

**Call for Proposals – Casa Mural Project “Reconciliation through the Arts”
Artist Information Package
January 2023**

Project Intent

The City of Lethbridge is inviting artists to participate in a two-stage public art competition. The winning submission will receive a commission to create a large-scale mural on the south side of Casa, located at 230 8th Street S. Lethbridge AB.

Background

Casa will be celebrating their 10th Anniversary in May 2023, and the commissioned artwork should celebrate the nature and role the building plays within the community as a place of gathering, creating, and healing through art and creativity. The successful artwork should speak towards the nature of inclusivity and togetherness that ties in the sensibilities of Reconciliation as we move forward, together. Creative expression is universal and intrinsic to all cultures, expressed musically, visually, through dance, writing, movement, and theatre. All these expressions are valid and available to the community within the Casa arts centre, and the intention of this mural is to celebrate that creative expression in the arts is a vehicle towards reconciliation.

Casa was purpose-built to celebrate the arts and has a variety of studio and classroom spaces for public use (including ceramics, woodworking, textiles, printmaking, and dance) along with a large Gallery and Auxiliary programming spaces for public presentations of local and provincial artists. It hosts several guilds and artist-member groups who enrich the Lethbridge community. Recently, the Saokitapi Gallery opened on the second floor of Casa and is among the first spaces in Lethbridge dedicated to displaying contemporary Indigenous work.

Eligibility

The competition is open to regional artists, with preference given to an Indigenous artist with connections to the Blackfoot or Metis community.

Site Considerations

Artists have an opportunity to create a mural using traditional materials on primed MDO panels. Applicants should be familiar with best practices and be able to work on a lift, with proper certification. The site itself will consist of 20 - 4' x 8' MDO panels, installed four panels high and five panels long; the total footprint of the mural is 16' x 40'.

Budget

Total budget for the Casa Mural project is \$42,000.00. This fee will be inclusive of all project costs including but not limited to:

- Artist Fees
- General Administrative Expenses
- All Materials
- Shipping, delivery, and installation costs, including any required equipment rentals, labour and required permits
- All travel and accommodation expenses including travel for site visits, fabrication, and installation
- Insurance, including general public liability insurance of not less than \$2,000,000 from commencement of the Artist's services until written acceptance by the City of the artwork

Selection Criteria

- Relevance of proposed work regarding Reconciliation and Placemaking (40%)
- Appropriateness of the proposed work with regards to the site (20%)
- Safety, durability, maintenance, and environmental considerations (20%)
- Quality of work, as demonstrated in the documentation of past work (20%)

Selection Process

Stage I

Interested artists are asked to submit a complete Proposal Package including:

- Up to date CV
- An Expression of Interest (EOI) that outlines your interest in the project. The EOI should include a high-level written description of your approach for this project. Discuss your connection to the community, Blackfoot Territory, Metis Nation, or Sikóóhkotok (Lethbridge), and your approach towards the concept of Reconciliation through the Arts as it fits within the project call.
- Up to 10 high-resolution images of relevant work with a supporting image list, including: date, medium, dimension, and a brief description of the work. Images should be combined into a PDF with image list.
- All materials must be submitted as one PDF file.

The Project Selection Committee, using the indicated selection criteria, will develop a shortlist of three artist proposals from the submitted packages. Artists whose proposals have been shortlisted will be invited to attend a site visit, whether in-person or virtually. During their visit, artists will be provided a tour of the Casa facility and will have an opportunity to ask questions. A \$1500 honorarium will be provided to short listed artists invited to participate in the second stage of the selection process as a development fee. Expenses* associated with the site visit will be reimbursed.

*Airfare/gas mileage, three-day food per diem (receipted up to \$50/day) and up to two nights accommodation.

Stage II

Following the site visit and discussion with the Project Selection Committee, short listed artists will be required to provide a storyboard of their final proposal. Required information includes final rendering,

project description, budget, and timelines. Storyboard shipping expenses to and from the selection committee are the responsibility of the artist; files for printing will not be accepted.

Final selection will include consideration of support materials.

Project Timelines

Proposal Advertising: January 3, 2023

Proposal Submission: February 13, 2023

Site Visit: Late February/Early March 2023 (specific dates to be determined)

Final Proposal Submission: April 6, 2023

Commission Award and Announcement: May 2023

Installation to commence: June 2023

Completion of project: September 2023

Note: The City of Lethbridge reserves the right to reject all proposals without further compensation

How To Apply

Complete Stage I packages are to be submitted electronically to publicart@artslethbridge.org with the subject line "Public Art – Casa Reconciliation Mural" by 4:00pm local time, February 13, 2023.

Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered. Artists requiring further information are asked to forward inquiries to publicart@artslethbridge.org