



**Request for Qualifications:  
Public Art for the *West Harbor, Port of Los Angeles Waterfront Development***

**About**

The *West Harbor, Port of Los Angeles Waterfront Development* in San Pedro, California, is currently seeking proposals for public art installations in 2024 and 2025.

**Applications for *Phase I: Request for Qualifications*, are due by 11:59pm on July 8, 2024**

Angels Gate Cultural Center (the designated Public Art Advisor for the West Harbor Waterfront Development), is seeking multiple proposals for public art of various mediums, including but not limited to, murals, large scale sculpture, sound art, digital art projections/video displays, and multi-sensory experiences. Selected projects will demonstrate unique artistic perspectives and approaches that are interested in investigating the Port of Los Angeles and topics relevant to our local diverse communities that call San Pedro home.



(Concept rendering of West Harbor Promenade, courtesy of Wunder Werkz)



**All artists are welcome to apply to *Phase I: Request for Qualifications (RFQ)*. Only invited applicants will be allowed to submit a full project proposal in *Phase II: Request for Proposals (RFP)*.**

Successful proposals will demonstrate the following:

- Dynamic art installations that are innovative, unique, and of high artistic excellence that actively engage the public in a sensory experience.
- Themes, narratives, imagery and/or concepts that demonstrate:
  - Understanding and relevance to the history of San Pedro, Port of Los Angeles, and/or local communities in the Los Angeles Harbor region.
  - Concepts of confluence including cultural, economic or geographic
  - Interplay of a working port and its relationship to commerce - interaction of different economies, cultures and their role in a global economy. Understanding of the interplay of organized labor past/present/future.
  - Relevant and appropriate for a waterfront location with consideration of materials that patina well in a harsh marine environment including industrial and reclaimed materials such as corrugated steel, wood, rope and other materials that are native to a working port.
  - Concepts of sustainability, future of blue technology, and/or global commerce.
  - Reinvention and recreation, tradition made relevant or new again
- Qualifications that demonstrate an ability to conceptualize, plan, and execute a large-scale art installation, experience collaborating with other entities.
- Art installations that can be fully installed at the West Harbor development within a 4-month period in 2024 or 2025. Maximum project budget ranging between \$1,000 - \$80,000
- Special consideration will be given to local artists based in San Pedro and/or the greater Los Angeles area.

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## **Important Dates** *(subject to change)*

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**May 6<sup>th</sup>:** *Phase I: Request for Qualifications* Submission Portal Opens

**May 29<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 7pm Pacific Time:** Zoom Public Forum: Public Art at West Harbor & RFQ Information Session [RSVP](#)

**July 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm:** Deadline to Submit RFQ

**July 29<sup>th</sup>,** Select RFQ applications invited to submit a proposal

**August 1<sup>st</sup>, Thursday 7pm Pacific Time:** Zoom Applicant Workshop: How to Create an Engaging Proposal & FAQ

**August 26<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm:** Proposals are due from invited applicants

## **Eligibility**

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This opportunity seeks applications from professional artists/artist-teams based in California. All applicants must be over the age of 18. Artists must be eligible to work in the United States and have a valid U.S. Social Security or Tax Identification Number by the application deadline. The Request for Qualifications is open to all eligible artists, the Request for Proposals is by invitation only. Unsolicited Proposals will not be reviewed by the panel and will disqualify applicants for further consideration.

Members of the Selection Panel, any West Harbor Development employee, Arts & Culture Commissioners, and members of their families, including significant others, shall be excluded from consideration.



## Opportunity Summary

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At West Harbor, our dedication to public art is fundamental to the vision for the LA Waterfront. Located at the heart of the Port of Los Angeles, West Harbor bridges the gap between local heritage and global commerce. Art installations will act as focal points for exploration and dialogue, encouraging visitors to engage with public art within a commercial environment. Acknowledging the vibrant arts community of San Pedro, West Harbor's art program aims to celebrate the local talent in San Pedro, as well as regional and international artists. By harnessing the transformative potential of art to inspire, educate, and unify, we strive to establish West Harbor as a destination that leaves a profound and enduring impact on all who experience it.

Selected applicants will receive the following support:

- Up to 4,000 square footage for art installation/sculpture space located at the West Harbor waterfront for a permanent installation, 1,500 square foot mural space, and/or digital projection/screen space
- All-inclusive project budget of \$1,000 to \$80,000 (dependent on site, type, location and scope) for materials, installation and artist commission.
- Limited infrastructure construction and installation support
- Promotion and marketing of artwork
- Invited applicants will be paid a proposal honorarium between \$250-\$1,000 (depending on project type) to complete *Phase II: Request for Proposals*

## Project Sites:

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1. (Multiple) Medium and large scale (100 sq ft to 4,000 sq ft) estimated square footage and height) freestanding outdoor sculptures, installations, or multimedia experiences. May consist of static sculpture, sound elements, kinetic elements, light sculpture, interactive, or play elements. Non-traditional sculpture and multimedia experiences, are highly encouraged. Should be made to withstand harsh marine coastal environments. All-inclusive budget ranging between \$1,000 - \$80,000 depending on scale, materials, and technical components.



2. Archway Entrance - designed artistic entrance to the West Harbor Central Plaza, consists of static sculptural elements, optional lighting elements, and should have ability to hold signage or messaging. Should be made to withstand harsh marine coastal environments. All-inclusive budget ranging between \$10,000 - \$80,000 depending on scale, materials, and technical components.
3. (Multiple) Large scale murals (painted, mosaics, etc.) ranging in size from 400 - 1500 sq ft for building exteriors, may include low relief elements. Should be made to withstand harsh marine coastal environments. All-inclusive budget ranging between \$4,000 - \$80,000 depending on scale, materials, and technical components.
4. (multiple) Digital art for large scale outdoor art display screens. Budget range \$1,000 - \$5,000 depending on scale, materials, and technical components.

Invited applicants will be provided with specific details for the site locations available for public art installations.

### **Application Checklist - Summary of Required Documents for *Phase I: Request for Qualifications***

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#### Phase I: Request for Qualifications (open to public)

1. [RFQ Online Submission Form](#)
2. Letter of Interest (2 pages maximum)
3. Curriculum Vitae or Résumé
4. Artwork Examples/Portfolio
5. (Optional) Statement of Experience (1 page maximum)

**Letter of Interest** Word document or PDF, 1 - 2 pages maximum in 12pt font, that briefly introduces your artist practice, explains your desire to create a public art project, summarizes



your qualifications, and briefly gives an idea of the potential concept, themes, or narratives you would like to explore with this opportunity. Additional pages will not be read nor considered.

**Curriculum Vitae** or artistic **Résumé**, PDF preferred or word document.

**Artwork Examples Options:**

Portfolio of past artistic projects/works. Up to 15 images with captions including year completed, title, and materials. For public art or collaborative projects, specify your role, collaborators and granting organization or municipality, and current location.

Audio/Video examples may substitute images or be provided in conjunction. Provide direct links to view/listen with no permissions required to view. Only the first 90 seconds per video/audio sample, for 5 samples total, are guaranteed to be reviewed by the selection committee.

**Statement of Experience** (optional) up to one page maximum in 12pt font, a written narrative of your public art accomplishments or other significant artistic endeavors, highlighting any major grants, partners, and your role. Public art experience is not required to apply, but the ability to collaborate and execute a large-scale project should be demonstrated. A statement of experience is not required, but recommended if you are proposing a high budget, large-scale installation.

**Application Submission**

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Applicants may apply to *Phase I: Request for Qualifications* any time after May 6, 2024, before the application deadline of July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered. *Applicants must prepare all items noted in the application checklist, and upload them directly to the online submission form.* Applicants are responsible for ensuring links and application files are viewable and in working order. Angels Gate Cultural Center does not have the capacity to assist with technical difficulties regarding individual files or URL links. Application items will not be accepted over email.

**Online Submission Form:** <https://forms.gle/CwR7yWLZKYbvoJzW9>





## FAQ

**If selected, what will be required for my final proposal?** Invited applicants will be asked to complete an RFP submission form, a written detailed description of the project proposed, concept examples (drawings, site plans, artwork, concept illustrations, videos, and/or audio files, etc.), detailed installation timeline, draft budget with materials list, references, and optionally letters of recommendation.

**Will I be compensated for the final proposal?** Yes, invited applicants will be provided with an honorarium, paid upon submission of a final proposal. The amount will be determined by the project site the applicant is applying for.

**When will construction and installation of projects start?** Tentatively, selected proposals can expect to begin installation late 2024 at the earliest, with construction completed by summer 2025.

**Will I be provided with a crew to install my public art work?** Limited assistance will be provided by West Harbor development general contractors, however the artist is expected to be onsite during the installation, and to actively participate in the fabrication/painting/installation etc. process. The artist will be responsible for securing and directing art assistants/specialized art handlers, and for locating fabricators as part of their budget. The artist must be willing to collaborate with West Harbor contractors on the installation of their piece, and adhere to best practices for construction and necessary safety precautions.

**How will applicants be selected?** A review panel consisting of experts and stakeholders will confer and review proposals for artistic merit, relevance, feasibility, community significance, and public art experience. A presentation of your proposal to the review panel may be required for finalists.

**Do I need to be experienced in public art?** No, however experience will be considered especially for more technically demanding project sites and proposals. If you don't have public art experience, other relevant experience in the manner of collaborative art projects/exhibits, community projects, leadership opportunities, etc. should be discussed in your statement of experience.

**How can I use the budget?** Applicants are to design a budget inclusive of their commission for artistic services, and if applicable, include an estimate of materials and supplies, hired art assistants, and site travel. The budget will be requested in Phase II: Request for Proposals. Do not submit a budget with the RFQ.



**What kind of projects are you looking for?** We are looking for installations that are directly relevant to the local environment, communities, history and/or consideration of the future to San Pedro, and/or the Port of Los Angeles, and can withstand the harsh marine environment for approximately 25 years with reasonable care. Specific themes and concepts for consideration are outlined in the About section.

**How do I apply?** Prepare your documents/files as requested under application checklist, and submit them to the online submission form by the specified deadline.

**When will I be notified on the status of my application?** The review panel will consider projects for approximately 21 days, and will notify applicants approximately within two months of the RFQ deadline. The dates are subject to change.

**Can I apply for more than one project?** Yes, state your interest in multiple project proposals in your letter of interest, do not submit multiple applications.

Additional questions can be directed to [info@angelsgateart.org](mailto:info@angelsgateart.org)