



Hidden in Plain Sight: The Implicit Bias Art Project

A public art project that will inspire an internal and external examination of implicit bias.

Beginning Fall 2022

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Deadline: 5 pm EDT, December 5, 2022

Please email cathy.harris@muralarts.org with any questions or comments.
No phone calls, please.

1. Introduction

Theme: Implicit Bias Against Men and Boys of Color

The focus of this project will be how implicit bias has been focused on and experienced by black men and boys, while recognizing that implicit bias impacts all marginalized groups.

We are seeking an artist, or artist team that can help conceptualize and lead community processes that involve art-making, discussion and the creation of a public art project. Overall, the project should encourage and empower self-introspection as well as recognition of how implicit bias affects the cultures of our communities, workplaces, and educational systems.

Artists working in all forms of expression are encouraged to apply.

Eligibility

This is open to all artists, regardless of artistic practice. There are no requirements related to place of origin, race, or gender. Artists must be U.S. citizens or have authorization to work in the U.S.

We are open to receive responses from individual artists or collaborative teams and while eligibility is broad, artists residing on the city of Philadelphia, or proposes in collaboration with a Philadelphia artist will be given priority.

For more information

Please send queries to: cathy.harris@muralarts.org

Deadline

Applications must be received by Monday, December 5, 2022, at 5 p.m. EDT.

2. Background

Project Goals

This project aims to explore the topic of implicit bias, with a focus on but not limited to how implicit bias impacts Black men and boys.

We are seeking an artist (or artist team) to engage adults and youth to participate in community artmaking and discussion groups to explore the causes and effects of unconscious biases. Our hope is to empower those who carry implicit bias and those who are impacted by implicit bias to confront the presence of implicit bias in our lives.

Moreover, the project is designed to be empowering for those impacted by implicit biases - while elevating the perspective of those who have perpetuated bias.

About Mural Arts Philadelphia

Mural Arts Philadelphia, founded in 1984, is the largest public art program in the United States. MAP believes that art ignites change. We create art with others to transform places, individuals, communities and institutions. Through this work, we establish new standards of excellence in the practice of public and contemporary art. Our process empowers artists to be change agents, stimulates dialogue about critical issues, and builds bridges of connection and understanding. Our work is created in service of a larger movement that values equity, fairness and progress across all of society. We listen with empathetic ears to understand the aspirations of our partners and participants. And through beautiful collaborative art, we provide people with the inspiration and tools to seize their own future. For most information, visit muralarts.org.

3. Scope of Work, Budget, and Schedule

Scope of Work

The artists / artist teams will have two main areas of work.

- Collaborate in designing and participate in a **community engagement process** that heightens awareness of implicit bias against marginalized groups. Collaborate with Mural Arts in identifying a site for the artwork.
- Create a **work of public art, for either permanent or temporary installation**. Develop concept and design. Collaborate with the Mural Arts production team on the production of the artwork, with specific responsibilities to be assigned when the scope of the artwork is known.

Artist / Artist Team Responsibilities

Artists / artist teams will be expected to provide the following services:

- Conduct research as necessary to understand the topic, the project, community history and culture, and other considerations as necessary to inform the artistic approach.
- Submit a one to two page concept that explains how you will approach the project and what artistic media you expect to use for the public art project. Visual examples will be encouraged.
- Work with Mural Arts to design and implement a multi-part stakeholder / community engagement process leading up to the creation of the public artwork.
- Create an approved design for the public artwork.
- Collaborate with Mural Arts to identify and secure permission for a location for presenting or installing the artwork.
- Collaborate with the Mural Arts project management and production team on the completion of the artworks, with the following specific responsibilities to be assigned at a later date, depending on the nature of the artwork and the experience of the artist.
- Assist Mural Arts staff with marketing, promotion and documentation.
- Secure and maintain insurance necessary for artist design, fabrication and installation services.
- Fulfill artist responsibilities within contracted budget and schedule.

Mural Arts Responsibility

- Manage logistics of public engagement activities.
- Provide creative support to artist(s), drawing on Mural Arts' network of curatorial, artistic and programmatic advisors.

- Facilitate and collaborate on review of artist work (engagement plan, art concept).
- Collaborate with the artist on identifying and securing permission for a location to exhibit / install the Artwork.
- Collaborate with the artist on the completion of the Artwork, with specific responsibilities to be assigned at a later date, depending on the nature of the Artwork.
- Lead marketing, promotion and documentation efforts.
- Secure funding, manage project funds.

Artist Fee

The total fee for lead artists and assistants is \$30,000.

This fee is inclusive of artist fees, artist assistant costs, studio costs and any travel and lodging.

Expenses for community engagement (such as meeting materials) and the artwork (such as supplies, material and equipment) will be paid for by Mural Arts from another budget line.

Schedule

Artist selection is occurring in fall 2022.

Upon selection, artists/teams will receive a contract for the research and engagement process.

Announcement of the selection and the beginning of the research and engagement process will be in December, 2022.

Design and community engagement are anticipated to occur throughout the winter 2023.

It's expected that the community engagement process will include events over the weekend of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.

Upon design approval, artists/teams will receive a contract for the creation of the

Artwork. Design completion is expected by March 2023.

Projected date of project completion is August 2023.

4. Artist Selection Process

Eligibility

We are seeking artists or collaborative artist teams who can make a commitment to working in Philadelphia as necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of this project. For the purposes of this RFQ, “artist” refers to an individual artist or a collaborative team of artists.

Process

This is an open call. Artist qualifications / portfolios will be solicited by Mural Arts Philadelphia. Mural Arts will convene a panel of artistic and programmatic advisors to review the artist submissions and select the artist/artist team.

At least three artist/artist team will be paid a design fee of \$1000 to create a proposal for how they would approach the project, including a description of what they think the artistic outcome of the project would be. The artist/artist team will be invited to take part in exploratory conversations and an interim review with the project team.

Mural Arts will select the artist/teams that will be awarded the final commission, in consultation with its artistic advisors and relevant stakeholders. The decision will be based on a review of artist / team qualifications and proposals using the criteria that are listed below. Mural Arts is not required to make a selection from the submissions it receives if, in Mural Arts’ judgment, the relevance, quality or the qualifications of the artists are not appropriate.

Qualifications and Review Criteria

The initial evaluation of artist / team qualifications will be based on a review of projects that have been completed or are currently in progress, considering both engagement processes and creative outputs, and their connection to the subject matter. The review will also consider references and published materials by or about the artist.

The artists’ qualifications shall demonstrate:

the only thing is, you have had experience working with diverse communities, with examples of that

- Experience in creating public artwork that helps achieve the transformational goals of

the project

- Availability to accomplish projects of similar complexity within the budget, timeline and technical constraints presented, based on examples of prior work
- Experience in working on programmatic public art strategies
- Ability to create work that engages a wide audience.
- openness and empathy
- ability to and experience with and openness to working with diverse communities

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5. How to Apply

Preliminary Consultation / Information Meeting

Artists who are interested in submitting their qualifications are encouraged to contact Mural Arts with any questions about the project or how to complete an application. If enough interest arises, we will arrange an artist information session, which will be publicized through our artist information web page and to artists on our mailing list.

Submission Requirements

Application Narrative (maximum 500 words)

A short-written response that addresses your artistic practice and interest in this specific project. The narrative should also explain:

- What motivates you / interests you most about the project?
- What experiences have you had that connect you with the themes of this project or the people with whom this project seeks to engage?
- Your general availability to complete the project, indicating other professional obligations and any other constraints that might impact your availability.

Work Samples

You may submit a minimum of 5 and maximum of 10 work samples.

Images must be:

- Formatted as jpgs
- Less than 1MB each in size
- No more than 2000 pixels on the longest side
- A maximum of 300 dpi and a minimum of 72 dpi

Work Sample Description List

Please include a list of work samples, including the following information:

Project name, Artist's name, Title of artwork, Location, Date of Completion, Budget, Medium, Dimensions or duration (if applicable), Brief description.

CV / Resume

Maximum of 3 pages, including education, exhibition or project history, and any other relevant professional artistic experience. If applying as an artist team, submit a CV / resume for each artist.

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Submission Instructions

All application materials — except for work samples — must be submitted as PDFs. See below for work sample formatting instructions.

Title all files in the folder with your last name, first name, the type of file, and no extraneous spaces or punctuation. For example: *LastnameFirstnameApp.pdf*, *LastnameFirstnameCV.pdf*, *LastnameFirstnameWorksample01.jpg*.

Materials should be submitted in a single folder titled with your last name and first name. Example: *LastnameFirstname*.

“Application Checklist” page (below) should be your Cover Page.

If you choose to submit all materials via Dropbox or Google Drive, please upload the folder to your Dropbox/Google Drive account and then “share” the folder with cathy.harris@muralarts.org.

(For help with sharing files on Dropbox, visit: www.dropbox.com/en/help/19)

OR

Drop off or Mail to:

c/o Cathy Harris, Implicit Bias Project
% Mural Arts Philadelphia:
1727-29 Mt. Vernon St.
Philadelphia, PA 19130

If making a drop-off or mailed submission, *please alert us by sending an email to cathy.harris@muralarts.org.*

Applications can be dropped off at the Mural Arts office Mon-Friday 9am - 5pm. Mural Arts cannot be responsible for mailed entries that do not arrive by the deadline.



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Implicit Bias Project Application Checklist

Please complete this checklist and submit it as the cover sheet of your application.

Information about you:

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Instagram: _____

Check off all material that you are submitting

- A CV or resume (up to 2 pages per artist).
- A current artist statement
- A short-written response

- Work Samples; up to 10 images of past completed work that you consider relevant to this project.
- Image list
- Please provide the name and contact information for a person who can speak to your ability to take on a project like this.