

ArtSmart's Creative Education Station: A Call to Artists

ArtSmart Interactive Gallery
Pearson Lakes Art Center, Okoboji, IA



Call Summary

The Pearson Lakes Art Center, in partnership with the AWC Family Foundation, seeks an artist/designer to develop a site-specific hands on, low-tech interactive art station for The Pearson Lakes Art Center's ArtSmart Interactive Gallery that address' one or more Elements of Art. This opportunity is open to an artist/designer/business residing in the in the six state area. The request for proposal application deadline is June 5th, 2014 (12 noon- Central Time). Winner will be notified by June 12th, 2014.

Background

The Lakes Art Center (LAC) originated as a center for painters to meet in the summer beginning in 1965 in the Smith farm barn next to the present location of today's facility. In 1991 the new LAC was completed, an incredible space comprised of 2 galleries, 4 classrooms, pottery room, vault, consignment gallery, library and administrative offices. At that time it became a year-round facility striving to provide education and art needs to the people of Dickinson County. In 2002 the Lauridsen Performing Arts Theatre was completed, allowing performances and further educational opportunities in the performing arts; below of which housed the state of the art ArtSMART Interactive Gallery, created to give kids and the young at heart a hands-on art technology experience. In 2007 the Bud & Bev Pearson Gallery was opened, housing the Pearson Lakes Art Center's (PLAC) Russian and Soviet Impressionism Collection, gifted to the PLAC by the Pearson family that same year.

The PLAC's mission is "to broaden horizons through the arts." We have three main components of the center: performance, visual, and education, all of which intertwine to make connections with other aspects of the arts by providing outlets for creativity and opportunities for entertainment.

The Pearson Lakes Art Center belongs to the community and relies on countless volunteers to help run the center. We have over 500 active members, primarily from Dickinson County, but also serve the region with members in Clay, O'Brien, Osceola, and Emmet counties. We continually strive to include more year-round community members in educational, performing, and visual arts activities to reinforce the concept that the arts are for everyone and that the Pearson Lakes Art Center is for every individual in our region.

The Pearson Lakes Art Center is a private non-profit organization.

Project Description, Goals, and Criteria

The Pearson Lakes Art Center, in partnership with the AWC Family Foundation, seeks an artist/designer to develop a site-specific hands on, low-tech permanent art station for The Pearson Lakes Art Center's ArtSmart Interactive Gallery. Ground space in the gallery is limited and will require the selected artist to consider the site's limitations in the design of their artwork.

The selected artist/designer will work with the Pearson Lakes Art Center staff to create a site-specific, durable, hands-on, interactive learning station that address one or more Elements of Art (Color, Line, Shape, Texture, Value, Space) and serves to connect the mission of the PLAC, AWC Family Foundation, and the community. Applicants will ideally have specific skills designing, and potential skills in fabricating and installing artwork in one or more of these media:

Metal, plexi-glass, stone, concrete, ceramic, wood, light, surface treatment, sustainable design, and/or environmental design

The selected artist/designer should be able to work with architectural plans and have an interest in working cooperatively with design professionals and PLAC staff. Artists should have experience working within the public process, in public settings, as well as a proven ability to fabricate their own work or to work with fabricators and installers. We encourage artists whose work addresses issues of sustainability and "green" design to consider applying for this project.

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Location Description

Site in which the new exhibit will be located is in The Pearson Lakes Art Center's ArtSmart Interactive Gallery in the lower level of the PLAC. The new exhibit will replace an exhibit called "The Color Wheel" (pictured below). The dimensions of the space is approx. 9ft width x 9ft length and 11ft in height.

The Function of the ArtSmart Interactive Gallery is to give children and adults a hands-on educational art experience. The room is utilized as a learning tool and implemented into the curriculum for programs such as After School Art and the Preschool Art Program. This gallery is free and open to the public of all ages, specifically children.



Budget

Winning design will be paid a stipend of \$2,000.

A bid for construction/fabrication will be paid up to \$12,000 (this amount includes travel and lodging). Payment will be based upon projected expenses.

Eligibility

The competition is open to artists/designers/business residing in the six state area (IA, MN, SD, WI, IL, NE). The Pearson Lakes Art Center and the AWC Family Foundation do not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. The PLAC and the AWC Family Foundation are an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Iowa State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action.

Application Requirements

The list of materials artists should send by mail or online with their applications.

Application Requirements:

1. Visual support materials
Drawings, renderings, model, digital copy photographs (jpeg, jpg images)
2. Annotated lists
Description, material, location, budget, client or commissioning organization, and any other relevant project information.
3. Statement of interest, restricted to 300 words.
Introduce yourself. Describe specific interest in the project, potential approach to the project or creating public art, and any past relevant experience.
4. Resume or short biography
5. Self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) for the return of hardcopy materials
6. Project proposal
Submission materials MUST include: project description, materials list, budget, timeline, references, fabrication, installation, and maintenance information.

Schedule

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| May 5th- June 5th: | Call to Artists/Designers |
| June 6th- June 11th: | Panel review/choose winning design |
| June 12th: | Selected Artist Notification |
| June 13th- August 31st: | Artist/Designer Construction Phase |
| September 1st-September 30th: | Installation |
| October 4th: | Re-Opening & Celebration |
| June 20th 2015: | Re-Opening & Celebration |



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Deadline

Online application

June 5th, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. Noon. (Central Time).

Mailed application

Must be received by: June 5th 2014 at 12:00 p.m. Noon. (Central Time).

Hard Copy Application Submission:

Pearson Lakes Art Center
Attn.: ArtSmart Call to Artists
PO Box 255
Okoboji, IA
51355

Submission Address

Online Application Submission:

holly@lakesart.org
Holly Zinn, Education Director
The Pearson Lakes Art Center

Selection Criteria

Finalists will be selected on the following criteria:

- Usage of one or more Elements of Art as theme of display (color, line, shape, texture, value, space)
- How that Element(s) will be "taught" to the community through the display
- Child Safety
- Functionality
- Durability
- Environmental, "Green"
- Innovation, "Wow Factor"

The selection panel will also identify artists/designers who have a demonstrated interest in and commitment to sustainability.

Notification of Results

The artist/designer selected will be notified at the conclusion of interviews and panel deliberations. Please do not call the Pearson Lakes Art Center. Applicants will receive notification of the panel's decision by e-mail. The Pearson Lakes Art Center reserves the right not to select any of the applicants.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

For questions about the project or the selection process, please contact the Pearson Lakes Art Center's Education Director, Holly Zinn at 712-332-7029 ext.. 101 or holly@lakesart.org
The Pearson Lakes Art Center is open year-round. Winter Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm, Thursdays 10am-9pm and Summer Hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm, Sundays 12pm-3pm.

Sponsorship Provided by:
AWG Family Foundation