

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Interior Art for 12th & Spruce



Introduction:

Plymouth Housing and the 12th & Spruce Arts Committee invite artists to submit qualifications to participate in a collaborative artmaking process for art for interior spaces, including hallways and community rooms, at the new Plymouth Housing permanent supportive housing project at 169 12th Avenue, Seattle, WA.

Scope of Work:

Selected artists will work in groups, in collaboration with the Arts Committee and with potential input from Plymouth staff and residents, to develop and execute designs for artwork.

There are three opportunities available:

Gallery wall focusing on History of Central District/Squire Park

- Three artists produce a collection of works focusing on this theme. Total number of works to be completed by the group is up to the group; at least three works are requested.
- Ideally the pieces will work together to support the theme.
- Works will be painted on MDF or similar material in acrylic paint.
- Works should be a variety of sizes designed to fit in the wall space allocated. None more than 3'x3'.
- Installation will be done by third party with input from artists as desired.
- Concept should take into account possibility of bolting to the wall.

Gallery Wall focusing on Hope and the Future

- Three artists produce a collection of works focusing on this theme. Total number of works to be completed by the group is up to the group; at least three works are requested.
- Ideally the pieces will work together to support the theme.
- Works will be painted on MDF or similar material in acrylic paint.
- Works should be a variety of sizes designed to fit in the wall space allocated. None more than 3'x3'.
- Installation will be done by third party with input from artists as desired.
- Concept should take into account possibility of bolting to the wall.

Mural Wall focusing on Sense of Home and Belonging

- Three artists developing and producing a mural focusing on this theme.
- Mural will be painted on MDF or similar material in acrylic paint.
- Mural will have an interactive component – most panels will be installed prior to folks living in the building, but the piece should include some panels that can be completed by residents after they have moved in, with direction from artists as desired.
- Installation will be done by third party with input from artists as desired.
- Concept should take into account possibility of bolting to the wall.
- Mural wall is approximately 23' x 8'.

Project Background:

Plymouth Housing builds and manages permanent supportive housing for individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness. Plymouth is invested in not only serving the individuals who live in our housing, but also being an asset to the communities with whom we share our neighborhoods. In commissioning work for the 12th & Spruce Supportive Housing project, we hope to support emerging artists who are also our neighbors at this building as well as add enrichment to the lives of our residents.

This project is located on the edge of several neighborhoods but is closest to Central District and Squire Park. Like all Seattle, it is also located on land that is the traditional home

of the Coast Salish people, the traditional home of all tribes and bands within the Duwamish, Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations. After European settlement, Squire Park had a very multicultural history. It was a predominantly Jewish neighborhood until the 1930s and has afterwards been home to Japanese, Korean, Danish, and East African communities. Because of redlining and housing discrimination in Seattle, the neighborhood was predominantly Black by the 1960s and 1970s, with thriving Civil Rights activity. For more neighborhood history, please [see this article](#).

The site was home to St. Francis House, a nonprofit providing clothing and household items to low-income folks at no cost, and St. Francis House will return to occupy the first floor of the new building. The apartment building is being created to provide housing to folks experiencing homelessness. Plymouth Housing is a 'Housing First' organization. We believe that housing is a human right! Folks moving into Plymouth Housing buildings do not have to prove their readiness to have housing to anyone. We allow folks to come as they are because we know once folks have housing, they can then focus on doing the important work of healing. Folks who have histories of homelessness come from all walks of life. Each Plymouth Housing tenant's homelessness story is unique to them. Their homelessness story does not solely define the person they are. Tenants living in this community will come from different backgrounds and have different homelessness stories, but what they will have in common is resiliency, adaptability, and a renewed sense of hope.

The final deliverables will be displayed on walls in these common areas. There will be a gallery wall in the computer area and one in a waiting area. The mural will be in a community room. The primary audiences of the work will be residents and resident support staff, though members of the wider community will occasionally also experience the art if in the building for special events.

Process and Timeline:

Artists commissioned to complete works shall receive the following stipends:

- **Gallery wall scope: \$2100 per artist**
- **Mural scope: \$2500 per artist**

Upon the release of this Call for Artists, artists shall have until October 31, 2021 to respond. Nine artists will be selected by the committee before the end of 2021.

Selected artists will work together with the Committee and potentially residents to develop concepts for the two gallery walls and the mural. The gallery walls will be installed in April 2022. The mural will be completed in April 2022, with the exception of any panels that will be done in collaboration with tenants, that will be done in June 2022.

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| Distribute Request for Proposals | September 3, 2021 |
| Responses Due | October 31, 2021 |
| Artists Selected | Before December 31, 2021 |
| Design Concept Complete | February 15, 2022 |
| Delivery and Installation | April 1, 2022 |

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

We are seeking a person or team who meet the following qualifications:

- Desire to work collaboratively with other artists, the Committee, and potentially residents in development of design and execution
- Aesthetic excellence in the design of completed works
- Ability to respond to the particular geographic and programmatic context of this site and the new building, including themes discussed above
- Ability to meet physical requirements for art

Submission Requirements:

Applications must include all of the following for consideration:

- Artist Background, focusing on connection to Central District and interest in this collaborative project (300 or fewer words). Please include whether you are interested in the gallery wall scope, mural, or both
- Resume, 1-2 pages, 12-point type
- Digital examples of previous artworks from past two years, minimum of 6 and maximum of 10. Email attachment (max size of all attachments 15 MB) or link to artist webpage both acceptable.

Email Qualifications to: krandall@plymouthhousing.org

Subject: 12th & Spruce Call for Artist

Please submit responses by: October 31, 2021.

Please contact Katie Randall, mural project manager, at krandall@plymouthhousing.org, or 206-374-9409 ext 161 with any questions concerning the application process.

Notification of Results:

Applicants will be notified of the panel's decision by e-mail by end of December 2021.

Plymouth Housing reserves the right not to select any of the applicants.

Plymouth values diverse perspectives and life experiences. Plymouth encourages people of all backgrounds to apply, including people of color, immigrants, refugees, women, LGBTQ individuals, people with disabilities, veterans and those with diverse life experiences.