Call for Proposals: Discovery Park, D-Wing

Opening Date: June 10, 2014
Closing Date: July 9, 2014
Estimated Installation Start Date: September 22, 2014

SITE:

Discovery Park College of Engineering

The University of North Texas Art in Public Places Committee seeks to purchase artworks or commission artists to create original artworks to be located in public areas at the UNT Discovery Park complex. Discovery Park is home to Colleges with various technology and engineering departments. The academic programs include Mechanical and Energy Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Construction Technology and Materials Science. The building is a former Texas Instruments corporate campus, with wide walkways for circulation, numerous atriums illuminated by natural light, and various common areas for students and visitors to congregate. These elements are contained in a generous footprint located on a site norh of UNT’s main Denton campus.

For more information about Discovery Park, including the Master Plan, please see: http://discoverypark.unt.edu/about and http://discoverypark.unt.edu/master_plan.

CONCEPT:

Ideal submissions will represent, naturalistically, abstractly or non-objectively, concepts that communicate the range of academic research being undertaken in the Discovery Park complex. Such imagery may suggest binary systems, crystalline forms, atomic matrices, circuitry or wiring diagrams, signal processing sequences, mechanical structures and other types of relevant imagery. Artists may propose new or existing works for each location.

LOCATION 1:

There are two options in the first interior location category. The artist may choose one. The first space (Figure 1) is part of circulation zone located at an intersection of two large hallways. This site is part of a path that leads from the Dean’s Suite, past a reception area and into the departmental wings of the complex. It rests between the offices of the Paccar Technology Institute and an interior “green” space. There are several skylights, which provide ample natural light in addition to existing incandescent illumination. It is a voluminous area that opens up into a double height space extending over 32’ vertically and has a
footprint of 14’ x 14’. The second option (Figure 2) is a large communal zone situated between a café and an extended corridor, which is utilized as a study and meeting location. It is located near the busy South building entrance and also has a vertical height of over 32’ but with a larger footprint of 14’ x 56’.

The strategy for either of these spaces would be to create a large-scale hanging sculpture to be accommodated between existing steel beams. The sculpture design specifications must be concordant with beam configuration and maximum load bearing conditions. These spaces are lit by a series of skylights providing a generous amount of natural light. Optimal materials may have glass, aluminum, painted or acrylic surfaces or related materials to take full advantage of the lighting conditions available within the space, as well as be durable under full light.

Location 2:

This interior space (Figure 3) continues the circulation zone from the Dean’s Suite further into the D-Wing area. It is also a communal study area with natural and artificial light. There are four walls comprised of brick masonry with painted steel beams positioned in 14’ intervals that frame each wall section. These walls are divided into two sections by a large area of windows located at a center point. The wall height from the floor to the header beam is 16’ 9”. This site may accommodate large two-dimensional works, serial works, low relief objects or related types of artworks.
Location 3:

This interior site is located near a communal study zone and is part of the circulation leading to a café area. There are several options (Figures 4 and 5), which may all be considered. The walls are comprised of sheetrock material which are framed by painted steel beams at 14’ intervals. Some 14” areas have a diagonal beam. The wall heights are 16’9” and 12’. This site may accommodate large two-dimensional work, serial works, low relief objects or related types of artworks.
BUDGET:

$81,000 (all inclusive)

This amount is inclusive of all costs associated with this public art project including, but not limited to, artist fee, other consultants’ fees, materials and equipment, fabrication, preparation, installation, and maintenance reserve.

RIGHTS:

The chosen work will be accessioned into the UNT Art in Public Places Collection and UNT will retain all rights per a negotiated Artwork Purchase or Artwork Commission Agreement between the artist the University.

FORMAT and DEADLINE for ENTRY:

Please visit the University of North Texas Artist Registry to submit your proposal for this project at: http://art.unt.edu/forms/app-registration. Proposals should include a Letter of Interest (LOI), a current CV, three references, 10-20 images of your work and complete information included in the online fields associated with each image upload. In the online profile section titled “Project Consideration”, we ask that you select “Discovery Park, D-Wing”. You may also select “All Future Projects”. If you already have a profile in the UNT Artist Registry, please use your existing user ID and password to login to make any desired updates to your profile information. The deadline for submitting proposals for the Discovery Park, D-Wing project is July 9, 2014.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE:

The project is estimated to begin installation on September 22, 2014 and to be completed by October 10, 2014.

OBJECTIVES:

Through the Percent for Art Program, UNT seeks to enhance and enrich the campus environment and community relationships through the acquisition, presentation, and preservation of art works in public spaces that respond to and illuminate the condition, context, and potential of the campus. The commissioned artwork will recognize the spirit of the UNT student body as individual, diverse, and ambitious.

THE UNT COMMUNITY:

UNT is the fourth largest university in Texas and the choice of more than 36,000 students. Located 45 miles north of the Dallas-Fort Worth area, UNT is situated in a college town, with 120,000 residents, and is surrounded by
Denton County, with over 650,000 residents. Located in the midst of North Texas Horse Country, one of the largest concentrations of horse farms in the US, Denton is known for its rich African American heritage, music scene, eclectic Downtown, and annual cultural celebrations.

UNT is a diverse campus and one of only nine universities in the United States enrolling more than 5,800 Hispanic students and more than 4,300 African-American students. In fall 2009, UNT led Texas in the number of Native American Students. Female students slightly outnumber male students by about 2%. Of the more than 36,000 students attending UNT, more than 2,000 are international students, representing 125 countries, and more than 2,500 are veterans and their dependents.

At Discovery Park, 14% of the students are International Students; 39% of the College of Engineering is made up of non-traditional students (over 23 years old); and 85% of students in the College of Engineering are male.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Professional artists or artist teams residing in the United States and who are eligible to work in the United States.

**AA EOE ADA**

It is the policy of the University of North Texas not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability (where reasonable accommodations can be made), disabled veteran status or veteran of the Vietnam era status in its educational programs, activities, admissions or employment policies. For additional information, please see http://www.unt.edu/ada.htm.

**SELECTION COMMITTEE:**

Discovery Park Advisory Committee
Art in Public Places Selection Committee

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