

Penn Data Science Building Public Art – Request for Qualifications Questions & Answers

Questions received by May 14, 2021 are to follow

1. I am an artist who would like to partner with a landscape architect; can this be done later if I am chosen as a finalist?

Yes, a partnership can be determined later. However, if a partnership will be integral to the success of the project, it would be advantageous to understand the qualifications of any intended partners at this stage.

2. Is there a list of minority-owned landscape architects in the City and surrounding area?

No, the program does not maintain such a list currently.

3. The available sites for artwork are marked in red on your perspective. Can the artist choose one, or two, or a few of the sites, or are they required to design for all the sites?

Artists are encouraged to think of the site holistically. However, they are not required to address every potential art location. Artists selected to produce proposals will utilize the combination of art locations that best supports their vision for the overall site.

4. Letter E on your perspective seems to indicate the sidewalk pavement facing two streets, but it is not marked in red. Is letter E considered part of the artist's site?
 - If so, are the pavement materials part of the building budget?
 - What is expected of the artist in area E?

The sidewalk zones along 34th and Chestnut Streets and the paving at the building entrance are what is intended to be labeled as "Letter E". The paving materials may be included in the artwork with consideration for durability and maintenance. The current materials for "Letter E" are stone at the building entrance and concrete in the remaining areas. The art budget as listed should be what is considered available for future proposals. If an artist proposes the incorporation of a new paving material, funds from the building budget allocated for paving that may be available to the artist will be discussed with Penn at that time.

5. It looks like the materials for the planters are already chosen. What did you have in mind for the planter artworks?

Preliminary designs for the planters have been approved by the design team, specifics of which will be shared with artists/artist teams selected to respond to the future Request for Proposals. Artists may choose to alter or apply material to the planters as an element of their artwork.

6. Can the art for the planters consist of planting arrangements and maintenance?

Yes, plantings or landscape elements can be a component of the artwork.

7. What do you mean by linear landscape?

We have used the phrase "linear landscape" to refer to the full pedestrian environment around the building, including paving, benches, and planters. It is meant to suggest concern for the complete street level environment rather than any single element. The artwork should contribute and be integral to an overall welcoming and inclusive space that feels cohesive with the built elements.