

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
ART IN PUBLIC SPACES PROGRAMME
2019-2021

Vision

The Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects (MTIP) and Spazju Kreattiv value the impact of art and recognise its importance in serving as a creative stimulus for the artist and the community at large.

Aims and Objectives

The Art in Public Spaces Programme aims to promote synergies between artists and the community through co-creation. It shall seek to empower communities to relate to art as co-owners, and artists to acknowledge the needs and aspirations of communities through creative engagement. The programme shall also have the following objectives:

- To create a visual and aesthetic legacy in public spaces owned by the community together with developing a platform for debate on Public Art and stimulating the growth of a culturally engaged community.
- To increase access to the arts by fostering a healthy collaboration between artists, communities and community leaders.
- To promote contemporary artistic identities and awareness to them through participation and, by consequence, encouraging civic pride.
- To provide platforms for artists to showcase innovative and creative works.
- To establish a distinct and vibrant, visually rich environment for communities by creating new landmarks and regenerating new spaces.

This programme shall be funded by MTIP and supported by Spazju Kreattiv. The programme will cover 2019, 2020 and 2021 and projects will be selected through this and possibly other subsequent calls for proposals. The aim is to choose a maximum of six projects to be created by six different artists, or groups of artists, within six different localities or regions. For the period 2019-2021, six site-specific permanent co-created outdoor works of public art will be commissioned by way of an open call for proposals. The maximum budget allocation for each project is €30,000 (incl. VAT). This budget will cover:

- Artist fees;
- Project team fees for the design/ permits/ construction/ production/ installation/ documentation;
- Incurred expenses for the sourcing of permits to execute the project, including architect's fees and PA charges;
- Cost of the manufacturing and installation of the project, including but not limited to, cost of material, construction, setup, certification and maintenance;

- Any lighting and/or other technical systems needed as part of the proposal (excluding electricity consumption);
- Any costs to document (ex. photography, videography etc.) the project development and presentation process.

Proposal

Submissions shall be guided by the following principles:

- Contemporary and innovative concept/s;
- Artistic quality and excellence of the portfolio and proposal;
- Expertise of the project team;
- Relevance/response of the piece to its planned context/environment;
- Engagement with the community to increase opportunities for creative participation;
- Technical feasibility and sustainability of the work for outdoor display, including appropriateness of scale, durability and maintenance;
- Conservation requirements and health and safety issues as per OHSA and EU regulations;
- Ability of the work to activate, enhance or regenerate a public space and increase opportunities for creative participation;
- Budget feasibility.

Commissions are to actively engage with the community context they are intended for. Active participation by the community is important in terms of gaining public understanding, connection and ownership of the work.

To achieve this, commissions are required to collaborate directly with Local Councils and engage with specific communities. The concept created must be discussed and in line with the context of the area chosen.

Opportunities to engage the public should be explored and included. Community-centred works are accessible to the public not simply by virtue of their placement in a public space, but by engaging the community in the process of creation, making their knowledge and experience part of the design.

This approach to public art has a number of key benefits including:

- Ownership of the work by the community, subsequently developing a sense of place, local identity and community pride;
- An exchange of skills whereby a group becomes accustomed to working with an artist and grows comfortable with its own creative capabilities.

Process

The call for proposals will involve a three-stage competitive process as outlined below.

Stage 1

There shall be a public call for proposals for co-created public art projects in Malta and Gozo to be developed in collaboration with Local Councils. Commissions originating from this programme are expected to be conceived, designed and built for a specific site, deriving their conception from the local site narrative while collaborating with local councils and communities.

Stage 2

There shall be an evaluation committee set up to assess the strengths and merits of submissions received. The remit of this committee, composed of experts in the field, will confirm that the submissions are in line with the principles as outlined in the public call and short list projects. At this stage applicants might be contacted by the evaluation committee to submit further supporting material. Artists may also be guided by the evaluation committee to effect revisions/changes to their proposal.

The selection committee reserves the right to withhold any commission or re-issue the call for entries should it determine the proposals submitted unacceptable by the standards set by the evaluation committee.

Stage 3

The evaluation committee shall convene yet again to decide on the final list of projects. The final choice of projects will be announced to the public and the year of implementation for the projects will be determined by the selection board, unless specific years are requested at proposal stage by the artist/s. The evaluation committee reserves the right to reconsider the issue of a second call for proposals if the original call does not produce a sufficient number of proposals meeting the standards set by the said evaluation committee.

The submissions by the artist/s should include the following:

- Details of the artist/s, including CVs of team members and portfolios that include information about and images of previous creative work;
- A proposal/statement of intentions in response to the brief and criteria (see proposal section);
- Letter of intent from the Local Council as collaborators of the initiative;
- Visualisations of the proposed work that may include a scale model and/or visual panels and/or 2D/3D representations in digital format (model and panels should not exceed 50cmX50cmX50cm in size);
- Proposed siting, including diagrams and visualisations of the proposed work in relation to the proposed site;
- Technical information, including required materials, fabrication, maintenance, etc.;

- Detailed Budget/Cost breakdown including artist/s and creative team fees, production costs, civil works, lighting system and other technical costs, if any, permit costs, professional fees due to other members of the artist/s' project team, documentation expenses and any other auxiliary costs deemed necessary for the project's completion;
- Partners – a description of other partner organisations and proof of their commitment.

Supporting Material

Applications must include visual supporting material to articulate ideas and demonstrate practice. These include visualisations of the proposed work as well as other diagrams or visualisations of the proposed work in relation to the proposed site.

Disqualification

The organiser reserves the right to disqualify/exclude participants and/or revoke the award (at any stage of the call for proposals) if:

- the applicant/s do not meet the eligibility criteria;
- the deadlines indicated in these regulations have not been respected;
- anonymity is disclosed during the call for proposals;
- in the organiser's sole determination, it believes the applicant/s has attempted to undermine and/or influence the operation of the call for proposals and influence the decision of the Jury, by fraud, cheating and/or deception;
- any of the conditions, regulations or specifics are breached or disregarded;
- the creative concept is altered and/or any of the expertise and/or services in the proposal are omitted, unless there's a written agreement on such with the organiser.

Appendix

Site Selection

Below are some criteria to guide the selection of sites for the art projects.

Sites chosen for the work should:

- Be easily visible and accessible to the public;
- Serve to anchor a site;
- Establish a landmark.

Site proposals should include:

- A general description – information regarding location of site, adjacent areas and general current uses;
- Potential constraints – information on issues that may need to be addressed on the site;

- Visibility – visibility of the site in relation to adjacent areas;
- Accessibility – information regarding current or proposed access to the site;
- Confirmation through Local Council that identified site is a public site and not privately owned.

Proposed Timeline:

Information Session:

- Tuesday 19th February, 2019 at 10:30am Gozo Ministry, Victoria, Gozo;
- and
- Wednesday 20th February, 2019 at 6.00pm Project House, Floriana, Malta.

Submissions:

- Submissions in digital format are to be sent on publicart@kreattivita.org by not later than 4pm of Friday 12th April 2019.
- Submissions in physical format are to be delivered by hand and addressed to:

The Fund Manager,
Art in Public Spaces,
Communications Unit,
2nd Floor, Project House,
Triq Francesco Buonamici,
Floriana FRN 1700

On Thursday 11th April 2019 between 9am and 4pm **or** Friday 12th April 2019 between 9am and 4pm.

Acknowledgement by email will be issued for each received application.

Shortlisted Projects: Monday 6th May, 2019

Final Decisions: Monday 24th June, 2019

Budget

€30,000 per project (inclusive of VAT)

The winning participant/s shall be awarded the service contract, inclusive of ALL design/permits/construction/production/installation costs. All works have to be carried as per legislative framework in force at the time of the works, including but not exclusive to, OHSa regulations and EU health and safety directives.

All costs incurred by the participant in relation to and/or with respect to the call, including but not limited to postal charges or Internet Service Provider (ISP) charges

(if applicable), all transport costs, communication charges, accommodation, meal costs and other related costs shall be solely borne by the participant.

Participants are responsible for any and all taxes payable as a result of the awarded contract for services.

Participants may obtain other sources of funding to complement the allotted amount from sponsors, subject to prior approval from the selection board. The latter reserves the right to set conditions that regulate such approvals.

The organiser will neither be responsible for, nor cover, any expenses or losses incurred by the participant/s for any other aspect of this call for proposals.

Contact Details

publicart@kreattivita.org
