

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
City of Fort Collins, Colorado
Art in Public Places Program – Celebrating 20 Years
2015 PIANOS ABOUT TOWN PROJECT
Honorarium – \$650

The City of Fort Collins Art in Public Places Program, in cooperation with community partners Bohemian Foundation and Downtown Development Authority, seek to involve local artists/teams by commissioning them to work with the *Pianos About Town Project* team to paint murals or otherwise artistically decorate working pianos. The artists will be required to work on the piano in Old Town Square or an APP determined interior location in Fort Collins. The intent of this project is to create a downtown attraction of an artist working on site in Old Town Square, Fort Collins, CO, and to place decorated pianos around the Fort Collins area. The artists/teams are required to develop and submit a visual concept for the mural to be painted or decoration to be added to a functioning piano. The Selection Committee will select multiple artists for this project.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Qualifications will be received at the City of Fort Collins' Purchasing Division, 215 North Mason St., 2nd floor, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524.

Art in Public Places Program
2015 Pianos About Town Project
Proposals must be received before 5:00 p.m. (our clock), April 3, 2015
Final Selection: April

Applications should be emailed to:

purchasing@fcgov.com

Type **2015 Pianos About Town Project** in the subject line
(Request an acknowledgement email)

Or should be mailed to:
2015 Pianos About Town Project
City of Fort Collins Purchasing Division
P.O. Box 580
Fort Collins, CO 80522

Or should be hand-delivered to:
2015 Pianos About Town Project
City of Fort Collins Purchasing Division
215 N. Mason
Fort Collins, CO 80524

A copy of the RFQ (Request for Qualifications) may be downloaded from the Art in Public Places Website, **www.fcgov.com/artspublic**

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions concerning the scope of the project should be directed to Ellen Martin at (970) 416-2789.

Questions regarding submittal or process should be directed to Gerry S. Paul, Director of Purchasing & Risk Management (970) 221-6775.

PROJECT

The Art in Public Places Program of Fort Collins, Colorado, is requesting proposals in an open competition for artists or artist teams to create painted murals or artwork on working upright pianos.

The goal of this project is to create an interactive event where an artist/team works on site in Old Town Square. The project is looking for artists who can interact with the community while they are working on the piano and are able to create an exciting artwork to inspire the community. The resulting artful piano will be placed in a public location in Fort Collins, making art and music accessible for the community to enjoy. Concepts could include History, Architecture, Environment/Nature, Sports and Leisure, Community/Culture, or any other concept related to what makes Fort Collins unique. **The project is looking for diversity in styles and concepts for the artwork with a preference for new and exciting ideas.** Please visit our website at www.fcgov.com/artspublic to see our existing piano mural collection.

Please create a concept drawing for the mural. Submit your concept image using the form at the end of this proposal request. **We are looking for artwork that is visually active/ busy, minimizing large open spaces and the opportunity for graffiti.** We are looking for a range of themes and techniques. If painted, make the design picture-based, not word-based. If you choose to include text in your design, it should be incidental to the design. Do not use text over 3" in height, and do not make it the focal point of the design. Designs that include logos, copyrighted or trademarked images, advertisements, or political, commercial, religious, or sexual symbols, themes or messages will not be accepted. Designs should be appropriate for a diverse, broad-based audience of all ages. The pianos need to function as musical instruments and be easily movable. Selected individuals/teams will receive an honorarium.

The artist will be required to create art on the piano in Old Town Square during the project period from May to October. There will be approximately two artists working in Old Town Square per month. Each artist will have up to 19 days to complete their artwork, which must include weekend days. We are looking for artist(s) who can interact with the community while they are working on site. At least one of the selected artists will not work in Old Town Square, but will be selected to work in public view at an indoor location. Indoor work will take place between November and January, for piano placement during the winter season.

The pianos will be in a variety of sizes. The back of the piano will be covered with Masonite, providing a solid surface on which to work. The pianos will be sanded and washed in preparation for the artist's artwork. The artist will need to prime the surface. All surfaces of the pianos will need to be painted/ decorated. The pianos and artwork will become the property of the City of Fort Collins. In the event that the piano becomes permanently damaged by weather or other circumstance, it will be removed from the project. Pianos will continue to be reused/ recycled and may be repainted at a future date.

Safety & Durability—Design must consider that the work will be situated in a public location and subject to the elements and potential vandalism. It must be durable and easily moveable.

Site—Artists will work on the pianos in Old Town Square, Fort Collins, or an APP determined interior location in Fort Collins. The pianos will then rotate to other locations in Fort Collins, Colorado.

ELIGIBILITY

This project is open to all artists or artist teams. Teams can include school groups, clubs, organizations, etc. The artist or artist team leader must be at least 18 years of age. The artists must be willing to work with the design team selected by the City of Fort Collins and able to create their artwork on a piano in Old Town Square, Fort Collins, or an APP determined interior location, within an agreed upon time line. Artists will be working from May through early October in the Old Town Square location and November through January for the interior location(s).

MEDIA

The team is looking for artwork to be created on working pianos. The surface treatment must allow the piano to be tuned, played, and moved. The pianos will be sanded and the surface washed for painting. The artist will need to prime the surface before painting or adding other artwork. APP staff will be available for consultation on the materials needed for the project.

BUDGET

The City will provide a total honorarium in the amount of \$650 to cover all applicable expenses, including all fees for consulting with the design team, the design, supplies and execution of all artwork selected.

SELECTION PROCESS

A selection committee may consist of members of the APP Board, Downtown Development Authority, Bohemian Foundation, and a City Purchasing Department representative. The committee will review application materials and make a final recommendation. The APP Board gives final approval. The selection committee reserves the right to reject any or all entries at any time in the review and selection process. If an artist's preliminary concept is selected, the City will assign a piano to decorate.

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Qualification of the artist/team to the project and goals as demonstrated in letter of intent.
2. Quality and suitability of submitted concept image.

CONTRACT

Upon selection and final design approval, the artist must complete a contract with the City of Fort Collins. The artist will be responsible for the appropriate supervision of the persons participating in the project on their behalf. All finished work shall be faithful to the drawings, design, and concept as approved by the APP Board. Progress reports and honorarium will be made as contracted. All designs selected become the property of the City of Fort Collins.

APPLICATION MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED

Please submit one (1) copy of the following materials:

1. A one-page letter of intent describing your design concept and what interests you about the Pianos About Town program.
2. One page resume for the artist or team leader outlining your professional accomplishments as an artist.
3. One **full color** concept image drawn, painted, or printed on the form at the end of this proposal request. Artists/teams can submit only one concept.

Submissions must be complete or will not be reviewed.

The Art in Public Places Program is not responsible for lost or damaged artist materials. Materials will not be returned.

NOTICE

All proposals submitted must meet all applicable city codes and charter requirements. The City of Fort Collins reserves the right to reject all proposals and to waive irregularities or informalities. Individuals/teams are not to contact the project community/neighborhoods for an APP project unless arranged through Ellen Martin, APP Coordinator for the City.

Sincerely,

Gerry S. Paul
Director of Purchasing & Risk Management

Please fill out this form and include with your application materials.

Individual Artist

Artist Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

OR

Artist Team

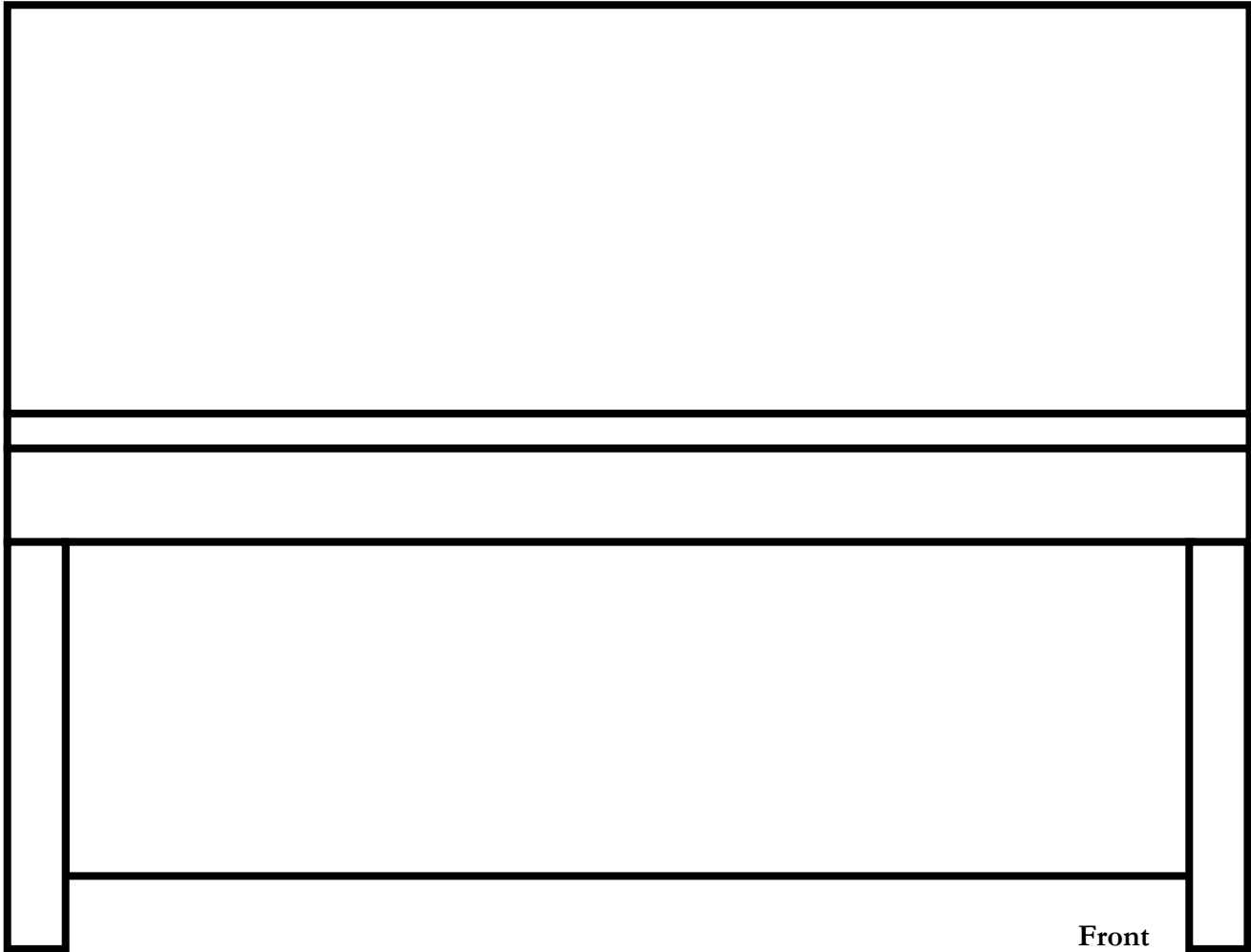
Name: Mentor/Leader: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Description of Team: _____

CITY OF FORT COLLINS ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM
PIANOS ABOUT TOWN CONCEPT IMAGE



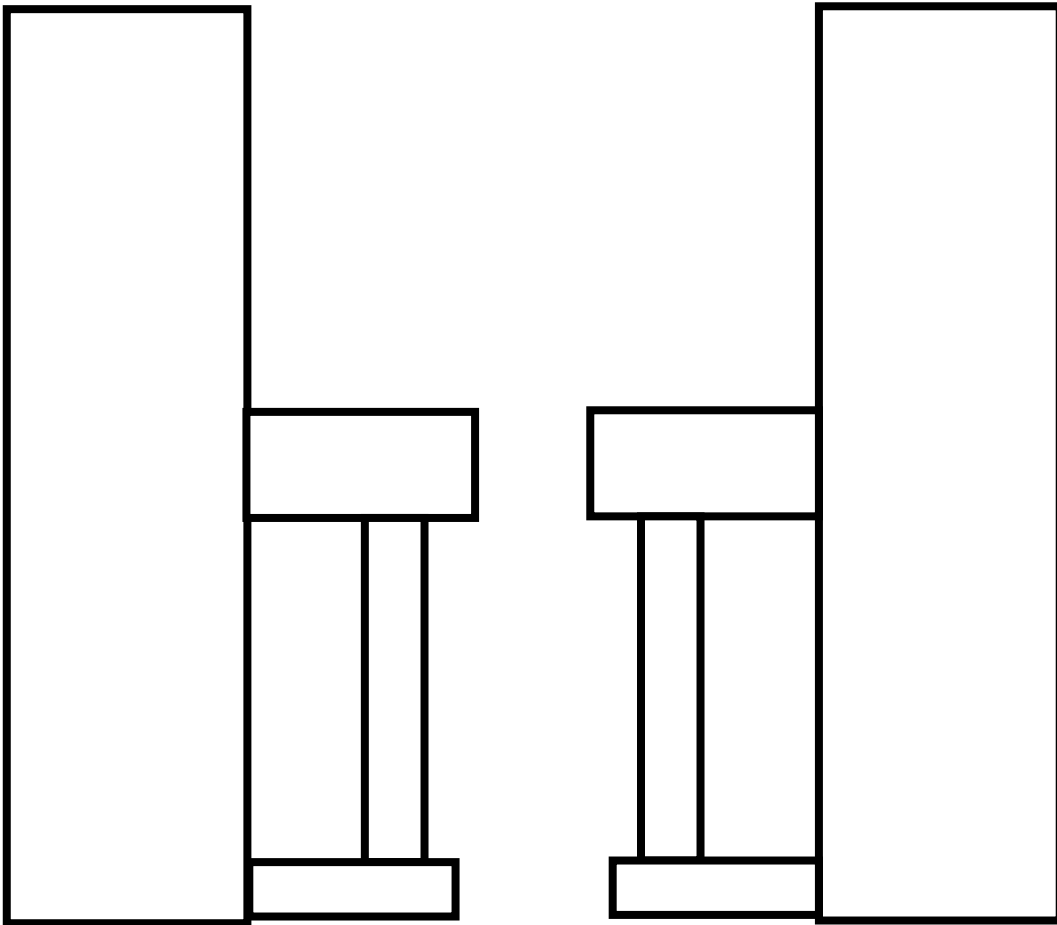
Top

TITLE: _____

DESCRIPTION/NARRATIVE _____



Back



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Right