

**ARTIST OPPORTUNITY FOR
OUTDOOR SCULPTURE/WATER FEATURE
for the central government plaza in
Terre Haute, Indiana**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF MATERIALS:
November 18, 2019**

Art Spaces, Inc. – Wabash Valley Outdoor Sculpture Collection is issuing a **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS** for a site-specific project including a water feature, to be located in downtown **TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA** as part of *Turn to the River*, a multi-year project to reconnect Terre Haute’s downtown with the Wabash River through public art and design

SEND TO:

info@wabashvalleyartspaces.com

or

Art Spaces, Inc.
669 Ohio Street
Terre Haute, IN 47807





***TURN TO THE RIVER –
THE CELEBRATION SPACE***

1. LOCATION

The location is in downtown Terre Haute, Indiana, on the grounds of the City of Terre Haute/Vigo County four square block government complex that includes [Terre Haute City Hall](#) and [Vigo County Courthouse](#). Terre Haute is a city on the banks of the Wabash River in West Central Indiana with a population of approximately 61,000 people. It was platted in 1816 around a courthouse in the approximate site of the existing county courthouse. Terre Haute is home to four institutions of higher education, a major regional art museum, the state’s longest running symphony orchestra, many other arts and cultural entities, and a variety of large and small industries. The downtown was recently designated as a state Cultural District (the 41 | 40 Arts and Cultural District) in honor of its rich arts and cultural offerings, unique cultural history and a growing creative industry. The *Turn to the River* focus area will be added to the cultural district after it has been completed.

An existing fountain in the approximate location for a new work of art is in a state of decay and will be removed. City and County officials and community members value the gentle character of water on a site that often puts people in stressful circumstances (going to court, child custody exchanges) as well as serving as a site for celebration (civil marriage ceremonies, citizenship naturalization ceremonies, public announcements). Many citizens also visit the site to conduct ordinary daily government business. The new work of art will benefit the employees, clients and visitors of the government campus including residents accessing city and county services, getting married, going to court, attending city council meetings, visiting inmates in the jail (a new jail in another location will be completed in 2021), as well as attorneys and judges conducting proceedings in both City Hall and the Vigo County Courthouse.

Other improvements planned through additional phases of *Turn to the River* include a designed event space incorporated within the large city-owned parking lot scheduled for reconstruction in 2020; a designed walkway to the Wabash River (which is 2 blocks west); trees; landscaping; wayfinding; seating; and other public art and amenities.

The site for this art work is accessible to the public and free of charge at all times. It is utilized during nighttime hours only on special occasions.

IMPORTANT: Please note that images of concepts and site designs posted as part of this RFQ indicate only the potential footprint for a new work of art. The exact design, dimensions and

detailed location of the final central feature will depend on the chosen artist and their concept, in consultation with Art Spaces, Terre Haute and Vigo County representatives. Art Spaces and the *Turn to the River* Design Team will work with the selected artist to ensure a seamless transition between the work of public art/water feature and the current plaza design.

On the Art Spaces website (www.wabashvalleyartspaces.com) you will find links to

- Images of the site
- Images of the Vigo County Courthouse and Terre Haute City Hall
- Documentation and concept images of all phases of *Turn to the River*, including planning, concept and design development <https://wabashvalleyartspaces.com/current-projects/turn-to-the-river/>
- Design documents of the proposal area
- Dimensions of the footprint of the area conceived for a work of art/water feature

You may also call (812-235-2801) or write info@wabashvalleyartspaces.com with questions or to receive a hard copy of this RFQ. Please note “Turn to the River RFQ” in subject heading.

2. ART SPACES – WABASH VALLEY OUTDOOR SCULPTURE COLLECTION, INC.

Art Spaces is a non-profit organization incorporated in 2005 in Terre Haute, Indiana. The mission of Art Spaces is to provide public art and the design of public places to enhance economic growth, enrich cultural experiences and build a legacy for future generations. There are currently twenty unique, site-specific sculptures in public locations throughout Terre Haute that are part of the Art Spaces Collection. For information about each sculpture, its location and more information about the artists: <https://wabashvalleyartspaces.com/collection/>.

Art Spaces engages in the design of public places through partnering with city and county government, educational institutions, businesses, foundations, other non-profits and citizens to create engaging community places. Our many public events offer meaningful educational experiences and opportunities for design input and interaction for people of all ages. The sculptures and programs are free to everyone.

3. TURN TO THE RIVER

Turn to the River is a multi-year project to reconnect Terre Haute’s downtown with the Wabash River through public art and design. It offers to our city and region a strong model for local and regional placemaking that has engaged government officials, business owners, residents, students and visitors, linking to other economic development and placemaking projects, including the designation of a local Arts and Cultural District by the State of Indiana. *Turn to the River* provides vision and revitalization of a geographically, historically and culturally vital part of our downtown and we are designing it to be inclusive, accessible, healthy and interesting. In addition to connecting people with the river *Turn to the River* will offer public gathering places of various sizes.

The Planning and Design Phases have engaged professional artists, designers and community residents and have been supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and funding from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation through the Wabash River Regional Development Authority. In September 2019, *Turn to the River* was awarded an Award of Merit

for Conceptual Design by the Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, given jointly to Art Spaces and Taylor Siefker Williams Design Group, designers for this project.

Turn to the River includes plans and concepts for a walking promenade to the river, a space for festivals and an overlook on a city-owned riverside property. By offering gathering spaces, landscaping, seating, public art and educational wayfinding *Turn to the River* will provide engagement opportunities for a diverse urban population and the residents of dozens of surrounding rural counties that regularly utilize government, health, education, shopping and arts and cultural services here.

This RFQ is for a significant work of art to become a central feature within the *Turn to the River* focus area. It will build positive engagement within the government arena, activating a space to hold public events and becoming part of a positive and healthy experience for people when they walk from downtown to the river, visit City Hall or the Vigo County Courthouse to conduct business or simply to enjoy the site.

4. GOALS FOR THE ART WORK

The art work will serve as a signature feature for a revitalized plaza that is utilized on a daily basis by City of Terre Haute and Vigo County officials and staff, legal officials, and city and county residents. The area surrounding the art work will also serve as one connecting link to the Wabash River for downtown patrons, business owners and employees; college students living and studying just two blocks away; and visitors walking from the downtown, which is just two blocks west of this plaza. As *Turn to the River* is implemented an increase in the number of visitors to the site is anticipated.

The art work should be compelling and interesting from all vantage points throughout the year, including throughout the winter months when the water will be turned off. The new art work should complement the existing architecture and the hardscape and amenities associated with the revitalization of the surrounding plaza. The Vigo County Courthouse was built in the Second Empire Style in 1888 and is listed with the National Register of Historic Places. Terre Haute City Hall was built in the Art Moderne style in 1937. Through *Turn to the River* Art Spaces has engaged the public in designing a shared place to be exciting, attractive and inclusive, for everyone. The central work of art should reflect that spirit.

The artwork is intended to incorporate a water feature and anyone applying through this RFQ must indicate how they will approach this aspect of the project if it is not a regular part of their practice. For example, if teaming with someone else for this purpose, the applicant should include application materials for each partner as well as describing their individual roles and levels of experience.

Conceptual reference to the Wabash River, the watershed of the river and/or Terre Haute's cultural history may be considered as elements to incorporate within the work of art.

5. BUDGET \$570,000

The artist's total budget for this project shall not exceed \$570,000 and will include research, design, engineering (the art work, its foundation and lighting), materials (including mechanism for supplying and circulating water), fabrication, transportation, shipping, foundation installation, sculpture installation, insurance, taxes and any other expenses related to the project not listed as the responsibility of Art Spaces. Lighting integral to the artwork would also be included in the artist's budget. Installation of exterior lighting will be assumed by Art Spaces as part of the plaza reconstruction. Underground water, electricity and drainage will be provided by Art Spaces within reasonable expectations. Surrounding hardscape will be provided by Art Spaces.

6. ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is open to practicing professional artists or artist teams over 18 years of age working with durable materials and with proven experience within this scope of project and budget.

7. SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Art Spaces is committed to providing for Terre Haute and Vigo County a finished central artwork with a water feature, constructed of proven durable materials that do not require extraordinary vigilance or maintenance beyond reasonable expectation of use. Clear and specific guidelines for preservation of the artwork, water feature and all incorporated materials will be required of finalists.

Finalists will be selected based on artistic merit and quality of past work; appropriateness of their approach to public art in relation to this particular project and site; demonstrated experience in working within this budget level; ability to work collaboratively to develop the final design and its integration into the site; and record of ability to meet proposed deadlines.

Selected finalists will need to address their ability to provide a water feature appropriate for Terre Haute's hard water quality and winter climate when a water feature will need to be shut down (roughly late October to April). The work of art should work seamlessly with a water feature and also have visual impact and meaning when the water feature is turned off.

A particular concept is not required at this time; however, in the letter of interest it is important to describe why this particular project interests you, why your work would be meaningful and appropriate for this location, and your relevant experience. The Selection Committee will choose as finalists those artists who demonstrate an appropriate sensibility for, interest in, and capacity to undertake this project.

After the initial screening, up to three finalists will be selected to visit the site prior to submitting a full proposal. Expenses for travel and accommodations for the initial site visits of one or more selected finalists will be covered by Art Spaces. Each finalist will receive a stipend of \$2,300 upon completion and acceptance of their final proposal and model.

The Art Spaces Site Selection and Acquisition Committee includes members of the Board of Art Spaces as well as area arts professionals and one or more non-arts community representatives. Designated representatives of Vigo County and City of Terre Haute will also serve on the panel in a consulting role and other key stakeholders may also serve in that capacity.

Please note that designs and diagrams of the artwork site provided as part of this RFQ are intended only as potential footprints for a new work of art and do not indicate the style of the artwork desired. **The thematic content, design, scale and location will be determined by the chosen artist in consultation with Art Spaces, City of Terre Haute and Vigo County.**

8. PROJECT TIMELINE

The RFQ deadline is November 18, 2019. Selected finalists will be notified approximately two weeks later and their visits to the site will be scheduled as soon as possible following selection. Selected finalists' proposals will be due 6 weeks following the site visit. The desired installation date for the sculpture is between July – September 2020.

9. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

In order to be considered for this project, please send the following **with your last name on each individual document or item**. If you are submitting as a team, you will need to submit the resume/bio for each member of the team, as well as to describe their role in the project.

1. **Letter of interest**, not to exceed two pages. Please state your reasons for being interested in this project, why you believe your work would be appropriate for this site and whether you could meet the goals of the project within the proposed budget and timeline. *Make certain your full name(s), address, e-mail address and phone number are clearly included in your letter.*
2. **Twelve (12) clearly titled and numbered high quality digital (jpg only) images** (you may include up to two detail shots among the twelve jpgs). The images should be titled as follows: Last Name_Image Number_Artwork Title. *Please send images of high enough resolution that they can be successfully projected on a large screen.*
3. **Image List** Including Image Number, Title, Dimensions, Materials, Year, Cost of Project and Location. They numbers on the list should correspond to the jpg numbers.
4. **Current Resume**
5. **List of three (3) references** relevant to this scale of project, with their current contact information, including phone numbers and e-mail addresses.
6. **Mention of how you heard about this RFQ**

Art Spaces accepts submissions electronically by e-mail or by CD through regular mail. If you send your materials electronically, please send via We Transfer or another program that does not require Art Spaces to incur additional costs in receiving them. This is preferred to sending them via multiple emails. If sending by CD, clearly label it with your name(s).

Optional

- SASE for return of any materials you would like back

Notes

- We will notify you by e-mail when we have received your materials and found everything in order. If you do not receive notice within 2 weeks of submitting, please email us at info@wabashvalleyartspaces.com. Note "*Turn to the River* RFQ" in the subject heading.

Send all materials to: info@wabashvalleyartspaces.com (Put *Turn to the River RFQ* in the subject heading) or send to Art Spaces, Inc., 669 Ohio Street, Terre Haute, IN 47807.

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION AND/OR POSTMARK DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS:
November 18, 2019**

10. COPYRIGHT RELEASE

Artists retain rights of all copyrighted materials submitted, except as limited by this section. By submitting to this RFQ, those artist(s) responding agree to a copyright release for controlled usage of the submitted materials for committee distribution, education and publicity purposes. Art Spaces shall not be responsible for any third party infringement of artists' copyrights.

11. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

For the selected artist(s), Art Spaces requires that the final approved contract for professional services specify that the selected artist(s) shall maintain at all times during the term of the contract at its sole expense:

- Statutory workers' compensation in accordance with the laws of the state where such compensation would be payable. Employers' liability (Coverage B) with limits of not less than \$500,000 per accident.
Automobile liability insurance on any owned, non-owned or rented vehicle with limits of at least \$2,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury and property damage.
- Combined single limit bodily injury and property damage
- Comprehensive general liability, including products liability, completed operations liability, blanket contractual liability, broad form property damage and personal injury liability insurance with limits of at least \$2,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit
- Professional services liability for a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

Art Spaces, Inc., City of Terre Haute and Vigo County shall be named as additional insured and be provided with a certificate of insurance prior to the effective date of the contract or any renewal contract. Art Spaces shall be provided with all renewal certificates within 30 days of the expiration date of any and all policies listed on the certificate of insurance.

12. INDEMNIFICATION

For the selected artist, Art Spaces requires that the final approved contract for professional services specify that the artist(s) agrees to indemnify and hold Art Spaces, Inc., City of Terre Haute and Vigo County harmless from and against any and all claims, losses, liabilities, costs, expenses, charges and damages arising from, or relating to, the contractual agreement, including but not limited to attorney's fees, with respect to any cause arising out of, resulting from, or in connection with (a) any breach by the artist(s) of any clause, condition or provision of the contract; b) any breach or violation by the artist of any applicable criminal or civil law; or (c) any other cause resulting from any act or failure to act by the artist(s) in accordance with the contract. The artist(s) shall promptly assume the defense of any claim, suit or action within the scope of this indemnification at their expense upon being notified thereof.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF MATERIALS: November 18, 2019 Send to: info@wabashvalleyartspaces.com or Art Spaces, Inc., 669 Ohio Street, Terre Haute, IN 47807 (Please note *Turn to the River RFQ* in subject heading)

13. DISCLAIMER

Art Spaces, Inc. reserves the right to contract one or more artists, or to refuse a contract with any artist.

14. INFORMATION ABOUT ART SPACES and CONTACT INFORMATION

Artists are encouraged to visit the Art Spaces website (www.wabashvalleyartspaces.com)

To directly request more information you may write to: info@wabashvalleyartspaces.com

Please note "*Turn to the River RFQ*" in subject heading. Or call 812-235-2801.