Miamisburg Branch Library Project Details for Artists

A Dayton Metro Library RFP for Artwork

Open To: Regional Artists (250 mile radius of Dayton, OH)
Commission Amount: $30,000 is budgeted for all artworks at this Branch
Entry Open Date: Monday, August 3, 2015
Entry Deadline: Friday, September 11, 2015
Commissions Announced: October 2015
Project Completion: February 2017

Project Summary: The Dayton Metro Library (DML) and The Dayton Art Institute (DAI) seek to commission site-specific pieces of artwork for one or more spaces in the Miamisburg Branch Library with a targeted opening in the first quarter of 2016.

Artists are invited to propose newly created artworks conceived in response to one of the two artworks below, held in the DAI permanent collection. The inspiration pieces were selected from the results of voting by community members, and particularly patrons of the Miamisburg Branch Library, on their two favorites of five DAI artworks. Artists may develop a response to one or both artworks. Any aspect can be utilized as source material for the submission (color, material, style, content, composition, etc.). From the submissions, the DML ReImagining Works Committee will select the winning artists, who will meet with DML and DAI staff, architects, and construction representatives to confirm plans for the commission. The artists will be required to sign a Letter of Agreement by November 2015 and complete the work by January 2017.


Brandishing a large lump of coal, a male figure emerges from a burst of clouds. The coal produces an explosive ray of light that beams down on a generator causing the man to shield his eyes. Rockwell Kent painted this work for the Bituminous Coal Institute as part of an ad campaign intended to boost the reputation of the coal industry and promote the centrality of this energy source for the modern, postwar society. Kent’s composition depicts the vital role of man in the transformation of coal into energy.

Rationale for inclusion: Energy is an important part of Miamisburg’s history – from the long operation of its own coal power plant to the Mound atomic energy plant. Today the historic city remains vibrant because of the energy behind downtown revitalization and other economic development initiatives. The Library contributes to that energy and vibrancy as a powerhouse of resources to inform, inspire and enrich the community.

For more information: http://www.daytonartinstitute.org/199460

Robert Koepnick created many sculptures to adorn Dayton’s most prominent businesses, government buildings, and homes. A lifelong resident of the greater Dayton area, Koepnick left a lasting mark on this city. Although Huck Finn now resides at The Dayton Art Institute, this bronze originally earned its keep in a private home, spouting water from atop a marble pedestal!

Rationale for inclusion: This sculpture is based on one of the most loved – and most banned – books in American history reminding us of the central role libraries play in making books accessible to all. It also reminds us of the love Miamisburg has for its riverfront and the activities it provides for the community.

For more information: [http://www.daytonartinstitute.org/19494#overview](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org/19494#overview)

Artistic Goals of the Project: The Miamisburg Branch Library has outgrown its second home in this community that loves and heavily uses its Library, necessitating a move from Library Park. The branch will move to a new 17,000 square foot facility a few blocks away at the corner of Linden and Sixth, on the site of the former Maud Bell High School. The new library will offer more amenities including a quiet reading room with a fireplace, a dedicated teens, a larger children’s area with its own program room, and a community meeting room available after hours.

Proposed artworks should reflect the distinctive personality of this location; resonate with people of all ages and backgrounds; inspire collaboration, learning and creativity; and contribute to an inviting, engaging, and stimulating environment. The committee welcomes, but in no way requires, submissions that relate to the mission of Dayton Metro Library or that may provide a springboard for educational programming and/or current or future collaborative learning opportunities.

Practical Considerations: The artwork must be durable and easily maintained. Some potential locations for artwork will be accessible to Library patrons. Art opportunities at the Miamisburg Branch include several large interior walls in the central Marketplace, walls in the Quiet Reading Room and Adult Area, and a space for a 3-D work in the glass corner of the Teen Space. The attached renderings from Levin Porter Associates illustrate these potential locations for artwork along with their dimensions. Architectural plans are still subject to revision.

Submissions: Proposals will only be accepted electronically, in the form of a single pdf of no more than 10 pages and no more than 10 MB. Proposals must include the following and be organized in the order below:

1. A sketch and narrative explanation of the proposed artwork
2. Explanation of relationship between DAI inspiration art and proposed artwork
3. Size range for suggested location with maximum budget
4. Four to six images of completed artwork, preferably of similar scale and material
5. Brief artist’s CV or biography (2 pages maximum)
Additional Information: Susan Anable is The Dayton Art Institute’s project manager for ReImagining Works. She will hold an informational meeting for artists on Saturday, August 8 at 2:00 at the DAI. Matt Franklin from Levin Porter Associates architecture firm will also be there to review the building plans and answer questions. This is a great opportunity to gain a better understanding of the building space with the art locations and to see the DAI inspiration pieces in person!

Additionally, Ms. Anable will schedule individual, 15-minute phone calls with artists on Monday, August 10 between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.

R.S.V.P. for the meeting and/or schedule a time to discuss your proposal or ask questions by emailing sanable@daytonart.org

Architectural Renderings of new Miamisburg Branch Library designed by Levin Porter Associates

Potential art locations are marked in orange.
Marketplace wall looking west

Adult area looking east
Quiet Reading Room looking west

Teen area with glass corner location for 3-D art work looking southeast