

# CALL FOR ARTISTS



## CATS Bus Shelter Glass Design RFQ

**Deadline: June 30, 2023**

**Art budget: \$15,000**

### INTRODUCTION

The City of Charlotte is continuing to provide transportation amenities throughout the region and the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) is seeking professional **Charlotte area artists** to integrate art into future bus shelter glass.

Artists living and/or working in the Charlotte area are invited to submit qualifications. Artists should be accustomed to engaging with communities to ensure the art is accessible and meaningful to the public. Artists of all backgrounds and experience levels are strongly encouraged to apply.

The City of Charlotte will select at least 2 artists to incorporate art into the bus stop shelters.

### PROJECT OVERVIEW & REQUIREMENTS

This project is tied to a larger procurement of various transit amenities, which will be purchased over a period of 5 years. CATS plans to upgrade transit amenities at bus stops throughout its service region, which will include new standard bus shelters. Standardizing the shelters will allow for compatibility and efficiency in maintaining a single shelter type. There will be two sizes of bus shelters:

- 10' Shelters: Will be used at certain individual bus stops
- 15' Shelters: Will be used at certain mobility hubs

Similarly, the glass for the shelters also requires a level of standardization. Therefore, for art to be incorporated in the shelters system wide, one single design per panel size will be required for maintenance and replacement reasons. For each of the two shelter sizes (10' & 15'), there are two panel dimensions (back panel & side panel), equating to two individual designs per shelter. One artist will design the two panels for the 10' shelters, and a second artist will design the two panels for the 15' shelters.

### LOCATION

The bus shelters will be distributed throughout CATS bus system in Mecklenburg County and neighboring towns. Specific locations are to be determined.

### ART OPPORTUNITIES

Because of the widespread nature of the shelter replacements, the selected artists will need to consider broader thinking thematic approaches to their designs such as mobility, regional connections, public transit benefits, etc.

There is a single opportunity for two-dimensional art integration for this project in the windscreen glass of the Tolar bus stop shelters. Etched glass or an approved equal is the anticipated fabrication method identified for the project to ensure compatibility with existing bus stops and cost effectiveness for maintainability. An example shelter can be seen below.



Sprinter Stop & Shelter – Etched windscreen art by Michele Tejuola Turner ©

## BUDGET

The intent of this call is to select at least two (2) artists for the project. One artist will design the two panels for the 10' shelters, and a second artist will design the two panels for the 15' shelters. The \$15,000 art budget will be split evenly between the selected artists.

The art budget is intended to cover artist design fees, materials, digital files, sample review, delivery of art, coordination with fabricator, and any other expenses. The City of Charlotte will negotiate an agreement with the artist based on a defined scope of work. The City will hire a fabricator to fabricate the art.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligible **artists** living and/or working in the **Charlotte area** are invited to submit their digital application materials for this open call by submitting the following at: <https://charlottenc.seamlessdocs.com/f/jqg2n8hh4vm1>. **There is no fee to apply.**

To apply please submit the following via the link above:

- No more than five (5) art images (JPGs only) of recently completed 2-D work, relevant to this project and formatted accordingly. Multiple views in a single image file are OK. File name format should be Lastname-Firstname-1.jpg, Lastname-Firstname-2.jpg, etc.
- Annotated image sheet including title, media, dimensions, completion date, location, commissioning agency, budget for art, brief description, and corresponding image number (PDF only).
- Resume or CV of relevant experience (up to 2 pages, PDF only).
- Three professional references (name, title, organization, email address, phone number).

The **deadline** to submit application materials is **June 30, 2023 by 11:59 pm**. Any final questions must be submitted to staff by 5pm on June 29, 2023 in order to receive a response.

## ELIGIBILITY & QUALIFICATIONS

Visual artists living and/or working in the Charlotte, NC area are invited to apply. Emerging artists are strongly encouraged to apply. Artists will be required to register as a vendor with the City and must be comfortable engaging with community members.

## ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS

A selection panel of contemporary art professionals, community and city representatives will review artists' submissions and select at least two (2) artists based on past work and qualifications.

Specific information about the project goals and requirements will be provided by the project team and shared with the artist selection panel prior to selecting the artists and subsequently with the selected artists prior to proposal development. The selected artists will be introduced to the community through a public meeting prior to proposal development. Then the artists will present their conceptual design to the project team for initial comments, and then subsequently at another community meeting to gauge community response before revisions and/or final approval by the project team.

## FUNDING & APPROXIMATE PROJECT SCHEDULE

This project is funded by the City of Charlotte. The following schedule is subject to change:

Call for Artists	May 15 – June 30, 2023
Deadline for Artists Submission	June 30, 2023 by 11:59 pm
Artist Selection/Agreement	July, 2023
Design	August – October, 2023
Fabrication & Installation	Winter 2023 – 2028

## CONTACT

For questions about this RFQ, please contact Chris Lange, Art in Transit Program Administrator, by email at [clange@charlottenc.gov](mailto:clange@charlottenc.gov).

*The City of Charlotte reserves the right not to select any artists for this art project. The City of Charlotte is committed to serving a diverse range of individuals and organizations through its programs and services and does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or any characteristic protected by law. We will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.*