Selection Process

• An Internal Review Committee (IRC) will shortlist four individuals/teams (two per commissioned project) to advance to RFP.

• Applicants must digitally submit the following via SlideRoom atuchicago.slideroom.com.

Phase 1: Request for Qualifications

Eligibility

• Applicants are not required to be Gary residents to apply; however professional artists with firsthand knowledge of the urban context and the City of Gary are preferred.

• Applicants design concepts should demonstrate a commitment to local participation and diversity.

• Artists or teams can submit qualifications for both phases.

• An artist who applies as a team member may not also apply as an individual.

• Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in an ongoing course of study in the arts or design related fields are not eligible.

Phase 2: Request for Proposals

Concept Design Competition

IRC will complete the initial applicant review. IRC will select qualification submissions and determine to advance to RFP. IRC will shortlist two qualified applicants (individual or team) per project. Four individual artists/teams will be advanced: two semi-finalists for Project One/Illumination and two semi-finalists for Project Two/Surface.

All applicants should review submission guidelines at http://arthousegary.com/public-art-commissions for additional information including project disclosures, site photos, RFQ guidelines, and more.

IRC will review application and will recommend a shortlist to advance to RFP.

Proposals (RFP) detailed information, including commission budgets.

One member per team will be invited for the site visit.

An Internal Review Committee (IRC) will shortlist four individuals or teams; eachsemi-finalist will be selected by an artist or a team. IRC will recommend a shortlist to advance to RFP.

Appendix to the Leaflet: The City of Gary is ArtHouse: A Social Kitchen. More than 230 cities submitted proposals that showcased temporary public art projects that address a civic issue. In June of 2015, Gary was selected as one of four winners to receive a $100,000 grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies to create public art that inspires economic growth in struggling communities. More than 2,100 ideas were submitted to support proposals for the Public Art Challenge. Gary’s winning project is ArtHouse: A Social Kitchen.

Funders

More information: www.arthousegary.com

Bloomberg Philanthropies invited mayors of U.S. cities with 30,000 or more residents, or municipalities, to submit proposals for innovative temporary public art that inspires economic growth in struggling communities. More than 230 cities submitted proposals that showcased temporary public art projects that address a civic issue.

Commissions for Public Art

Request for Qualifiers

December 2015
ArtHouse Ambition

ArtHouse reflects the cultural riches and promise of Gary. The site will evolve through the work of partner organizations and creative collaborations. When renovation is complete, ArtHouse will be more than a standard eatery. It will:

- offer access to a commercial kitchen for food-service training and small food businesses
- provide business incubation to culinary entrepreneurs
- operate as a pop-up cafe for incubated entrepreneurs
- host community dinners in Gary homes and the cafe
- offer gallery/exhibition space for artists and performers

Project Vision

Through temporary public art, ArtHouse Artistic Director, Theaster Gates intends to reveal the possibilities for an underutilized 15,000 square foot building. Artists and designers with public art experience and artist-led interdisciplinary teams are encouraged to apply. The reimagined space will be ushered in by two public art commissions appealing to the catalytic power of art. Works of art should be durable, able to withstand all-weather conditions and have low-maintenance requirements.

Project 1: Illumination

A highly visible, substantial light-based sculpture:

- neon or LED based artwork or other light based installation
- grand in size, scale, vision or impact
- makes the building evident, creates presence, announces building activity
- function as the building’s calling card and signature work, signaling that something exciting and monumental is in Gary

Project 2: Surface

Facade enhancements to glazed brick and stone exterior allowing for:

- artistic structural enhancement to existing facade
- high quality mural addition
- glazing enhancement to the structure designs (paintings or photographs) that can be interpreted by professional fabricators who work with various materials to scale and cover site surface

Community Context and Project Purpose

Gary’s population is approximately 105,000 residents. The decline of the steel industry eroded the City’s economic base. Today, the landscape and the built environment of the City provide clues to a past filled with activity, bustle and vibrancy. The ArtHouse website provides an expanded profile about the City of Gary.

Qualified artists and teams will offer design interventions for this building to:

- retain and revitalize the talent of Gary
- create a vibrant place of commerce, culture, community and creativity
- expand economic prospects and increase economic activity
- encourage public-private partnerships that drive economic development

The Site

ArtHouse is located at 411 E 5th Ave., Gary, IN 46402. Public Art Commissions One and Two will be installed on the building or in the surrounding grounds of the facility. The building will undergo additional renovations and design enhancements.

The 15,000 SF structure was built in 2005. It is located on an “L” shaped parcel with significant public frontage on the corner of 5th Ave. and Delaware St. The building consists of block wall construction and storefront glazing with standing seam metal accent awnings. The low-slope roof is constructed of lightweight joists and built up roofing materials. The facility is equipped with 2,200 SF commercial kitchen. A small food business operates in a portion of the building and the remainder of the facility was constructed as a banquet hall and used for private events.

ArtHouse: A Social Kitchen

The City of Gary working with Rebuild Foundation, and the University of Chicago’s Arts and Public Life initiative and the Harris School of Public Policy, seeks qualifications from artists and designers interested in creating temporary original site responsive and artist-driven interventions of variable duration for ArtHouse: A Social Kitchen, a facility undergoing renovation in downtown Gary.

ArtHouse: A Social Kitchen is a platform for the activation of economic and social activity in downtown Gary. The scale and scope of ArtHouse is ambitious and broad.

Visit arthousegary.com for additional information.