



Call for Entry: Gallery Alley Submission Guidelines

Deadline for Submission: Thursday, August 29, 2019, 5 p.m. CST

Submissions Accepted Online Only: bit.ly/CallForEntryGA2019

Project Description

This project will focus on reestablishing Gallery Alley as a permanent destination point for an intersensory art experience. Gallery Alley was a temporary pilot project funded by the Knight Foundation in 2017. In order to improve pedestrian safety and encourage walkability, the City of Wichita made the decision to permanently close Gallery Alley to vehicular traffic and thus made corresponding sidewalk improvements in April of 2019.

In the short time since its inception, Gallery Alley has already become a well-loved public space. This next phase of Gallery Alley will expand on the artwork included in the space with a conscious effort to serve all visitors with specific consideration for individuals of all ages who are blind, visually impaired and for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Members of our community who are blind, visually impaired and those with mobility impairments who investigate the world through tactile and kinesthetic experiences are often excluded in engaging in, or examining, works of art in galleries and museums across the world each and every day. Therefore, submitting artists are invited to design and install a public work of art through the lens of a non-visual world. We encourage you to reexamine your ideas about textures, sound and movement to create works of art that engage the whole person through an all-inclusive, multi-sensory, interactive experience for people of all abilities. Gallery Alley is seeking works that push and pull the boundaries of creative innovation to make this public installation one of the most accessible, forward thinking public arts experiences for all members of our community.

Budget - \$30,000

The total project budget is intended to cover the purchase of approximately 4-8 sculptures, depending on scale and materials, which would allot \$2,000 to \$8,000 per sculpture.

Artwork Goals

Artists from Kansas and the surrounding states will be commissioned to create site-specific sculptures with a multi-sensory approach that are safe and fully accessible for individuals who are blind or visually impaired, including people with mobility impairments and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Artists are encouraged to create work with visual and tactile elements that would explore movement, light, pattern, and sound allowing visitors of all ages to experience the gallery in different but equally powerful ways. Access to electricity is possible. As Gallery Alley is bordered by residential properties, if

sound is utilized within the artwork, consideration for the property residents must be given.

Goals include:

- Artwork must be welcoming to all members of the community.
- Artwork will invoke a sense of place and community pride.
- Artwork will use a variety of materials suitable for outdoor exhibition.

There are no size restrictions although artwork should be of appropriate scale for interaction and individuals' maneuverability in the space.

Artwork will be reviewed for safety and durability. All work must be structurally sound and able to withstand an outdoor environment and hands-on viewing and require little to no ongoing maintenance.

If selected, artwork must arrive in the same condition as portrayed in the application description, photos and/or sketches. Downtown Wichita reserves the right to refuse artwork if it does not match what was submitted.

Location Description

Gallery Alley is located on the north side of Douglas Avenue between the railroad overpass and St. Francis Street in downtown Wichita. The alley measures 139 feet in length and 15 feet wide. The ground is a combination of brick pavers and poured concrete. The alley is enclosed by brick and mortar walls on the east and west sides.

Photos and plans of the area can be found here: bit.ly/CallForEntryGA2019

Eligibility

Call for Entry is open to all visual artists and teams who are legal residents of the United States, who currently live and work in the states of Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Missouri, or Oklahoma, and are at least 18 years of age. Special consideration will be given to Kansas artists.

Selected artists must be able to transport the artwork to the site on a specified date and install with minimal assistance. Artists must remain available for 12 months to assist with artwork repair and maintenance if needed.

Downtown Wichita values diversity and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Selection Process

The selection committee will consist of local art professionals, members of the Downtown Wichita staff, and representatives from Envision, Inc. (a not-for-profit headquartered in Wichita whose mission is to improve the quality of life and to provide inspiration and opportunity for individuals who are blind, visually impaired and to adults who are legally blind with intellectual and developmental disabilities) This committee is responsible for reviewing submissions and the selection of artists.

The project will be managed by the staff of Downtown Wichita with input from Envision, Inc.

Timeline

Wednesday, June 26 2019 – Call for Entry Opens

Thursday, August 29, 2019, 5 p.m. CST – Call for Entry Closes

Monday, September 9 to Friday, September 13, 2019 – Review of Proposals & Artist Selection

Wednesday, September 18 to Friday, September 20, 2019 – Artist Notification

September to December 2019 – Artwork Fabrication

January to March 2020 – Artwork Installation

May 2020 (Date TBD) – Community Celebration & Ribbon Cutting

Downtown Wichita Responsibilities

- Securing appropriate permitting with the City of Wichita
- Coordination of additional services, if needed, such as electricians, etc.
- Creation and installation of signage including title cards
- Adding pages to existing website with information on artwork and artists

Artist Responsibilities

- Creation, transportation, and installation of artwork

Submission Instructions

Go to bit.ly/CallForEntryGA2019 to complete the online submission form and upload documents.

Contact Information

Downtown Wichita
507 E. Douglas Avenue
Wichita, KS 67202

Emily Brookover
Director of Community Development
emily@downtownwichita.org
316.264.6005

About Wichita

Built upon a legacy of entrepreneurial spirit that has built and supported globally recognized brands for more than a century, Wichita is the largest city in Kansas, and is full of possibilities and poised for continued growth.

With an aviation heritage spanning 100 years, Wichita is where entire industries take flight. We have earned the title Air Capital of the World, and are home to global aviation brands and two of the largest privately held companies in the nation – Cargill and Koch Industries. On many levels, we have proven our versatility as the location of choice for advanced manufacturing, aerospace, energy, business, professional services and IT. Wichita has one of the highest concentrations of engineers in the U.S., a vast diversified network of nearly 900 world-class manufacturing firms in the 10 county region, and an unrivaled commitment to workforce training and research. Our special blend of location, people, cost, capabilities and attitude has fueled the success of thousands of companies.

Wichita is home to a thriving, diverse community of creators and innovators – a community where exploration meets innovation with a culture of vibrant arts. Entrepreneurs, community leaders and volunteers contribute to Wichita’s creative culture through maker spaces, an impressive craft brewing scene and community pride. Here, you can create your ideal lifestyle by indulging in global cuisines, craft breweries, world-class arts and music, expansive parks and 100+ miles of outdoor paths.

Wichita also possesses what many larger metros lack – housing affordability, short and easy commuting, not to mention a low cost of living and cultural experiences around every corner. A city with business innovation at its core – successful start-ups, leading global corporations and thousands of opportunities in between where companies like Cargill, Koch Industries, NetApp, Spirit AeroSystems and Textron Aviation built their success.

Living in Wichita means enjoying a high quality of life at an affordable cost. Named as the “Biggest bang for your buck” city by Realtor.com, you can find a home among historic neighborhoods, modern downtown lofts and friendly suburbs.

In the heart of the city, downtown Wichita is a thriving hub of social, professional and cultural experiences with almost 2,000 residents, over 120 unique retailers and 3.1 million square feet of occupied office space. Since the launch of Project Downtown: The Master Plan for Wichita, over \$850 million of development investment has contributed to our thriving urban core.

Wichita is full of possibilities to bring your vision of business or lifestyle to reality.

About the Downtown Wichita organization

Downtown Wichita is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation founded in 2002 as the Wichita Downtown Development Corporation (WDDC.) Our mission is to introduce optimism to opportunity to revitalize and enhance Wichita’s urban core. We collaborate with change-makers whose presence stimulates investment and interest in Downtown. By connecting resources from the private sector and local government, inviting locals, investors and visitors alike to experience the diverse layers of Downtown Wichita, we steward spaces for commerce and culture to thrive.

Downtown Wichita shows collaborative leadership to strengthen Downtown as the core of urban experiences for all citizens of Wichita, a connected and prosperous place for professional growth, an incubator for creative expression and cultural diversity, and a vibrant, authentic environment for tourism, investment, and exploration.

About Envision, Inc

Envision, Inc. is an integrated community of people who are blind, low vision and typically sighted. What began as a small vocational workshop in Wichita in 1933 is now one of the most trusted resources for people who are blind or visually impaired, as well as for the professionals and caretakers who serve them. A critical component of the mission of Envision is research that addresses practical issues in the clinical treatment and rehabilitation of persons who have low vision or blindness. Envision continues to serve as a hub for crucial services, education and social interaction for those they serve. Their mission is *to improve the quality of life and provide inspiration and opportunity for people who are blind or visually impaired through employment, outreach, rehabilitation, education and research.* **www.envisionus.com**