



Chicago Avenue PUBLIC ART PLAZA PROJECT May 29, 2025

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 27, 2025, 11:59PM CST

PROJECT BUDGET: \$225,000

Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Background
- Summary of the Opportunity

Descriptions, Timeline, Budget Template

Office of Underground Coordination (OUC)

Selection Process

Public Art Panel Selection

Call For Entry (CAFÉ) Info and Application Process



Exhibit 1

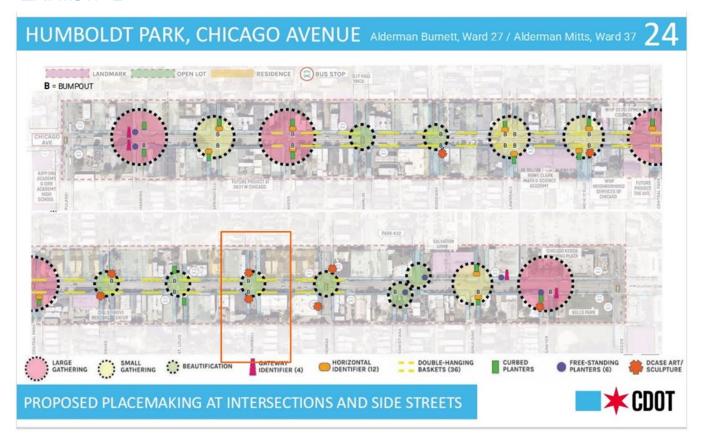


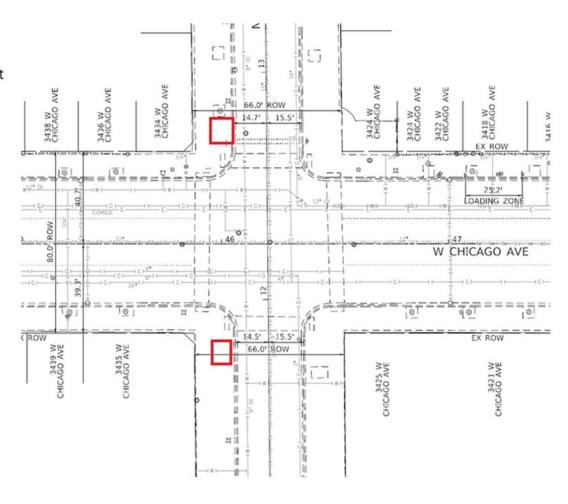
Exhibit 1 shows two potential public art sites in Humboldt Park at Trumbull & Chicago Ave (NW and SW corners)

Sites are marked with orange rectangle and stars in the overhead view



Exhibit 2:

Image of the underground facilities at the intersection of Chicago Ave. and Trumball.



- Exhibit 2 provides an underground utility map of the same area
- Public art sites are marked with red squares
- Each site measures 5' x 5'





Vertical Gateway



Light Pole Identifier



Horizontal Identifier

CDOT collaborated with the West Humboldt Park community and project designers to develop the streetscape theme and color palette.





Avers Perspective





Harding Perspective





Monticello Perspective





Ridgeway Perspective





Monticello



X Summary of the opportunity

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), in collaboration with the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), is supporting a public art opportunity as part of the Chicago Avenue Corridor Improvement Project.

Led by CDOT, this project revitalizes a historic neighborhood corridor with infrastructure upgrades, improved pedestrian safety, and placemaking enhancements to create a unified, walkable, and vibrant streetscape. Improvements span the entire public right-of-way, from one side of the street to the other.

Community feedback highlighted the importance of integrating arts and culture. In response, Smith Group developed a unified color palette and design theme, which will be reflected throughout the corridor—including in gateway elements and horizontal markers.



X Summary of the opportunity

Public Art Component:

- Two sculpture sites identified (see Exhibit 1)
- Three four artist finalists will be selected to develop conceptual designs
- Total budget: \$225,000 (includes design, engineering, fabrication, site prep, and installation)

Proposals should reflect community input, be site-responsive, and align with the streetscape's design and color scheme

Mediums should be durable and require minimal maintenance

Artists are encouraged to propose bold, creative, and context-sensitive works that honor the Humboldt Park neighborhood and engage both pedestrians and drivers. Community members are invited to share this opportunity with artists.



X Community: History

Humboldt Park was annexed into Chicago in 1869 and named after Alexander von Humboldt.

Developed alongside the creation of the West Park System (Douglass, Garfield, Humboldt Parks).

Growth accelerated with the expansion of public transit in the 1880s after the Great Chicago Fire.

Early settlers included German, Scandinavian, Polish, Ukrainian, Italian, and Jewish immigrants.

Cultural landmarks honor early immigrant communities (e.g., Humboldt and Kosciuszko statues).

Puerto Rican migration began in the 1950s due to displacement from other neighborhoods.

Became a center for social justice activism following the 1966 Division Street riots.



X Community: Cultural Presence

Recognized as a major center of Puerto Rican culture in Chicago and the Midwest

Home to Paseo Boricua, a cultural corridor showcasing public art and heritage

Features murals from the 1970s that document the community's identity, history, and activism

Hosts annual Puerto Rican festivals, parades, and community celebrations

Public art and murals serve as enduring symbols of resistance and cultural pride

X Community: Challenges

Faces ongoing gentrification pressures, threatening to displace longtime residents

Community remains active in advocating for cultural preservation and housing equity

Continues to use public art as a tool for storytelling, resilience, and community identity

***** Budget

Finalists will be paid a \$1,000 honorarium to develop proposals.

The artwork commission will be \$225,000, inclusive of all costs and fees for the artist to execute the project from design through structural engineering, fabrication, site preparation, and installation.



SCHEDULE*

* All dates are approximate

RFQ open via CAFÉ online			
application system	5/9/2025	6/27/2025	8
Artist Information Session, zoom,			
5pm -6 pm CST (email for link)	5/29/25		
Review of qualifications	6/27/25	7/14/25	2
Committee selects 3-4 finalists	Week of 7/14/25		1
Notification of finalists	Week of 7/21/25		1
Finalists' design development	7/21/25	9/8/25	8
Finalists' presentations and Artist			
recommended for commission	Week of 9/8/25		1
Commissioned Artist Selected	9/15/2025	9/26/2025	2
Artist Under contract	10/03/2025		



XOUC: Office of Underground Coordination

Part of CDOT's Division of Infrastructure Management, the OUC handles:

- Information Retrieval (IR): Distributes existing utility information.
- Existing Facility Protection (EFP): Reviews and approves construction work in or near the Public Way



Selection Process

Following the RFQ application deadline, DCASE will convene a selection panel of community representatives, arts professionals, CDOT, and elected officials to review the applications. The committee will select 3-4 finalists, who will be commissioned to develop public art proposals. Finalists will present their design proposals to the selection panel and a final artist or artist team will be selected.

ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is open nationally to all professional artists and artist teams, though the project advisory panel may have a preference for locally-based artists and artist teams.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants will be shortlisted based on a competitive review of the following:

- Artistic excellence, demonstrated through skill and craftsmanship in past work.
- Strength and originality of the concept as described in the letter of interest.
- Connection to or knowledge of the Humboldt Park community.
- Ability to create artwork that engages the community, with examples if available.
- Experience managing large-scale, permanent sculpture projects.

X How To Apply: Café

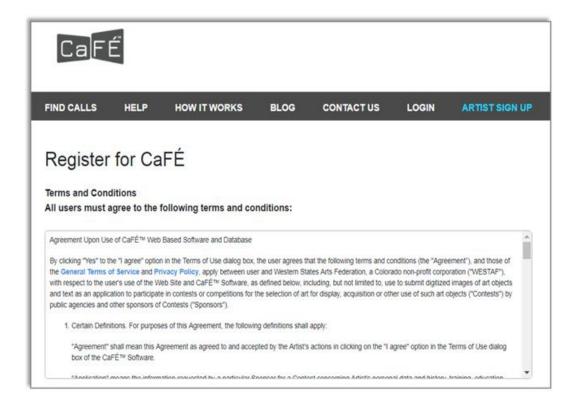
Register / Login to CaFÉ: https://www.callforentry.org/

- 2. Update your user profile and portfolio
- 3. Find the DCASE call at https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=15462
- 4. Read the "Call Detail" thoroughly and respond to all prompts
- 5. Submit your complete application by the June 27,2025 11:59PM CST deadline

1. Register with CaFÉ > Login to CaFÉ

First time users must REGISTER with CaFÉ.



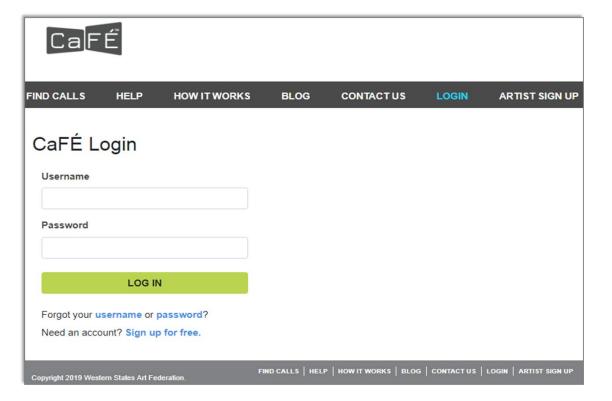




1. Register with CaFÉ > Login to CaFÉ

Registered CaFÉ users may proceed to LOG IN.







2. Update your profile and portfolio

MY CAFÉ ENTRIES MY PROFILE MY PORTFOLIO APPLY TO CALLS CHECKOUT CAFÉ HELP LOG OUT MY CAFÉ ENTRIES MY PROFILE MY PORTFOLIO APPLY TO CALLS CHECKOUT CAFÉ HELP LOG OUT Username TestPublicArtChicago Password Confirm Password First Name Joanna Is this an individual or team account? Individual Team Last Name Goebel Add Team Partners Business or Studio Name XYZ Studio First Name 1 0 Once you have Address 1 Legal First Name logged in you may Last Name 1 Legal Last Name update your profile. O Add Partner

UPDATE MY PROFILE

2. Update your profile and portfolio

MY CAFÉ ENTRIES MY PROFILE MY PORTFOLIO APPLY TO CALLS CHECKOUT CAFÉ HELP LOG OUT

You may also update your portfolio.

Be sure to have upload-ready files:

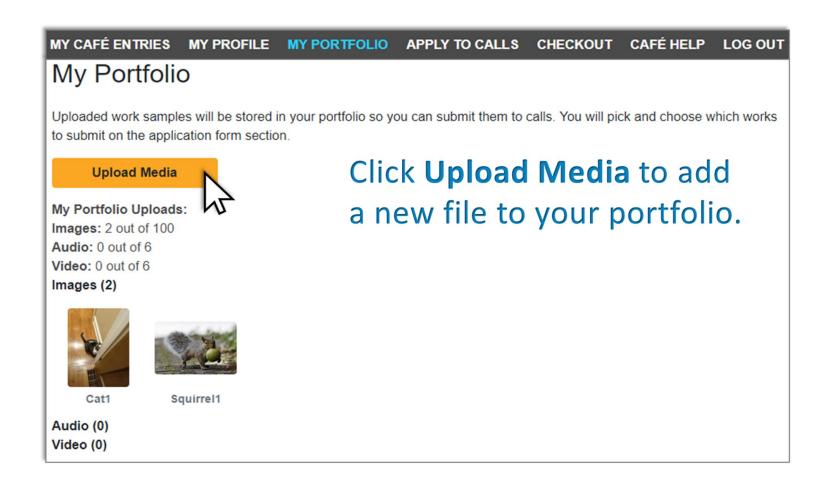
IMAGE:

- JPEG or JPG
- Under 5MB
- 1200 pixels or larger on the longest side

VIDEO:

- 3GP, WMV, AVI, MOV, ASF, MPG, MP4, M2T, MKV, M2TS
- Under 100MB
- Minimum resolution of 640 x 480
- · Minimum 12 fps

2. Update your profile and portfolio



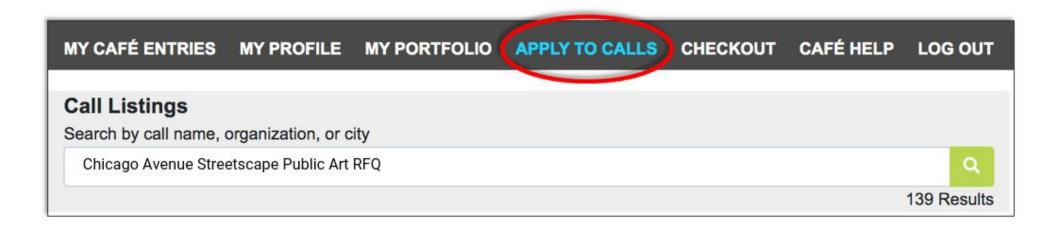


Enter the call URL into your internet browser:

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=15462

Or...

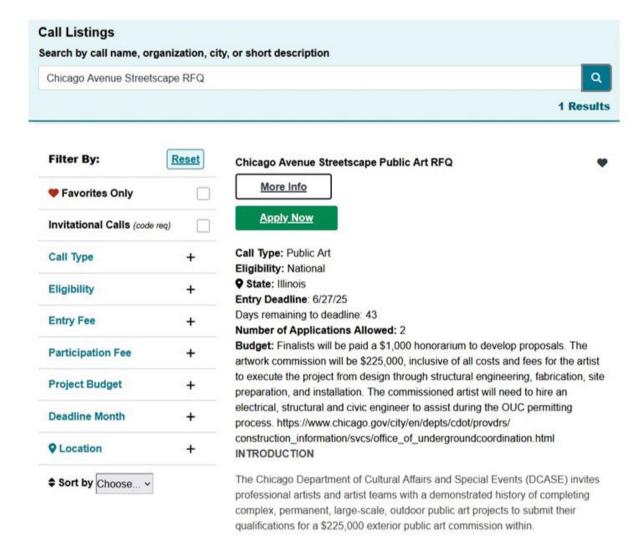
Go to APPLY TO CALLS and search using key words:





3. Find the call

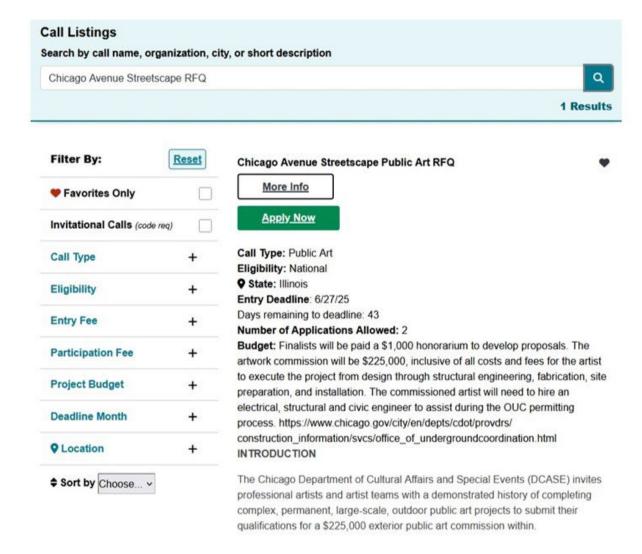
Click MORE INFO.





3. Find the call

Click MORE INFO.





4. Read the call detail and respond to all prompts

Click **APPLY NOW** to begin your application.

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Call Detail

- Back to Participating Calls

Chicago Avenue Streetscape Public Art RFQ



https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dca.html

Visit Organization Website

Contact Email: maryrose.pavkovic@cityofchicago.org

Contact Phone: 312-744-8928

Call Overview

Entry Deadline: 6/27/25

Days remaining to deadline: 43

Number of Applications Allowed: 2

Work Sample Requirements

Images | Minimum: 6, Maximum: 10

Video | Minimum: 0, Maximum: 1

Total Samples | Minimum: 6, Maximum: 10

Call Type: Public Art Eligibility: National State: Illinois

Jury Dates: 6/27/25 - 7/14/25

Budget: Finalists will be paid a \$1,000 honorarium to develop proposals. The artwork commission will be \$225,000, inclusive of all costs and fees for the artist to execute the project from design through structural engineering, fabrication, site preparation, and installation. The commissioned artist will need to hire an electrical, structural and civic engineer to assist during the OUC permitting process. https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdot/provdrs/ construction information/svcs/

office_of_undergroundcoordination.html



Click Agree* to proceed.



Welcome back, Maryrose

My Account

Log Out

Agreement
Chicago Avenue Streetscape Public Art RFQ
Please review the rules and terms to apply.

Each artist or artist team must submit an entirely digital application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

By clicking "Agree": I acknowledge that I have read and accept the above terms.

Agree

Decline

Print



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Answer the Form Questions.

Chicago Avenue Streetscape Public Art RFQ

Contact Email: maryrose,pavkovic@cityofchicago.org

Entry Deadline: 6/27/2025

View Site Details

FORM QUESTIONS

A one (1) page letter of interest stating why Humboldt Park and this project is meaningful and appropriate for the applicant's work, as well as potential approach and initial conceptual ideas.

(required) 1



A two- (2) page resume or curriculum vitae (CV).

- . If applying as an artist team or arts organization, provide one resume or CV for each team member.
- . If applying as an artist team or arts organization, a list of key team members and their roles/affiliations.

(required) 0 Browse... No file selected.

Annotated Image List: An annotated image list that includes the title, media, year completed, dimensions, location (if site-specific), project budget (if applicable) timeline, and client or commissioning entity for each corresponding image or video.

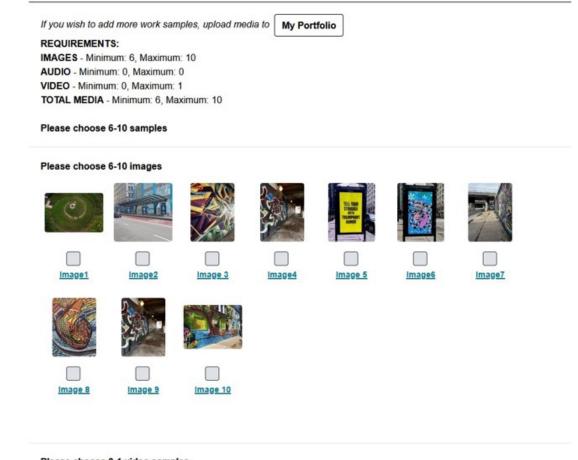
- If a video is submitted, please include two to three (2-3) sentences to describe its context.
- . Please note, the annotated image list may include thumbnails of submitted images but does not replace the need to upload individual image files in fulfillment of a) above.





Choose your Work Samples.

- You will need 6 image files to apply to the call.
- Up to 1 video file is also accepted. but not required.
- Add files to your portfolio as needed.
- A total of 10 samples will be accepted.

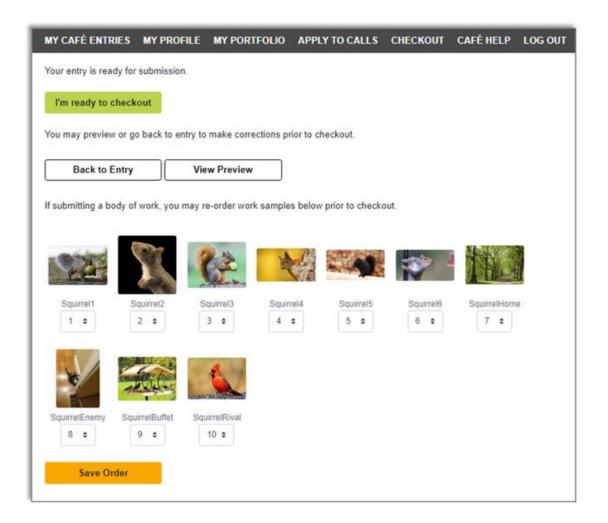


Please choose 0-1 video samples



Review your application.

Click View Preview to review your answers before submitting your application.





Select the application you wish to submit and click **Proceed to Checkout.**



Select the checkbox next to the fee to complete the checkout and submit your application.

Free (no cost entries) must complete checkout to fully submit the application. You cannot make changes to a submitted entry without contacting the administrator of the call.

Learn more about the checkout process on our help center.

Chicago Avenue Streetscape Public Art RFQ - Application #4106802



Credit or debit, or PayPal accepted

There is no entry fee for this call, but you must proceed to Checkout to finalize your submission.

Total \$0.00

Proceed to Checkout



You will be taken to an order confirmation page.



Welcome back, Maria My Account Log Out

You may click Print this Receipt to retain a receipt for your records

My CaFÉ Entries My Portfolio Apply to Calls Checkout Calendar Help My Account

Thank you for your submission!

Transaction Date: Thursday 15th May 2025 12:33:07 PM

Confirmation Code: NC1665460

Total Paid: \$0.00

Submission details:

1) Chicago Avenue Streetscape Public Art RFQ

Hosting organization: City Of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events

Purchased Item:

Entry FeeApplication #4106802

\$0.00 X

This is your CaFÉ™ submission confirmation. This charge will appear as CAFE AR or WESTAF CAFE ARTREG on your credit card or PayPal statement. Please keep a copy for your records.

Thank You, CaFE™ Team

Email: cafe@wearecreativewest.org

Website: www.callforentry.org

Print this Receipt

For website-specific inquiries contact CaFÉ HELP,

Who do I contact for help on CaFÉ?

For website-specific inquiries contact CaFÉ HELP,



- Support with uploading media or questions about system specifications.
- · Errors on the website preventing you from completing an action.
- Assistance with a website feature or understanding website options.
- If the CaFÉ website is inaccessible, contact CaFÉ.



Thank you!

Maryrose.Pavkovic@cityofchicago.org