

DRAFT CALL FOR ART - MUSIC OUT LOUD



The City of Olympia is seeking to commission exterior artwork to define three sidewalk locations (4 x 10 feet) in downtown Olympia to recognize 3 Olympia music legends, now deceased. The music nodes are stand-alone installations that host summer acoustic performances. Selected artists will design an image to be fabricated in mosaic, representing the life and work of a local music legacy. Six semi-finalists will be selected based on previous work by a jury composed of members of the Olympia Arts Commission. Each semi-finalist will receive \$300 honoraria to prepare a site-specific (and musician-specific) proposal for the design of sidewalk elements for one of the three locations. Fabrication and installation will be arranged by the City.

Eligibility:

Artists who reside and create their work within Washington State.

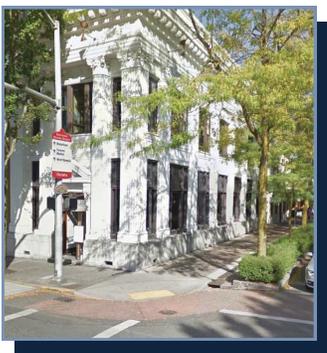
Total Budget:

Six semi-finalists will each receive an honoraria \$300 for development of concept designs. Artists will need a City of Olympia Business License to receive payment.

Artists of the selected three proposals will receive \$1,000 each (inclusive of all applicable fees and taxes) to finalize designs with the City-selected contractor and follow the process through to completion.

Deadline: Application must be received by _____ Date TBD _____

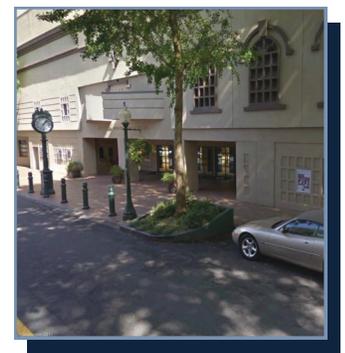
Art Installation Areas:



Area 1: 5th Avenue and Capitol Way.



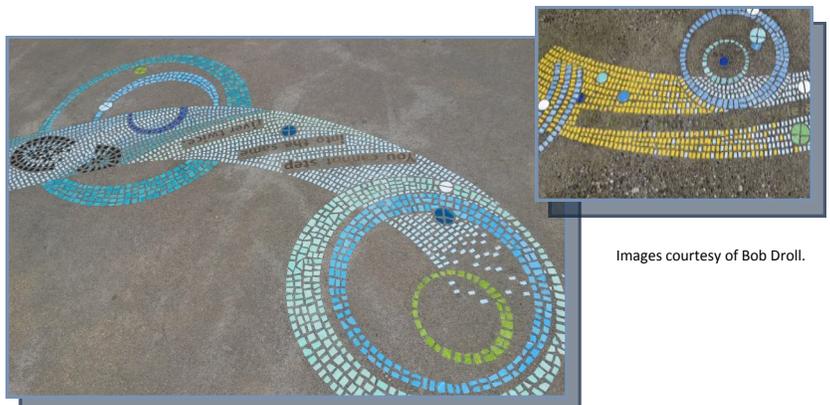
Area 2: Columbia St. and 4th Avenue.



Area 3: Washington Street at Legion Avenue.

Fabrication:

The City will secure a contractor for the project, versed in the lithomosaic process, who will work with each artist to translate their designs into mosaic. The lithomosaic process was used at Olympia's LOTT Plaza (shown here), and uses the concrete of the sidewalk as grout, allowing for seamless transitions between materials.



Images courtesy of Bob Droll.

Each sidewalk location will include ground-plane artwork that is reflective of and responsive to the life and work of the following three musicians:

Bert Wilson-

- World renowned saxophonist and composer with a 7 octave range and over 200 songs to his name.
- Teacher for many world famous saxophonists to include Lenny Pickett of Tower of Power and musical director of NBC's Saturday Night Live, Jeff Coffin of the Dave Mathews Band and Ernie Watts of the NBC orchestra.
- Stricken by Polio when he was very young and was confined to a wheel chair his entire life. In spite of his disability he created a concept on saxophone that placed him among the greats of the instrument.
- Influence on the local music scene was profound. Some of the legends of Jazz would stop by Bert's home to play and visit with him. Many musicians moved to Olympia to play with and learn from Bert. His group Rebirth, which was filled with Olympia musicians, and had international acclaim for its recordings and performances.
- His music continues to be heard in local venues.



Steve Munger-

- Saxophone player for 30 years, well known and highly regarded among jazz musicians, but also played rock, blues, funk & reggae.
- A consummate musician at the center of the Olympia music scene since the early 80s. He was the kind of musician that everybody wanted on their recordings because he made everyone around him sound better.
- Bands he played and recorded with include Harmonic Tremors, Sweatband, Neobop, the Artesian Art Ensemble, Barbara Donald & Unity, Bert Wilson ensemble, various Steve Munger ensembles, Jam Camp, and Sour Owl.
- Anyone who knew him remembers Steve for his maniacal laugh and generous spirit as well as for his amazing musical skills.



Verne Eke-

- Brilliant musician and singer, talented orchestra leader and music scholar.
- Produced and conducted operas and musicals, and co-founded the original Harlequin Productions, where he was music director for over a dozen shows.
- Founded The Capital Area Association for the Performing Arts (CAPPA) and was pivotal in acquiring the legislation and funds that allowed the building of the Washington Center for the Performing Arts.



Phase I: Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Submission Requirements

- Verification that the applicant's residence and studio are within Washington state.
- Artist Statement – no more than 1 double-sided page.
 - Please include explanation of how your work is suited to the project .
 - Please share your experience or interest in working with a contractor to fabricate your design in mosaic.
 - Please identify which musician most connects with you and why.
- Current resume.
- No more than 8 images of previous work. Digital images must be in JPEG format. Resolution can range between 72 and 300 dpi and image files should be no larger than 1MB. Image files **should not** be embedded in a Power Point or other program. Please **do not** include identifying text (number or name) on the image itself.
- A Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope (SASE) for the return of CD with a paper application.
- Packets may be submitted digitally or physically (including a CD for images).

Digital packets may be down-

loaded to the City FTP site:

<http://olympiawa.gov/ftp>

"Recipient" is

sjohnso1@ci.olympia.wa.us

Physical Packets may be delivered to:

Stephanie Johnson
City of Olympia Arts & Events
222 Columbia St NW
Olympia, WA 98501

Do not send additional materials as they will not be considered. The City will retain copies of images submitted and applications for our records.

Deadline: Receipt of application by _____ Date TBD _____.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- The work of the selected artist will build upon and add value to the City's collection.
- Strong aesthetic quality of work including evidence of artistic ability and originality or uniqueness of vision, as represented in the work samples.
- Demonstrated ability to meet schedules and deadlines.
- Artwork must be appropriate for audiences that will be broad-based and of all ages, and should be appropriate for display within a public setting. *Artwork that is religious, political or sexual in nature will not be considered.*
- In addition, the applicant must convince the selection committee that the artist has the background and expertise well-suited to the project:
 - Unique perspective on the life and work of identified musician.
 - Interest in utilizing a different medium in their artwork.
 - Willingness and flexibility in working with a fabricator to realize the final artwork.

Selection Process

The City reserves the right not to select any works of art, and reserves the right to change the process. The expected schedule is as follows:

A 5-member selection committee from the Olympia Arts Commission will review all applications, and determine 6 semi-finalists based on selection criteria.

*The selection meeting is open to the public and is scheduled for ___ Date TBD _____.
The jury will be held in Council Chambers at Olympia City Hall, 601 E 4th Avenue.*

Semi-finalists will be contacted by phone. All other applicants will be notified by letter.

The full Olympia Arts Commission will review the recommendation of the selection committee, and sample images of each semi-finalist's artwork will be submitted to City Council in a written report.

Phase 2: Request for Proposal (RFP)

Upon notification, the six semi-finalists will be paid \$300 each to prepare detailed site-specific proposals for the design of a 4x10 foot section of sidewalk.

Selected artists will be required to attend a technical meeting to understand the parameters, limitations and material choices when working with lithomosaic.

Proposal must:

- Respond to the story and music of the assigned musician within their design
- Allow for siting of a City-provided dedication plaque within the design.
- Not include more than 60% mosaic tesserae, leaving the remainder of the 4' x 10' section as negative space.
- Provide general sketch of artistic elements sited within the sidewalk area that is easily translate into mosaic. (Selected proposals will require detailed siting specifications).

In ___ month, year _____, each semi-finalist will present their proposal to the selection committee during an advertised open public meeting. Following the presentations, the public will have the opportunity to provide comment to the Arts Commission for their consideration prior to final deliberation.

During the presentation of proposals, the same Selection Criteria from Phase 1 applies. In addition, the selection criteria will include:

- Ability to communicate the spirit of the musician in visual form.
- Feasibility of the design to be fabricated and installed within budget (complexity, materials use, etc.).

Legal Requirements

The six semi-finalists will be required to sign a City contract for professional services. The selected artists will be required to sign an additional contract.

All artists receiving funds are required to obtain a City of Olympia Business License and Washington State tax number. For more information, call the Washington State Department of Revenue, general information at 360/753-5000.

Tentative Time Line/Project Milestones

*Schedule subject to change. *Meeting open to the public.*

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| Date TBD | Call for Art goes out. |
| Date TBD | Applications due. |
| Date TBD | *6 semi-finalists selected. <i>The jury will be held at ___pm, Olympia City Hall, 601 E 4th Avenue, Council Chambers.</i> |
| Date TBD | *Art Commission review of recommendation |
| Date TBD | Notification to artists |
| Date TBD | Recommended meeting at for semi-finalists |
| Date TBD | *Advertised public meeting with semi-finalists to present their proposals. |
| Date TBD | *Olympia Arts Commission reviews recommendation. |
| Date TBD | *Artwork recommendation to Olympia City Council. |
| Date TBD | Artwork fabricated and installed |

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of goods and services.

For more information:

Stephanie Johnson, Arts & Events Manager
City of Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation
sjohnso1@ci.olympia.wa.us
360.709.2678