

Request for Expressions of Interest

Deadline: Monday, February 19, 2018

AN OPEN CALL FOR CANADIAN VISUAL ARTISTS

THE ART BENCHES OF LIBERTY VILLAGE

ABOUT LIBERTY VILLAGE

The Art Benches of Liberty Village

The Liberty Village Business Improvement Area (LVBIA) is inviting Canadian artists to submit a proposal for the creation of public art to be installed on 25 unique steel benches. The LVBIA's first bench program, named BenchMark, transformed old wooden benches into public pieces of art.

This new Art Benches Program of the LVBIA and the City of Toronto goes beyond transformation to creation. The goal of the Art Benches Program is to beautify the Liberty Village area while supporting national and local artists and celebrating the community spirit that defines Liberty Village.

Liberty Village is Toronto's innovation hub, forged in creativity. As you walk around Liberty Village there is a sense of community, modern yet timeless, youthful village atmosphere. This energy and vibrancy comes from the concentration of more than 600 businesses which include some of Toronto's leading creative thinkers and companies in high tech, arts, design, entertainment and media; as well as the more than 10,000 residents who call this village home.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Expressions of Interest to submit an original design for a custom-made steel bench to be installed in the Liberty Village area. Designs for the bench back should be original, timeless and modern.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1) The Liberty Village Benches are a partnership of Liberty Village BIA and The City of Toronto.
- 2) The goal of the project is to create 25 original benches manufactured from designs submitted by Canadian artists and install the benches in the Liberty Village neighbourhood. Please see attached images.
- 3) The location of the completed project is Liberty Village, Toronto, Canada. (see map)
- 4) The competition will be a two-stage process.

STAGE 1

The Selection Committee (jury) will select up to 25 artists from the submitted REOI's to prepare designs.

STAGE 2

- I. Selected artists may be requested to submit up to 3 designs for consideration.
 - II. 25 designs will be selected by a committee from the submissions
- 5) Bench back panels are 1800 millimetres wide by 500 millimetres tall. Although, the top border does not have to be straight and can have protrusions of an additional (+/-) 50 millimetres.
 - 6) Designs can be created using any format but files must be submitted as a high resolution PDF.
 - 7) The finished benches will be manufactured by Ogilvie Site Furnishings and some consultation between artist and manufacturer may be required during the manufacturing process.
 - 8) A written agreement will be entered into between Liberty Village BIA and the selected artists.
 - 9) Copyright of the artwork will remain with the artists. Liberty Village BIA and The City of Toronto retain the right to use images for promotional purposes.
 - 10) Designs may include text, diagrams or pictures but may not use any offensive images, language or commercial slogans.
 - 11) References to contemporary pop culture should not be used in the designs in keeping with the expected "timeless" theme.
 - 12) Designs should keep in mind the functionality of a bench and be practical for being used as seating in a public space.
 - 13) Designs are single sided and can have negative space. Keep in mind how the design will be viewed from the back side.
 - 14) The bench frames will be in red or black only. The back of the bench will contain artistic renderings in colour(s) chosen by the artist.

FEES

- 1) \$1000 will be paid for each approved design.
- 2) Payment for the design will be made upon approval of all parties.

REQUIREMENTS

1) Entries must be received by 5 p.m. on **February 19, 2018**.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Submit a current résumé/CV, and an artist's statement expressing the artist's interest in designing an original bench back for the Art Benches of Liberty Village Project.
2. Include colour photos of recent art or design work.
3. Entries must include complete contact information, including name, address, phone, email and website if available.
4. Entries may be submitted by mail to Mural Routes, 1859 Kingston Road, Toronto ON M1N 1T3 or by email to info@muralroutes.ca
5. Please put "Art Benches of Liberty Village" in the subject line of your email.

SELECTION PROCESS

- 1) A selection committee will review the submitted EOI's and accompanying portfolios and select up to 25 artists to submit designs.
- 2) Each artist may be selected for up to 3 bench back designs. Payment is per design.
- 3) The decisions of the selection committee are final.
- 4) All entrants will be notified of the results.

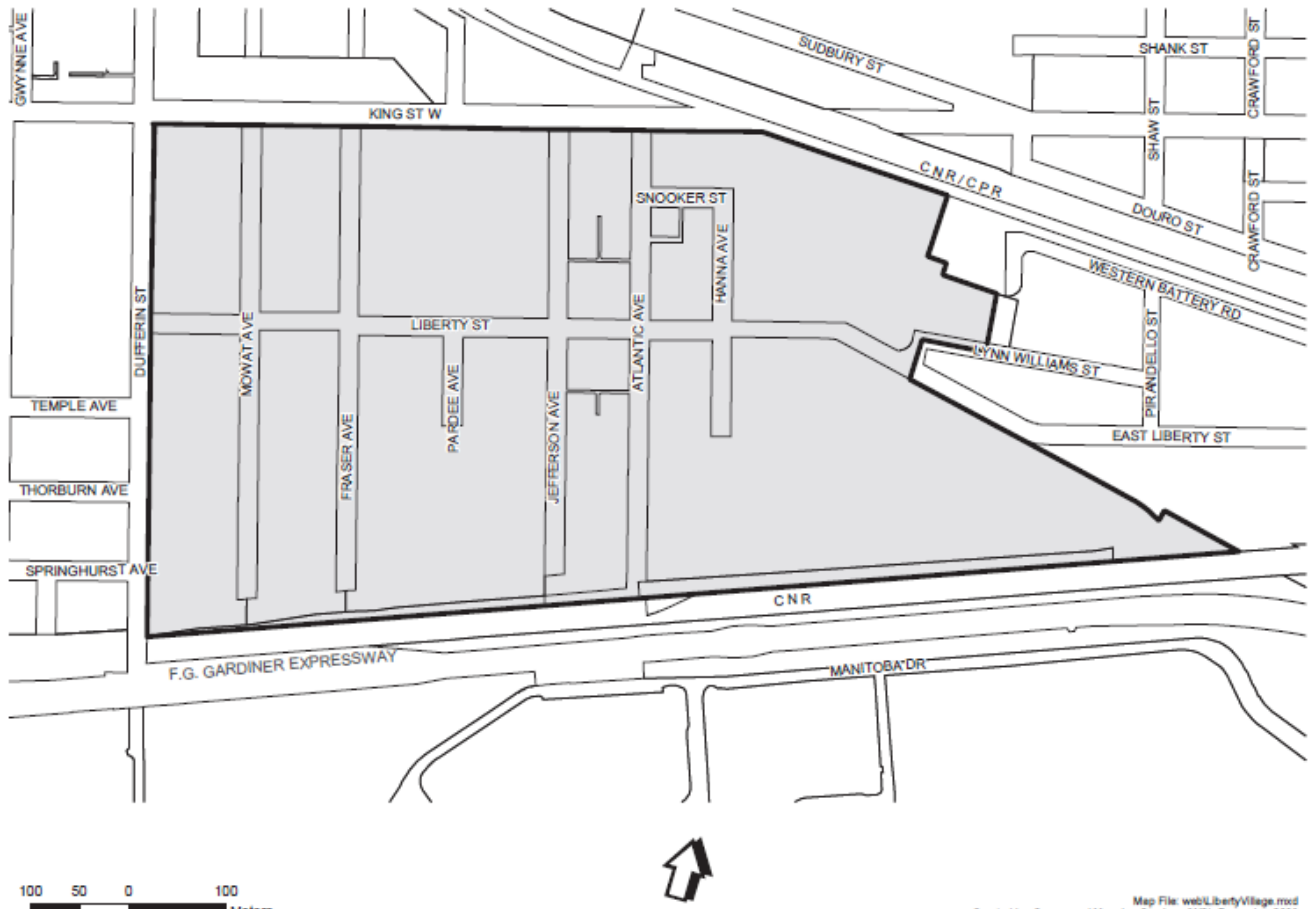
PLEASE NOTE:

THIS CALL IS BEING ADMINISTERED BY MURAL ROUTES ON BEHALF OF THE LIBERTY VILLAGE BIA AND THE CITY OF TORONTO.

For further information please contact Kyla Ross, kyla@muralroutes.ca
416-698-7995

For information about Mural Routes www.muralroutes.ca

For information about Liberty Village BIA visit www.libertyvillagebia.com/



*Sample benches manufactured by Ogilvie Site Furnishings for reference.





