

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications are requested from an artist and/or artist teams interested in creating a work of art for The Community College of Denver (College or CCD) new Student Learning and Engagement Building on the campus of the Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC).



DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL: February 21, 2012 11:59 pm (MDT)

TOTAL ART BUDGET: \$150,000

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Community College of Denver

THE SETTING

Auraria Higher Education Center

The original Auraria Campus (Campus), located in the Denver Central Business District, was constructed between 1971 and 1976. It was built on the site of an 1858 gold mining settlement called Auraria-later renamed Denver-at the confluence of Cherry Creek and the Platte River.

AHEC is the home of three different institutions of higher education: Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver and University of Colorado Denver. The campus has approximately 150 acres with an enrollment of over 45,000 students. The three institutions have the highest utilization of classroom space in the state and possibly the country with 50 classes scheduled per week per classroom. Almost 20% of all students in Colorado attend classes on the Campus. The Campus is being divided into three distinct neighborhoods-one for each institution.

The Campus is predominately institutional with low rise, modern red brick buildings constructed in the 1970's. This character is contrasted with historic structures scattered throughout the Campus. The 300,000 square foot Tivoli Student Union was originally a brewery dating from 1866. There are three historic churches from the original neighborhood dating from the late 1800's. Speer Boulevard across from the Campus is on the National Register of Historic Places. Speer and surrounding streets were part of the Denver City Beautiful Movement and the concept of developing Denver as "Paris on the Platte." Thirteen small houses and surrounding landscapes have been preserved and are located in what is called the 9th Street Historic Park. The Campus is undergoing a significant transformation with several new projects under construction that create a denser, more urban, varied and dynamic campus environment.

Community College of Denver

The College offers over 70 certificate or two-year degree programs that prepare people for a new career, job advancement and certification for transfer to a four-year institution. This helps to achieve the schools vision of transforming lives through learning. CCD serves over 12,000 students and has a diverse student population with a high number of international students. One staff member describes working at CCD as working at the United Nations, the diversity and cultures here are many. CCD's mission is to provide education and opportunity to a diverse world. This is accomplished by open admissions, workforce development, and training resources for economic growth and forming strategic partnerships with the community, K-12 and higher education to ensure high school graduation and college success. CCD has several programs to increase the percentage of high school graduates and college bound students.

Building and Site

The site is in the southwest corner of the campus bordering Colfax Avenue, Denver's original main street. The building site also borders the 9th Street Historic Park. A student plaza will be constructed adjacent to the new building and the historic park. It will act as an anchor for the CCD Neighborhood and a counter point to a second plaza that exists at the South Classroom building, which is the current center for CCD.

The new 87,000 square foot building will house various student services functions, classrooms, testing, tutoring center and a café, becoming a hub for student activity. Construction has begun and is anticipated to be complete in the spring of 2013.

The Building design contrasts with surrounding Campus buildings. The intent is to establish a new image for CCD and its neighborhood. It is to be a home away from home for CCD students and an encouragement to expand their education thereby transforming their lives.

THE ART

Potential locations for the artwork have been discussed and the following locations are under consideration:

Exterior Locations:

1. Two story brick wall of the new building east of the main entry.
2. On the free standing seat wall along the west edge of the South Plaza.
3. Integrated in the west terrace at the end of the one stop hall, (visible from the interior and exterior).

Interior Locations:

1. Four story wall on the west side of the main stair that extends through the Building (visible from both interior and exterior).
2. Suspended within the third floor volume above the welcome hall (visible from multiple levels of the interior and exterior roof terrace).
3. Suspended in the one stop waiting area (two story volume visible from multiple levels).
4. On the second floor wall(s) on either side of the one stop waiting area.

The following is a list of values and objectives frequently associated with CCD. They are listed to convey to the artist a glimpse of what CCD is about.

Diversity – Over half of the College's student population are minorities, with Hispanics representing the largest sector.

Historic – Located on the site of a 19th century gold mining town, CCD is in the heart of downtown Denver. Our history is important to us and we honor those who came before.

Engaging – Students are welcomed and supported to ensure their academic success. CCD provides a college education to those who never thought college was possible. Our ESL classes provide instruction to individuals needing to improve their English language skills or those learning English for the first time.

Open – A welcoming and hospitable atmosphere greets students and visitors. Students are accepted to CCD without needing to take the SAT or ACT tests.

Community- At CCD, students, faculty and staff create a sense of togetherness, a supportive environment that encourages growth and academic and social transformation.

Urban – Located downtown, and with all the character inherent to metropolitan city, CCD is an urban campus with an interstate highway a few blocks away. A light rail commuter train has a major stop on our campus. The Denver Convention Center, home of the 2008 National Democratic Convention, is across the street.

Sustainable – The new Building will be the most sustainable building on Campus and is expected to achieve Leeds level of “Gold”.

Affordable – CCD provides a quality, affordable education. Over 70% of our students are on financial aid, 74% attend college part time to accommodate work and family obligations, 60% of our students require remedial education to bring their skill levels up to college level work. 46% are first generation, the first in their family to attend college, and 233 have work study jobs and 986 receive scholarships, making college a reality.

RESTRICTIONS

- The art should not make a political statement.
- The art should be easy to maintain.
- The cost of the art must be within the established budget.

ELIGIBILITY AND PROCESS

The commission process is open to all artists regardless of race, color, creed, gender, gender variance, national origin, age, religion, marital status, political affiliation, mental or physical handicap. The RFQ is open to artists from the United States.

The College is contracting with the Colorado Creative Industries to manage the submittal process for this RFQ. Instructions on how to format images to CaFÉ™ specifications can be found at http://www.callforentry.org/imaging_tips.phtml Assistance in using the CaFÉ™ system is available during regular business hours by calling 303-629-1166 or 1-888-562-7232, or e-mail cafe@westaf.org

Applicants are asked to submit:

1. 6 digital images of previously completed work. These images are to be identified with name, location, budget, and year. This information can be provided on a separate identification sheet.
2. Artists who wish to submit kinetic or other media must submit a complete CAFE application with 6 images and written materials and then send an additional DVD of no more than 10 minutes by 5 p.m. February 21, 2012 to Jil Rosentrater, Colorado Creative Industries 1625 Broadway, Suite 2700 Broadway, Suite 2700, Denver, CO 80202.
3. Two page current resume, via CAFE, outlining accomplishments. Team resumes must be combined into one document. Please submit this document as either a .doc or pdf.
4. Statement of Interest with no more than 2,000 characters describing interest in the project and experience working on similar projects of this size.
5. The Art Selection Committee will review all complete submittals. A short list of semifinalists

will be selected and invited to interview and submit an in-depth proposal to the committee for an honorarium. Final selection (s) will be made from the semi-finalists.

6. A contract will be prepared between CCD and the selected artist. Coordination meetings will be held between the artist, architects, engineer and CCD constituents. Funding and schedules will be put into place to complete and display the art. The artist will be responsible for producing the art, work with the art committee on the method of display, transport the art and coordinate construction necessary for display.
7. The criteria to be used in determining the shortlist of candidates to proceed are:
 - Artistic and Technical Quality of the submitted work
 - Professional Experience as demonstrated by resume
 - Appropriateness of scale, material and style of work samples submitted.

SCHEDULE

Deadline for receipt of submittal: February 21, 2012 11:59 p.m. MDT

Semi-finalists notified by: March 12, 2012

Semi-finalist presentations to the committee: late April 2012

Installation of Artwork: Spring 2013

QUESTIONS

If you require more information or clarification please contact the Art in Public Places Program at 303-892-3724 or email Jil Rosentrater at jil.rosentrater@state.co.us

ADDITION SOURCES OF INFORMATION

<http://downtowndenver.org>

<http://www.denvergov.org>

<http://www.ccd.edu/>