

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Athens-Clarke County, Georgia

Public Art for Heard Park Community Center – Mural

Call Summary:

The Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County (ACCGov) invites Athens-area artists to submit public art proposals for consideration for a Community Center Improvements project in Athens, Georgia. The selected artist(s) will work with stakeholders and government staff to create public art that enhances the user experience and complements the selected site: **a mural design (to be commercially reproduced on panels) for the exterior of Heard Park Community Center.**

Project Overview and Site Description:

Athens-Clarke County, GA is a university town known for its historic, diverse, and creative environment. Heard Park Community Center (formally East Athens Community Center) has been serving Athens' community since 1975. The facility is equipped with a gymnasium, full-service kitchen, and a multi-purpose room on the main floor; a game room, fitness room, and dance room on the second floor; and a library, arts and crafts room, and another multi-purpose room on the third floor. Heard Park offers programming and activities for all ages, throughout the year.

The site for public art will be the exterior of the building facing McKinley Dr. The size of the horizontal panel will be 30 ft wide x 5 ft tall as depicted in [Attachment A](#).

Public Art Goals & Criteria:

The goals for including public art in this project are to enhance visual appeal of the building exterior, as well as to foster community identity and pride. A stakeholder group has identified the following criteria for a mural at Heard Park.

- 1) Original work created by the submitting artist(s)
- 2) Quality art in design and execution and demonstrated experience with similar work.
- 3) Appropriate subject and themes for all ages.
- 4) Enjoyable from multiple vantage points, by pedestrians and passing motorists
- 5) Compatible with surroundings, in scale and visibility related to the site.

The stakeholder group identified the following themes and key words to inspire the artwork:

Impactful, Positivity, Children, Family, Happiness, Community, Growth, Leadership, Family, Life, Peace, Goals, Figurative, Athletic, Representation, World, Future, Dreams

Eligibility:

Athens-area artists 18 years and older. The Athens area includes the following counties: Athens-Clarke County, Oconee, Barrow, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Hall, Banks, Franklin, Hart, Elbert, Wilkes, Morgan, Walton and Oglethorpe. Must not be currently employed by Athens-Clarke County (including part-time, contract labor and seasonal/temporary employment).

Budget:

The budget for this project is \$8,000 for your design and usage rights only. All installation costs will be covered by ACCGov.

Timeline:

The following timeline is contingent with staff and the facility's schedule and may be changed, but is current as of this RFP as follows:

- Call Published – July 2025
- Application deadline: September 19, 2025
- Selection panel convenes: September 2025
- Selected art will be contacted: September 2025
- Mayor & Commission vote on recommended artist(s): Fall 2025
- Contract signing: Fall 2025
- Art installation: Fall 2025

Contract Provisions:

The selected artist will be required to enter into a formal contract with Athens-Clarke County. The basic provisions of the contract are included in [**Attachment B**](#). No work will begin on the project until the contract is signed by all parties. *This process may require no less than 8 weeks to complete after the artist is selected and notified; and may take longer depending on the county approval process.*

Applications:

All applications must be submitted to Athens-Clarke County's [online system of calls for entry](#) and must include the following to be considered by the resident selection panel:

1. Contact information, including your name(s), mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail.
2. A resume highlighting your credentials and related experience.
3. Contact information for at least three (3) professional references.
4. Jpeg image of your design.
5. A title and description of your public art concept for this project

****Please limit one design per artist per site****

Attachments:

[Attachment A: Site Photos & Template](#)

[Attachment B: Contract Provisions](#)

Contact:

Tatiana Veneruso

Public Art Coordinator, Athens-Clarke County, Leisure Services Department, Arts Division

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