



CALL FOR ARTISTS

Behavioral Health Resource Center | Portland, Oregon

The [Regional Arts & Culture Council](#) is seeking artists/artist teams living in Oregon and southwest Washington to create a site-specific digital design for a 2-dimensional interior artwork for the common wall on the first floor of Multnomah County's newly constructed [Behavioral Health Resource Center](#). The budget available for the commissions comes from Multnomah County's Percent for Art Program and is approximately from **\$15,000 - \$20,000**. The deadline for submissions is **Wednesday, April 20, 2022**.

About Behavioral Health Resource Center

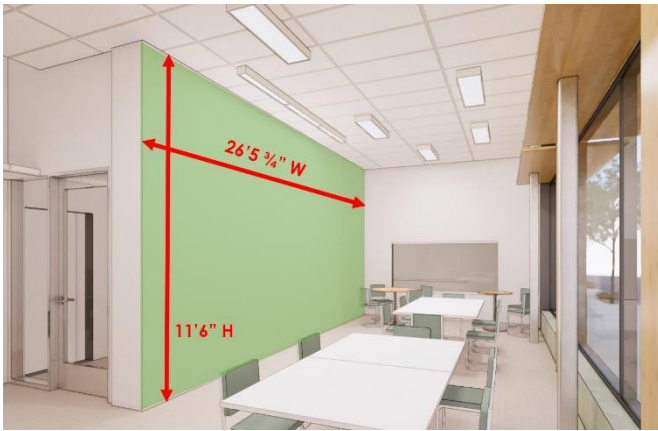
Multnomah County's Behavioral Health Division is renovating a building at the corner of SW Oak & SW Park Ave in downtown Portland. This will be the site for a new comprehensive behavioral health resource center that will offer immediate basic services for people experiencing homelessness, substance use and/or mental health challenges. These services include showers, laundry and mail service in a Day Center, as well as long-term stabilization through connections to services and treatment, short-term shelter and longer-term transitional housing. Working closely with people with lived experience, health providers, downtown neighbors and community members, the County is planning a trauma-informed, peer-supported center. *(Note: definitions of some terms mentioned are available at the end of this document.)*

Art Opportunity

This project is seeking artists/artist teams to create a site-specific digital design that will be scaled as a 2-dimensional artwork on the common wall in the first floor's Day Center. This active space will be open to visitors who will have access to showers, laundry, peer counseling, housing, meal service and additional services. The artwork on the commons wall will be visible to visitors in the front lobby/common area as well as street and pedestrian traffic on SW Park Ave due to the large storefront windows.

To avoid the potential to trigger a negative emotional response in visitors and users of the building, the interior color scheme and artworks connected to the building are designed to be trauma-informed.*

The trauma-informed design guidelines are available at the end of this document.



Rendering of the 1st Floor Common Wall



Rendering of main entrance and storefront windows facing SW Park Ave

Budget

The selected artist/artist team will receive \$15,000 - \$20,000 for this opportunity to create a digital artwork, inclusive of project expenses including artist/s fees, design, and engagement with third-party contractors who will help to fabricate and install the artwork.

Are you eligible?

Artists or artist teams living in Oregon and southwest Washington are eligible to apply. If applying as a team, at least one member must meet the residence eligibility requirement. RACC is committed to engaging new communities of artists and expanding the range of artistic and cultural expression represented in the City's public art collection. Artists who have experiences with houselessness, substance and/or mental health challenges will be prioritized.

How To Apply

All application materials must be submitted through the *RACC Opportunity Portal*, an online application system. Applicants will need to create an account, or log into their existing account at www.racc.org/apply. If you are applying as a team, please assign one person to apply and be the contact on behalf of the team.

For first-time users of the portal, view a brief video learning how to register [here](#).

Application Requirements

- **Statement of interest.** Based on the information given, please address the following:
 - your interest in this project by addressing how you see your work connecting to this project's mission and values;
 - how your artwork would engage with the building's trauma informed design guidelines;
 - if you are applying as a team, describe how you anticipate working together;
 There are two options in submitting these responses:
 - Written Statement: 3000 characters or less**
 - Oral Statement: Upload a video/voice recording no longer than 2 minutes**
- **Up to 8 images of past work** These images are the primary way the quality of your artwork is evaluated. Provide no more than two images per artwork. For each artwork, please provide title, year produced, budget, media, dimensions, location. Conceptual information is desirable but not required.
(Note: you have the option to upload a video file of the artwork instead of a jpeg.)

Once you have started your application, you can save after each step and sign out—your application will be saved as a draft that you can continue to work on as needed. Once you hit "Submit," your application is final. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions during the process.

Submissions due: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 5 p.m. PDT.

Information Sessions for Artists

1. Thursday, March 31st at noon PDT on Instagram Live. Follow @regionalarts on Instagram to stay informed of this and other upcoming opportunities.
2. Wednesday, April 6th at 6 p.m. PDT on Zoom, RSVP [here](#).

Attendance is encouraged but not required to apply for the project.

We're Here to Help!

If you have questions about the overall opportunity or the RACC Opportunity Portal, please email Salvador Mayoral IV with questions or to set up a time for a phone call: smayoral@racc.org.

If you don't have a computer or online access, please don't hesitate to contact RACC for assistance. Also, if you prefer these materials in another language please contact RACC project staff for translation services.

Interpretation services available, email info@racc.org

Servicio de interpretación disponible

Предоставляются услуги переводчика

Có dịch vụ thông dịch

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Important Dates

- March 31st and April 6th - Info Sessions
- April 20th – Applications Due
- May – June 2022 – Panel review/artist selection
- July – September 2022 – Design Phase
- October 2022 – Installation of Artwork

Definitions of some terms mentioned in this call

"Homeless" is lacking a permanent place of residence while "houseless" is lacking or in need of a house. For many people, "home" means experiencing a sense of community, and it is possible for a person to build "community" wherever they may be staying.

A "trauma-informed approach" incorporates three key elements: (1) *realizing* the prevalence of trauma; (2) *recognizing* how trauma affects all individuals involved with the program, organization, or system, including its own workforce; and (3) *responding* by putting this knowledge into practice" ([SAMHSA, 2012](#), p. 4).

"Peer support" is based on the principle that people who have been successful in the recovery process are uniquely qualified to help others experiencing similar situations. Through shared understanding, respect, and mutual empowerment, peer support specialists help people become and stay engaged in a recovery process based on their self-directed goals

guidelines - trauma informed design



Use color schemes that emphasize cool colors, such as blue, green, and purple. Avoid deeply hued warm colors (i.e. red, orange, yellow) that may arouse negative emotions.

Limit visual complexity, such as distracting patterns on the walls.

Avoid abstract work which can be “triggering” to some people.

Avoid art that conveys meaning or symbolic significance that would generate or arouse negative feelings.

Landscape paintings and nature photography are all associated with increased positive effects and comfort.

