



EVANSTON MURAL ARTS PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

About EMAP.

Evanston Mural Arts Program (EMAP) is a new public art initiative launched by the local non-profit Art Encounter. Our program goal is to help artists, residents, and business districts uplift their neighborhoods and strengthen their communities through mural art. EMAP provides curatorial leadership and project management support across all areas of making public murals, towards the shared goals of community enrichment, civic engagement, and beautification. We wish to help Evanston join a national movement that embraces the power of public art and become a more culturally vibrant, livable city on the whole.

Overview of 2017 Central and Green Bay Project.

This summer, Evanston Mural Arts Program is working with the Evanston Art Center and the Central Street Business Association to make visual improvements to the Union Pacific/Metra underpass at Central St and Green Bay Road. The 2015 opening of the new Evanston Art Center building and the expansion of many new businesses along Central Street, including new restaurants and shops, presented a renewed vitality in the Central Street Business District. This mural will help further enhance the attractiveness of the district, draw more positive attention to the vibrant businesses along the street and surrounding neighborhood, as well as complement the mission of the Art Center.

The concrete wall to be painted is on the north side of the street. At present, there is a partially painted mural on that wall, painted over five years ago. The mural was never completed and is starting to show its age. The wall is approximately 118' long x 10' tall, with the tallest height being 14' and the lowest height being 5.5'. Approximate shape of wall is as such:



Seeking Lead Mural Artist or Artist Team.

We are seeking a professional individual artist or artist team for this mural. Paints must be ordered in consultation with EMAP project managers—we recommend Nova for acrylic, Montana for spray. Artists are expected to provide all other supplies. The wall will be pressure-washed and primed in advance, and sealed at the end. The artist stipend is \$5000, with an additional \$800 for paint. *Please note that there is no additional stipend for travel or accommodations for out-of-town artists.*



Thematic Consideration: Connections.

For this mural, we would like artists to consider the conceptual suggestion of connections: connections between businesses, between residents, between individuals and the community at large. Consider the idea that in this district, *"We are one street, one business district, and one neighborhood, connected or linked through our traditions but also forward thinking in our style and willingness to accept new and innovative ideas. We are a community of traditions with contemporary notions and forward thinking."* Artists should feel free to interpret this within their aesthetic language and not feel confined to representational imagery.

Selection Criteria.

Each application will be reviewed by a panel designated by EMAP and its community partners, and considered with the following criteria in mind:

- Experience and qualifications of the artist(s)
- Thoughtful and creative interpretation of the theme
- Capability to carry out the project

General Project Timeline.

June 19	Deadline for RFP submissions
June 30	Artist notified on acceptance status
July	Any design revisions are made if requested, permits secured, contracts signed, paint and materials obtained, wall is pressure washed and primed by EMAP
August	Painting can begin when Union Pacific Right of Entry is processed
October 1	Mural must be completed, to be sealed by EMAP

How To Apply.

All components of your application must be in digital format and sent in one email with the subject line "Central Street Mural Project Proposal." **Please make sure your total image size is 300 dpi.** You may either scan or photograph your sketch and submit as pdf or jpg. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

To submit, please send your proposal to Cara Feeney at cfeeney@evanstonartcenter.org.

The parts of your proposal are as follows and should be labeled as indicated:

- Application form (see next page), typed (Label "LastnameFirstname_EMAP_APP")
- 4 images of 2-D artwork for lead artist. Include murals. (Label "LastnameFirstname_Work#")
- Professional resume for lead artist. (Label "LastnameFirstname Resume")
- Color sketch of mural to scale. (Label "LastnameFirstname_Design")

If you have questions, please email emap@artencounter.org.



EVANSTON **ART**
CENTER

Please describe how you are approaching the thematic suggestion of “connections.”

Do you have any conflicts with the schedule as outlined in the project description? Please explain.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Please submit the following items with this application form:

- Four images of lead artist’s 2-D artwork (please include murals)
- Resume for lead artist
- Color sketch of mural design

Please refer to cover sheets for file labeling instructions. Send all materials in one email to Cara Feeney at cfeeney@evanstonartcenter.org.