Project Timeline

Call Released: September 8, 2023

Submissions Due: **December 7, 2023**

Sculptures Selected for Display: **November/December 2023**

Installation of Sculptures Selected for Display: **January 2023**

Community Sculpture Garden Opening Event: **TBA** (date subject to revision)

Selected sculptors may be asked to attend a PAC meeting to discuss their proposed sculpture.

Submission Requirements

Your submission can be sent electronically and should include the following, provided in the order listed. If your submission is by hardcopy (paper) it should include 8 hard-copies of the following, provided in the order listed:

1. A Letter of Interest. Not more than one typed page. Describe your interest in this project.
2. Art description/depiction. Please describe in text your concept for this project (250 word maximum) and provide a sketch or more specific visual image.
3. Indicate how your sculpture, and base if included, will be attached, secure and stabilized on the pedestal?
4. The artist's name and title of sculpture should appear on all materials submitted.
5. Confirmation that your sculpture will be ready for installation in the CSG in January 2024

Financial information

Artists are responsible for all expenses involved in their sculpture's:

1. Proposal submission, communications fabrication, transportation, installation, insurance, maintenance, and final removal from site. Artists may also participate in some publicity for the Display Event.
2. Sebastopol City and PAC will provide
 1. One pedestal for each sculpture selected for the duration of the project's display period.
 2. Maintenance of the physical grounds of the CSG.
 3. General notification and some publicity regarding the Display Opening Event and Duration.

Please note

Respondents to this CFP do so at their sole expense.

All CFP submittals will become property of the City.

Do not submit materials you would want returned.

Incomplete or unresponsive submittals may be rejected.

Prospective sculptors shall not contact Public Arts Committee or City Council members about this CFP without specific authorization from City staff. Doing so may be grounds for disqualification.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to cancel or alter the selection process at its sole discretion.

Questions: The Public Arts Committee is managing this project. Any questions about the CFP may be directed via email to: nmahungu@cityofsebastopol.org

Site Plan Map: Ives Park, High Street Entry (just north of the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, 282 High Street)



