

Open Call for Public Sculpture Proposals

Arts Commission Sculpture at the Havre de Grace Opera House Havre de Grace, Maryland

Submission Deadline: January 19, 2024

Total Project Budget: Not to exceed \$40,000

Background:

Havre de Grace, Maryland is a historic city at the top of the Chesapeake Bay. The City government identified public art as important for the cultural and economic development of the city, to establish Havre de Grace as a cultural center in North Eastern Maryland, and to strengthen the fabric and identity of the community.

Downtown Havre de Grace is a vibrant community of local residents, businesses and activities. Several annual festivals and other large events take place most weekends during the summer months. First Friday celebrations from May through October bring many visitors to the downtown area from the surrounding region. The Arts Collective, the Opera House, the State Theater and the STAR Center all host a variety of performances in the city, including live music festivals and theater performances. Arts by the Bay Gallery, Gallery 220 and Riverview Gallery, all downtown, showcase the works of regional artists.

The Arts Commission is an officially established commission of the Havre de Grace city government made up of citizens who volunteer their time, energy and experience to bring the arts to the city. The Arts Commission has been responsible for many concerts, performances and events in the city over the past 35 years. The Arts Commission has hosted King Alfred's Players from Winchester England, the National Ballet of Maryland, the Handel Choir, the Maryland State Boys Choir, and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra several times, to name a few. The Arts Commission has also sponsored ballet, theatre and musical performances, as well as juried art shows and festivals in the city, including the annual Children's Art Festival in Tydings Park.

The Opera House is a city owned entity within the Arts and Entertainment District that hosts national and international theater and musical performance, as well as locally sourced cultural and historical lectures, art exhibitions and other events. It is a two-story, renovated historical brick building with a contemporary glass entrance addition. <https://hdgartscollective.org/cultural-center-at-the-opera-house/>.

The Havre de Grace Arts Collective (HAC) is an umbrella organization that brings together several arts entities that work with the city of Havre de Grace to support the arts and enhance public access to the arts. The HAC includes the Arts by the Bay Gallery, Gallery 220, the Arts and Entertainment District Committee, the Public Art Committee, as well as sponsoring several unique arts activities in the city.

HdG Arts Commission - Sculpture Installation at the Opera House - Call for Entries

Project Overview:

The Havre de Grace Arts Collective Public Art Committee, in collaboration with the City of Havre de Grace Arts Commission, is seeking proposals for outdoor public sculpture at the Cultural Center at the Opera House. The sculpture will reflect the importance of the arts in the community, and call attention to the role of the Arts Commission in Havre de Grace. The sculpture at the Opera House will reflect the dynamic energy and celebratory nature of the arts in Havre de Grace, mark the cultural center of the city, and be a focal point on Union Avenue, the main North/South thoroughfare in the city.

This significant addition to public art in Havre de Grace will become an anchor sculpture on the planned Sculpture Trail through town, and will serve as a catalyst for other public art projects in the city.

The proposed sculpture may be set on an existing 4' x 4' cement pad in front of the Opera House, may be designed with a footprint no larger than 10' x 10', for the grassy area in front of the Opera House, or for the concrete approach to the Opera House Entrance. The permanent installation may include a base, which could incorporate a plinth, slab or in-ground anchors for the sculpture.

Semi-finalists proposals will be selected from submissions received by the deadline. The Selection Committee, including members from the HAC Public Art Committee, the Arts Commission, and regional arts professionals, may decide to ask semi-finalists to create and submit models of their proposals. If artists are asked to submit models, the selected semi-finalists will be awarded a stipend to create models for submission for final selection.

The Selection Committee will review all complete submissions, and will submit the semi-finalist proposals to the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace for final selection. The selection of the final sculpture will be guided by the considerations noted in the "Selection Process" section, below.

The artist is responsible for the design, engineering and installation of all support structures for the sculpture, including the base, foundation or anchors. The City of Havre de Grace is responsible for site preparation and lighting. The city will work with the artist to accomplish the installation of the sculpture, but any special engineering or installation requirements are the responsibility of the artist.

Ongoing maintenance of the sculpture and its surroundings, as recommended by the artist, will be the responsibility of the City of Havre de Grace with recommendations from the HAC Public Art Committee.

Eligibility:

Open to all artists age 18 and over. Artists in Havre de Grace and Harford County are strongly encouraged to apply.

Adhering to the goal of a diversity of sculpture in the city, artists whose sculpture has previously been commissioned by the city of Havre de Grace or by the Havre de Grace Arts Collective are not eligible to receive this commission.

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Selection Process:

Submissions will be reviewed by the Selection Committee, as described in the “Project Overview” section above. Only complete submissions will be considered. The selection of the final sculpture will be guided by the following criteria:

- Adherence to the submission requirements below.
- A concept and design that celebrates the arts.
- Attention to the relationship of the sculpture to the specific site at the Opera House.
- The potential of the sculpture to enhance and expand the public’s interest in Havre de Grace.
- Art work that increases the diversity of the permanent sculptures placed throughout the city, so that a variety of artists and types of artworks are represented in the city.
- Demonstrated experience with similar public art projects.
- Demonstrated ability to maintain projects within budget and on schedule.
- Verification of good standing with the state of Maryland.
- Durability of materials, maintenance requirements, consideration of the susceptibility to vandalism, and timelessness of the work.

The City of Havre de Grace, in collaboration with the Arts Collective, will gain title to the artwork, as well as the right to use images of the artwork in print and digital media that promotes or represents the city of Havre de Grace or the Arts Collective, upon completion of the project and final payment to the artist. Copies of the concept and planning drawings of the final selection will be requested by the Arts Collective for historical records of the design and development process. The artist retains all rights under the Copyright Act of 1976, 17 U.S.C. § 101 et seq., as the sole author of the artwork for the duration of the copyright.

The participating artist(s) may be invited to lead a discussion/presentation of their work for the community; this will be scheduled after the installation of the work.

Timeline:

Deadline for receipt of applications: January 19th, 2024.

Notification of decision of the Selection Committee: February 9th, 2024.

Submissions of drawings and site plans and completion of the contract with the Arts Collective and the City of Havre de Grace: April 1st, 2024.

Review of work in progress: July 2024.

Target date for completion of installation of sculpture, depending on the complexity of the construction of the project: October 2024.

A dedication ceremony will be planned once an installation date is set.

If semi-finalists are selected and models requested, the timeline will be modified and extended to allow time for the artists to create models and for the additional, final selection process. The installation date will be determined after the completion of the two-stage selection process.



Proposal Submission Requirements

Proposals must be received by January 19th, 2024. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

All artworks must be unique, original pieces created by the submitting artist. All artworks must be made of appropriate material for outside installation and safe and appropriate for community display, as determined by the Selection Committee. Proposals that include green initiatives are encouraged.

In order to be included in the selection process each application packet must contain the following:

- Completed Proposal Form (found below)
- A current Resume/CV including past experience in public art. Include up to 10 jpg images of representative works, or a link to the artist's website or online photo gallery.
- Three references with contact names, telephone numbers and email addresses from previous project managers.
- A one-page narrative description of the concept for the work. Include in the narrative the scale of the work, materials, colors and how the sculpture will fit within the proposed location.
- Up to five images (to include details) or drawings of each proposed sculpture. Artists may submit up to two sculptures for consideration.
- Detailed plans for installation, including, but not limited to, foundations, anchors and structural supports built into the proposal and the proposal budget. Final installation plans will be made with the Havre de Grace Arts Collective Public Art Committee and the City of Havre de Grace. Proof of insurance for installation will be required at that time.
- A proposed budget:
 - That includes the cost of the artwork, design fees, all labor and materials, fabrication, base and foundation (Including costs if the sculpture requires a specially designed or engineered foundation.), and transportation of the work. Also include any projected miscellaneous costs such as permits, documentation, insurance for installation, etc.
 - **The total, all inclusive, budget is not to exceed \$40,000, but it can be less.**

Email submissions should be sent to **both**:

havredegraceartscollective@gmail.com and jmcfarla@harford.edu

- Put "*Havre de Grace Arts Commission Opera House Sculpture*" in the subject line
- All email submission must be sent as a *PDF* file labeled as follows: LASTNAME/FIRSTNAME.pdf
- Images, if attached separately, should be jpegs or pdfs and at least 72 ppi but not to exceed 300 ppi. The file(s) are also to be labeled LASTNAME/FIRSTNAME.

Mailed submissions **must be received by the deadline**, and should be sent to:

Jim McFarland
Havre de Grace Arts Collective Public Art Committee
220 Washington Street,
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

Artists who wish their materials returned must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Contact Information:

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jim McFarland at jmcfarla@harford.edu, or 443-412-2247.

Proposal Form

Proposals must be received by January 19th, 2024.
Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Each artist may submit up to five images (to include details) of each proposed work or drawings of proposed work. Artists may submit up to two sculptures for consideration.

Please complete a separate Proposal Form for each proposed sculpture.

Complete this form in its entirety and send it, in the same email or packet, with all submission requirements listed in the Proposal Submission Requirements section above.

Please include your name and contact information on each individual part of the submission packet.

Artist Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Proposed Sculpture Information

Title: _____

Material: _____

Size: _____(h)x _____(w) x _____(d)

Required method of installation (i.e., concrete pad, concrete footings, pedestal, foundation, etc.) Include detailed plans with your submission materials:

Price of proposed sculpture including delivery and installation: \$ _____

The total, all inclusive, budget is not to exceed \$40,000, but it can be less.

Please attach all submission requirements and additional information necessary to explain the project.

Proposals must be received by January 19th, 2024.



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The Cultural Center at the Opera House, Havre de Grace, MD



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