



Requests For Qualifications: Alley Archways

The City of Noblesville is soliciting artists to design and fabricate three prominent archways in downtown Noblesville which will identify the North, South, and East Alleys as engaging, inspiring public space. Artists may propose designs for one or more of these archways. Archway designs are encouraged to celebrate Noblesville's history, heritage, and culture, whimsically embracing Noblesville's 'hip-storic' identity.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:

Sunday, September 22, 2019 by 11:59 p.m.

ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible to submit for this opportunity, artists must:

- Be able to meet all of the project requirements (see below)
- Be age 18 or over
- Be willing to meet all contractual obligations and adhere to a strict budget and timeline
- Carry personal liability insurance for the duration of the project (Nickel Plate Arts can provide a referral to an insurance provider if needed.)

THIS PROJECT WILL REQUIRE:

- Developing a design that adheres to the Downtown District Committee's design standards for Archways (included herein)
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1R4meGF623XpDfRxYkysrTCgMYVB0ggeLerT-U6XxFqs/edit?usp=sharing>
- Developing a design that adheres to the Specific Description listed in the resources section below
- Fabricating the components of archway
- Installing the archway in accordance with all codes, safety guidelines, and construction schedules
- Collaboration with the Downtown District Committee, including staff, elected officials, and community stakeholders to finalize the design
- Working with the city's planning, streets, and engineering departments to ensure that the archway structures are safe and can be secured according to city standards.
- Efficient direction of and collaboration with contractors and volunteer groups to install all components of the archway

- Efficiency and timeliness: this project must be completed by the last weekend in October, 2019.
- Climbing ladders and/or other equipment necessary to install the archway
- Working outside in a range of weather conditions: The archway is an outdoor feature – artists must be prepared to work in cold, heat, rain, wind, and other inclement conditions.

PROJECT BUDGET:

North Alley: up to \$6,000

East Alley: up to \$9,000

South Alley: up to \$6,000

This project will carry commission fees listed above for design, fabrication, and installation of EACH archway (a total of \$21,000 for all three archways). This fee is to cover all of the artists' compensation and anticipated expenses, including (but not limited to) design fees, materials, production and labor. Expenses related to the pouring of footings and foundation work will be covered by another budget and do not need to be included in this fee. Payment will be made in two installments: 1/2 will be paid to the artist at the beginning of the project, with the remaining 1/2 to be paid upon completion of the project. Please note that these payments will be processed from the city and can take up to 2 months to arrive.

RESOURCES:

Design Standards for Archways:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1R4meGF623XpDfRxYkysrTCgMYVB0ggeLerT-U6XxFqs/edit?usp=sharing>

Specific Requirements for Alley Archways:

Each Archway in this project has unique demands and design requirements. Artists may request appointments to view the exact location with Nickel Plate Arts staff to get a better understanding of the site context and demands by contacting amcgill@nickelplatearts.org. Please note: Archways cannot connect to or touch nearby buildings and cannot block the front facade of any building. All designs must be reviewed by a structural engineer and city staff in order to be approved (Nickel Plate Arts will coordinate this stage of the process).

North Alley: The North Alley will be a pedestrian archway: it does not need to open or articulate. The archway must be a minimum of 8' above the ground at its lowest point. The supports should be 8-10 feet apart: exact distance may be affected by the location of underground utilities, which may impact where the concrete footings can be located.

East Alley: The East Alley must accommodate delivery traffic on weekdays, meaning that it must open and close easily and it must include a gate-like element at the bottom. The two sections of this articulating Archway must meet in the middle and be able to lock quickly and easily. When open, the sections of the Archway must be parallel with the walls of the alley and must lock into place: the City can provide additional poles for the archway

to attach to when it is in the open position, if needed. The lower 'gate' section of the Archway cannot meet in the middle: we must leave a 48" gap between the sides of the gate to allow ADA-accessible passage through the center of the gate. The gate sections are meant to be a visual indicator that the alley is closed to vehicle traffic, but they do not need to be strong enough to stop a vehicle. These short gate sections must also lock in their open or closed positions: if needed, holes can be drilled into the concrete to accommodate locking pins.

South Alley: The South Alley will be a pedestrian archway: it does not need to open or articulate. The archway must be a minimum of 8' above the ground at its lowest point. The supports should be no less than 8' apart. Underground utilities and structures may be an issue in this alley, and City staff will work to identify any major obstacles before the design phase is finished. This archway may not be able to be installed until construction of the Levinson project is finished, depending on whether or not the archway design can accommodate basic automobile traffic.

The Noblesville Street Department can obtain poles that match the infrastructure used in other parts of the alleys and can assist in installing poles and other components of the archways, including providing some machinery and equipment as their schedule allows.

Once the Artist(s) is/are selected for this project, a meeting will be held with the artist and representatives from key city departments to ensure that the artist understands the requirements of the project and what technical and mechanical support is available from the City of Noblesville. This meeting will also include looking at the exact location of the archway(s) and identifying any unique features or obstacles for the installation of the Archway.

SELECTION PROCESS

Artists must submit their qualifications to Aili McGill amcgill@nickelplatearts.org **by 11:59 p.m on Sunday, September 22, 2019.** Representatives from the City of Noblesville and Nickel Plate Arts will review submitted qualifications and select up to three finalists to interview further.

Note: While this is the intended selection process, in the event of an insufficient number of qualified applicants, the City of Noblesville reserves the right to invite an artist to propose, or to directly select an artist and also reserves the right to cancel the opportunity entirely at any point and for any reason.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Finalists will be selected based upon the following criteria:

Technical Ability: Artist's submission indicates professionalism, skill with materials and techniques, and indicates the capacity to meet the requirements of this project

Artistic Quality: Artist's past work is appropriate to its context, innovative, creative and stylistically distinctive

PROJECT TIMELINE:

This timeline represents the project as it now appears. Changes may be necessary as the project progresses:

- Release Request for Qualifications: Sep 7th, 2019
- Deadline for qualification submissions: September 22nd, 2019
- Selection Committee Review: September 22-27, 2019
- Selection of final candidate: no later than September 30
- Design & fabrication: Sep 30- October 27 (or later, depending on the availability of contractors to pour footings and artists' needs)
- Installation: This process is flexible. Ideally, we would love to unveil these archways during First Friday, from 6-9 on Nov 1st, 2019. However, we know that that is ambitious for artists, and we do not yet have a firm commitment from a concrete provider for the footings, so installation could get pushed back to the spring, which gives us great flexibility for artists. At the very least, we would like to share designs & show off whatever we can of the artists' work on Nov 1st, and we plan to have the finished archways installed no later than early spring, 2020, if not before.
- Dedication and Kick-off Party: The first First Friday after installation is complete.

HOW TO APPLY:

Artists must submit the following information to Aili McGill, Director, Nickel Plate Arts amcgill@nickelplatearts.org (please note: submission materials will not be returned to applicants).

1. **Application:** Please fill out the form on the next page completely and return it (including your proposed budget) with the other items listed below.
2. **Resume:** Please include a copy of your artistic resume
3. **Cover Letter:** Please include a statement about your interest in this project, as well as any personal or professional connection you have to Noblesville and how that connection influences your interest in this project. Please also include a statement about how your previous work experience qualifies you for this opportunity.
4. **Concept Sketch:** Please include a simple sketch of your idea for this project. This will help the review committee understand how your artistic style might be translated to the project. Please understand that this concept will be a starting place for discussion of the project: we do not expect it to be highly polished, final proposal.
5. **Examples of previous artwork:** Submit 2-10 digital images in .jpg or .pdf format of past work. Please limit the file size of each image to 2MB or less. If possible, include images of at least 1 previous project that is appropriate to the conditions of this brief.
6. **Image information sheet:** Submit a sheet with the following information about each submitted project: title, date completed, client/neighborhood/site name, total artwork budget, and a brief (1-2 sentences) description of the project or piece as it relates to this project. Include a directory of which image titles you have submitted are associated with each project (ex: for an artist named Smith: PROJECT x: Images Smith 1, Smith 2, Smith 3; PROJECT Y: Smith 4, Smith 5, Smith 6). Submit this sheet in .doc, .docx or .pdf format.

DELIVERY OF SUBMISSIONS:

Submissions may be emailed to amcgill@nickelplatearts.org shared via Dropbox, or hand-delivered to Aili McGill at Nickel Plate Arts located at the below address.

Mailed or delivered submissions must be loaded on a single usb drive. CDs, DVDs, or printed items cannot be accepted. USB drives must arrive at Nickel Plate Arts no later than 5 pm on Friday, August 16, 2019. A dropbox share request must be time-stamped by 5 pm on Friday, August 16 – all items must be included in the shared folder by that time. Any item that is time-stamped as being uploaded after 5 pm will be disqualified from consideration.

The Delivery Address is:

ATTN: Aili McGill

Nickel Plate Arts

107 S. 8th

Noblesville, IN 46060

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Aili McGill, Director, Nickel Plate Arts: amcgill@nickelplatearts.org or 317-452-3690

Noblesville Downtown Alley Archways Artist Application:

Artist name:

Mailing address:

City, state and zipcode:

Phone number:

Email address:

Website (if applicable):

How many of the Alley Archways are you interested in creating?:

Please rank which Alley(s) you would prefer (1 being your top preference):

North Alley Archway (between First Merchants Bank and Kirk Hardware)

East Alley Archway (between Moonshot Games and Matteo's)

South Alley Archway (between Martha Gascho's office and the Visitor Center)

No preference

If selected for this project, would you be willing to be considered for a different number of Alley Archways than you have listed above? Please help us understand why or why not:

Proposed Budget: *Because this project is funded by the City of Noblesville, artists must submit budget documentation. Please detail your projected budget for this work, including material costs, fabrication costs, and your own artistic fees below. You may attach additional pages or documentation if needed. We understand that pricing and hours may vary as you enter into this project: this preliminary budget will help us understand your process. If you have questions about this step, please contact Aili McGill - amcgill@nickelplatearts.org.*