

Request for Qualifications

Legacy Trail Public Art Master Plan

Compiled by Legacy Trail Public Art Consortium

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Project Summary:

The Legacy Trail Public Art Consortium (LTPAC) is seeking Statements of Qualifications from artists, creative teams, art consultants and other professional consultants capable of providing a public art master plan for a new 9-mile bicycle and pedestrian trail located in Lexington, Kentucky. The vision of this linear park will be to create a "museum without walls."

The budget for a completed and comprehensive public art master plan is \$25,000 plus reasonable travel expenses to include a minimum of two trips to Lexington, negotiable with finalist. The LTPAC is looking for a planner/consultant who can incorporate central Kentucky's unique cultural, historical and environmental heritages with a comprehensive public art program.

The goal of "museum without walls" is to utilize contemporary art created by artists working in environmentally conscious media. Providing the community with interactive opportunities will enrich the viewers experience and create valuable destinations along the trail.

Themes, identified through a multitude of public input sessions, are to promote health and wellness, enhance the environment and physical surroundings, and to educate about the environmental and historical significance of this unique region of the United States.

LTPAC Consortium:

The consortium will guide the selection and evaluation processes for this RFQ. This consortium is composed of five organizations. They are: University of Kentucky Department of Art's Museum Studies class, Blue Grass Community Foundation's Legacy Center (BGCF), the Lexington Art League (LAL), LexArts, and the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG).

For more information regarding the consortium, below are some useful links:

- University of Kentucky Department of Art
<http://www.uky.edu/FineArts/Art/>
UK's Department of Art values creative learning and personal growth through critical thinking.
- Blue Grass Community Foundation
<http://www.bgcf.org>
B.G.C.F. exists to enhance the quality of life for all people of our region.
- Legacy Center
<http://legacycenter.ning.com/>

The Legacy Center is Blue Grass Community Foundation's community engagement arm that is overseeing the Legacy Projects.

- LexArts
<http://www.lexarts.org/>
LexArts is Lexington's premier cultural development, advocacy and fund raising organization.
- Lexington Art League
<http://www.lexingtonartleague.org/>
The Lexington Art League (LAL) is central Kentucky's oldest and largest visual arts organization.
- Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
<http://www.lexingtonky.gov>
Local governing body

Services Requested

The total amount secured for the construction of the Legacy Trail is \$10.7 million, and the anticipated date of completion for its infrastructure is prior to the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, scheduled for September of 2010 which will draw over 500,000 visitors to Lexington. In anticipation of this event, the chosen consultant will prepare a master plan along with a recommendation for one signature work to be displayed along the Trail at an inaugural celebration during late summer of 2010.

To accomplish these goals, the artist team/arts consultant will be expected to:

- Become familiar with the current situation in Lexington regarding public art;
- Identify and prioritize site selections along the span of the 9-mile trail;
- Provide a written document to reveal conceptual framework and artistic point of view that will guide development of the project and identify artists who can best realize the vision of this plan;
- Build a timeline for master plan implementation;
- Take part in the public participation process;
- Develop a draft budget for the entire plan including acquisition of existing work as well as commissioned artwork (both permanent and temporary);
- Identify/select a variety of artists that are able to work with environmentally sensitive materials and concepts.

Evaluation:

The LTPAC will jury all submissions with input from Urban County Arts Review Board. All interested parties are encouraged to carefully examine the aforementioned project description, the evaluation criteria, and other pertinent data contained in this request.

In an attempt to gain a broader understanding of the existing conditions and requirements, it is suggested that applicants review The Legacy Center website,

<http://www.legacycenter.ning.com>, where they will find detailed maps of the trail and other important documentation related to the trail.

NOTE: BGCF's Legacy Trail was born of a public process and the Legacy Center will continue to act as liaison in all such matters.

Eligibility:

The applicant must have at least three years experience as a lead planner or a lead consultant of a project with an art budget of \$250,000 or more. Qualified candidates must possess the ability to put together a team of professionals and work with the local officials to plan, develop, and implement the chosen design.

The selected planner may or may not provide the art for the finalized plan.

The LTPAC is committed to a policy of providing opportunities to people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

Timeline:

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|------------------------------|---|
| October 18 | Issue Request for Qualifications |
| November 30 | Submission Deadline |
| By December 4 | Review/Prioritize Submissions |
| December 9 | Consortium makes Decision |
| Mid-December 2009 | Notify Finalist |
| Early April 2010 | Presentation of Master Plan |
| August 2010 Trail Dedication | Inaugural Celebration/Public Exhibition |

NOTE: The above-mentioned schedule is subject to change as circumstances dictate or as determined necessary by BGCF's Legacy Center.

Statement of Qualifications:

All applicants must submit the following documents in the specified order to be eligible:

1. Letter of interest (typed, 2 pages maximum): Should include a description of artist/designer/firm's approach to public art, including relevant past experience in logistical planning for a time-based master plan. Artist or team could also highlight experience in the development of complex art-related concepts or similar professional experiences.
2. Resume/ Curriculum Vitae: Teams must submit one per member.
3. Professional References (at least 3): Include contact name and telephone number.

4. Visual Support Materials: 15 digital images of recent/relevant works or previous concepts/proposals which illustrate previous experience with large, publicly involved projects. Please include a copy of a previously projected or implemented master plan. Images must be titled and numbered to correspond with titles listed on an accompanying image list.

5. Image list (typed, 2 pages maximum) corresponding to submitted digital images. Each image on the list should include the artist's name, title of the work, medium, name of the project for which it was implemented, date completed, dimensions, and corresponding image number.

Submittal Documentation Requirements and Format

1. Do not submit digital copies of requested paper documents (#1-3 listed above).

2. Where possible, please print documents as double-sided in an effort to conserve paper.

3. Applicants should be aware that panel members will be provided with double-sided black and white photocopies of all submitted documentation. Light colored text/ designs or patterned specialty documents will not photocopy well, and are therefore not recommended.

4. Do not bind or staple documents. Where available, paperclips or other removable fasteners are preferred.

5. Formatting digital support materials:

- All submitted digital images should be formatted as .jpeg or .tif files with a recommended maximum resolution of 100 dpi, and a minimum of 72 dpi.
- Images should be 1920 pixels on the longest side and less than 2 Mb.
- Color settings should be sRGB, IEC61966-21 (not CMYK).
- Names of digital images should consistently read: [Image Number] _ [Project Title]_[Title of Work] _ [Artist(s) Name(s)].
- Submit all images on one CD. Do not separate into digital folders. CDs should be labeled with name(s) of the applicant(s) or team members

NOTE: The Legacy Center reserves the right to refuse any or all entries, and is not responsible for the loss of or damages to application materials.

Applications should be sent to:

**Blue Grass Community Foundation
The Legacy Center
250 West Main Street, Ste 1220
Lexington, KY 40507**

Detailed Project Description:

The Legacy Trail connects, inspires, teaches.

The 9-mile trail consists of four distinct sections: Downtown, Lexmark, Coldstream, and Maine Chance.

Downtown

The first section of the trail will be the Downtown Section. This section is significant because the trail moves throughout the east end of the city. This area was the hub of African American culture, arts, and business in the late 19th and early 20th century. One of Lexington's first horse racing tracks was located in this area. It was home to many individuals who played key roles in the Thoroughbred racing industry. Other sites included in this section are Transylvania University, historic neighborhoods such as Gratz Park, and civic areas such as Thoroughbred Park, Triangle Park, and Courthouse Square. This part of the trail will utilize sidewalks, bike lanes and street signage.

Lexmark International

The next section, the Lexmark, will weave through the campus of Lexmark. Former home to IBM, this is where the Courier Type Font and the Selectric typewriter ball were created. On the adjoining property is the North Lexington Family YMCA which will stand as a Trail Head. The trail's terrain will change at this point. The trail will be off-road as a fourteen-foot wide paved path for the remainder of the trail.

Coldstream Research Park

After leaving the Lexmark Campus, and crossing over a major artery, the trail will then follow the Cane Run Creek. This is the beginning of the Coldstream Section. This section is of great importance because it begins the transition from urban to rural landscape. Educating the public about the environment will be important because Lexington is ranked as one of the World Monument Fund's 100 Most Endangered Sites due to suburban sprawl. Lexington was also ranked as having the highest carbon imprint of any city in the nation by the Brookings Institute.

The Coldstream Research Park was once known as McGrathiana Stud Farm and owned

by H. Price McGrath. This farm produced the first Kentucky Derby winner, Aristides. However, today it serves a much different purpose. The Coldstream Research Park is now a research campus that houses biotech, pharmaceutical and equine-related companies as well as a range of other businesses. The University of Kentucky has three divisions located here including the Center for Aluminum Technology, Human Development Institute, as well as the Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center. For a more complete list of these companies and their contributions, please see the Coldstream link in the next section.

Another important aspect of this section of the trail is the Cane Run Watershed that comes from Cane Run Creek. This is both important environmentally and educationally because it can be used to educate about the importance of watersheds, how they work, and how to keep them clean. It also can be used to inform the public on the importance of water throughout Kentucky. Kentucky is second only to Alaska in miles of waterways, however much of Kentucky's waterways are underground. This watershed spans both the northern and central part of Fayette County as well as the southern part of Scott County. The basin is 26,186 acres and connects Cane Run Creek to North Elkhorn Creek. It serves as the primary source of drinking water for the city of Georgetown located only 14 miles from Lexington.

Maine Chance

The final section of the trail is Maine Chance. This includes Maine Chance Farm and the University of Kentucky's Agricultural Research facilities, ending at the Kentucky Horse Park. A primary focus of this section is Maine Chance Farm. This farm was home to both an American Thoroughbred Racing stable and cosmetic tycoon, Elizabeth Arden. During the 1940's and 50's this farm was a major force in the racing industry. The farm was named after Ms. Arden's most successful spa and its racing silks were red to mimic the red doors of her spa. The 1947 Kentucky Derby winner Jet Pilot lived on this farm. After Ms. Arden's death in 1966 the farm became part of the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture.

Brief history about Lexington, KY

Before European settlers came into Kentucky, the land was used by Native Americans as their hunting ground. The first two forts established in Kentucky were Fort Harrodsburg and Fort Boonesboro, both established with the help of the first documented explorer to Kentucky, Daniel Boone.

The city of Lexington was founded in 1775, seventeen years before Kentucky became a Commonwealth. Lexington was named after the first battle of the American Revolution fought in Lexington, Massachusetts. By 1820, Lexington was one of the wealthiest towns west of the Allegheny Mountains. The richness of the culture led to the city being nicknamed, "Athens of the West."

Today, Lexington is the 2nd largest city in Kentucky. As the "Horse Capital of the World," Lexington is home to 450 horse farms, top equine hospitals, equine health research, businesses and other services. There are two horse racing tracks, Keeneland and the Red Mile, as well as the Kentucky Horse Park.

Research Links

Additional information on the Legacy Trail and the city of Lexington can be found by visiting these sites:

Lexington Convention and Visitors Bureau

- <http://www.visitlex.com>

Commerce Lexington

- <http://www.commercelexington.com>

Lexington Fayette Urban County Government

- <http://www.lexington.ky.gov>
- <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page.=1390>
 - (information directly relating to the Legacy Trail)

Lexington History Museum

- <http://www.lexingtonhistorymuseum.org>
- http://www.bizlex.com/Articles-c-2008-06-24-77578.113117_Lexingtons_Footprint.html
- The Warwick Foundation
 - <http://www.warwickfoundation.org/>
- Kentucky Historical Society
 - <http://history.ky.gov/>