

CALL FOR ARTISTS

City of LA Sanitation & Environment Facilities

City of Los Angeles
Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)
Public Art Division

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)
Apply by: November 22, 2021
culturela.org/calls



SUMMARY

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) is seeking to establish a pre-qualified roster of artists for upcoming LA Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) projects. Artists and artist teams selected through this RFQ will be eligible to develop proposals for permanent public art commissions to be sited at new and expanded LASAN facilities.

Open to
professional
artists and
artist teams
living in
the
County of
Los Angeles

**Monday,
November 22, 2021**

Submission Deadline

2/4

BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

LASAN is responsible for a wide variety of City services organized into three program areas: **Clean Water, Watershed Protection**, and **Solid Resources**. The architectural and landscape design for LASAN's new facilities reflect the agency's commitment to its sustainability targets including but not limited to:

→ **Recycle 100% of all wastewater for beneficial reuse* by 2035**

**including non-potable reuse, groundwater recharge, and supporting environmental and recreational uses such as those in the LA River.*

→ **Reduce municipal solid waste generation per capita by at least 15% by 2030, including phasing out single-use plastics* by 2028.**

**including plastic straws, plastic utensils, plastic take-out containers, and expanded polystyrene.*

→ **Eliminate organic waste* going to landfill by 2028.**

**organic waste refers to food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed in with food waste.*

→ **Train LASAN inspectors to identify air quality violations and notify local authorities.**

Los Angeles is thinking differently about **recycled water**. As part of LA's Green New Deal Target to recycle 100% of wastewater by 2035, LASAN, the City's recycled water producer, has established a bold vision for Los Angeles' water future of Zero Wasted Water. This vision is reflected in its new facilities, its mission to protect the public health and the environment, and its focus on Zero Wasted Water.

The design of LASAN's new facilities emphasize transparency within the communities they serve, and some incorporate educational demonstrations of the services provided by the agency. Design teams are working toward LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and/or Net Zero Energy certification, and incorporating various environmentally conscious building techniques such as photovoltaic (solar) panels, gray water plumbing systems, bioswales to concentrate, convey and clean stormwater runoff, and natural ventilation techniques for building interiors. **More about LASAN.**

ELIGIBILITY

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is open to professional artists and artist teams living in the County of Los Angeles. Artists working in any media or style may apply. Artists and artist teams selected for other DCA Pre-Qualified Rosters are eligible to apply to this RFQ. Unless stated otherwise, artists and artist teams applying and/or pre-qualified through this RFQ are not prevented from applying to other RFQs and public art opportunities administered by DCA's Public Art Division.

Employees of the City of Los Angeles are ineligible to apply. Teams selected through this RFQ must retain the same members as stated in their application, and an artist team may not change during the span of a commissioned project.

CRITERIA

Strong applications will demonstrate:

- ✓ Interest in environmental justice, climate, and/or sustainability issues;
- ✓ Professional capacity to plan, coordinate, and execute a public art project;
- ✓ Ability to respond to the architecture and built environment of a given place or site;
- ✓ Respect and consideration of community, social and/or historical context; and
- ✓ Innovative artistic approaches to media, methods, technology, and/or community engagement.

BUDGETS

Individual art commission budgets will range from \$78,000 and up to \$300,000 and are funded through the Public Works Improvements Arts Program (PWIAP) administered by DCA, in partnership with LASAN. The funding source for LASAN projects is the Sewer Construction and Maintenance Fund.

SELECTION PROCESS

An artist selection panel comprised of artists, arts professionals, and City representatives will be convened to review all submissions received through this RFQ and select up to fifty (50) artists and artist teams to comprise DCA's 2021 Roster of Pre-Qualified Artists for LASAN Projects. The Roster will remain active for three (3) years from the date of selection with the potential to extend the Roster for one (1) additional year. Artists and artist teams pre-qualified through this RFQ will be eligible to develop site-specific public art proposals but are not guaranteed a commission.

As each LASAN project is initiated, DCA will identify a shortlist of up to five (5) artists and/or artist teams pre-qualified through this RFQ, and these shortlisted finalists will be asked to develop site-specific proposals. Finalists may also be required to attend a site walk-through with the project team as part of the proposal development phase. Each finalist will receive a proposal honorarium upon submission of a complete proposal package. A proposal selection panel will review all finalist proposals and select one artist or artist team to be awarded a commission for each public art opportunity. Commissioned artists will be required to ensure that artworks are in compliance with all City Codes regarding safety, accessibility, seismic, and/or other issues, and City staff and LASAN project team consultants will advise and determine any specific requirement(s) as needed for a specific artwork. Commissioned artists must be able to collaborate with DCA staff, project teams, City representatives, contractors, and the general public, and also be available to attend multiple meetings with DCA and other City officials during the course of a public art commission.

HOW to APPLY

All applications must be submitted online via [SlideRoom](#). The deadline to apply is **Monday, November 22, 2021**. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Any additional material, not requested by DCA, will not be reviewed.

A complete SlideRoom submission must include:

- 1. CONTACT INFORMATION** including full name, mailing address, telephone, and email. Teams must identify one team member as DCA's primary contact for the team.
- 2. STATEMENT OF INTEREST** in creating permanent public art for an LASAN facility; *teams must also describe each team member's role on the team.
- 3. RÉSUMÉ** *teams must submit a résumé for each artist on the team.
- 4. 12 IMAGES** of completed art projects / artworks; include the year, dimensions, media, and a brief description for each (also include the client, budget, and location for public art projects, if applicable).

Applicants are encouraged to register for the City of LA Business Assistance Virtual Network (BAVN) using the new [Angeleno Account System](#). Request BAVN technical support by emailing ita.bavn@lacity.org. If an applicant has previously received a City of LA commission, grant, or contract, then that applicant is already registered on BAVN; if not, go to angelenologin.lacity.org/signin/register to register for an Angeleno account. BAVN registrants may receive occasional requests to verify location or address, status as a minority-owned/operated business, status as a woman-owned/operated business, etc. We encourage you to respond to such requests and provide accurate information so that individual artists are understood as a significant contributor to equity in the City of LA.

QUESTIONS?

For technical guidance through the online SlideRoom platform, visit [SlideRoom's support page](#). For questions about this RFQ, please contact Pau Pescador, Public Art Division, at dca.publicart@lacity.org with the subject line "LASAN Artist RFQ."

RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

DCA reserves the right to decline all applications to this RFQ, and/or cancel this RFQ, or any roster of pre-qualified artists, at any time. This RFQ is subject to the City's Campaign Finance, Contractor Responsibility, Equal Benefits, Equal Opportunity, Living Wage, Minority/Women Business Enterprise, and Slavery Disclosure Ordinances, as well as any other ordinances in effect in the City of Los Angeles.

ABOUT DCA

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) manages the City of Los Angeles Public Art Programs. DCA supports the creativity of local artists by funding and partnering with the City's arts and cultural communities. The City demonstrates an ongoing commitment to arts and culture through DCA's ongoing activities, including community arts programming, cultural grants, marketing, public art, performing arts and venues, and youth arts and education programs, to stimulate and foster the creation of arts and cultural experiences throughout the diverse neighborhoods of LA.