

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
City of Fort Collins, Colorado
Art in Public Places Program
2021 PIANOS ABOUT TOWN PROJECT
Honorarium – \$1,000

The City of Fort Collins Art in Public Places (APP) 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 or other APP determined location in Fort Collins. The intent of this project is to create a downtown attraction of an artist working on site 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 and/or decoration to be added to a functioning piano. The Selection Committee will select multiple artists for this project.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Proposals 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
2021 Pianos About Town Project
Proposals must be received before 5:00 p.m. (our clock), February 1, 2021
Final Selection: February

We prefer applications be emailed to:
purchasing@fcgov.com
Type **2021 Pianos About Town Project** in the subject line
(Request an acknowledgement email)

Or they may be mailed to:
2021 Pianos About Town Project
City of Fort Collins Purchasing Division
P.O. Box 580
Fort Collins, CO 80522

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 Beth Diven, Purchasing Buyer at (970) 221-6216.

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 an Old Town location. 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. **The project is looking for diversity in styles and concepts for the artwork with a preference for new and exciting ideas and emerging artists.** Please visit our website at www.fcgov.com/pianos 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 has an active composition with strong value contrast, minimizing large open spaces, reducing the opportunity for graffiti.** We are looking for a range of themes, techniques, and experience levels. If painted, make the design picture-based, not word-based. Designs that include logos; copyrighted or trademarked images; advertisements; or political, commercial, religious, or sexual themes, symbols, 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 an Old Town location during the project period from May to October. Each artist will have up to 13 days to complete their artwork, which must include weekends. We are looking for artist(s) who can interact with the community while they are working on site. At least two of the selected artists will not work in an Old Town location, but will be selected to work in public view at an indoor location. Indoor work will take place either in March/April or November/December, 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 plywood, providing a solid surface on which to work. The pianos will be sanded in preparation for the artist's artwork. The artist will need to prime the surface with provided primer. All surfaces of the pianos will need to be painted/decorated. The pianos and artwork become the property of the City of Fort Collins. If 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 piano must remain easily moveable.

Site—Artists will work on the pianos in Old Town, 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, Fort Collins, or an APP determined interior location, within an agreed upon time frame. Artists will be working from May through early October in an Old Town location and March/April or November/December 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 for painting. The artist will need to prime the surface with provided primer 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 \$1,000 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, and representatives from the Downtown Development Authority, Bohemian Foundation, and City Purchasing Department. 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. Letter of intent outlining any accomplishments as an artist, your interest in this project, and description of your proposed design. (Maximum of 2 pages)
2. 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.
3. Filled out form on page 4 of this application.

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 Paul
Purchasing Director

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

Individual Artist

Artist Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

OR

Artist Team

Name: Mentor/Leader: _____

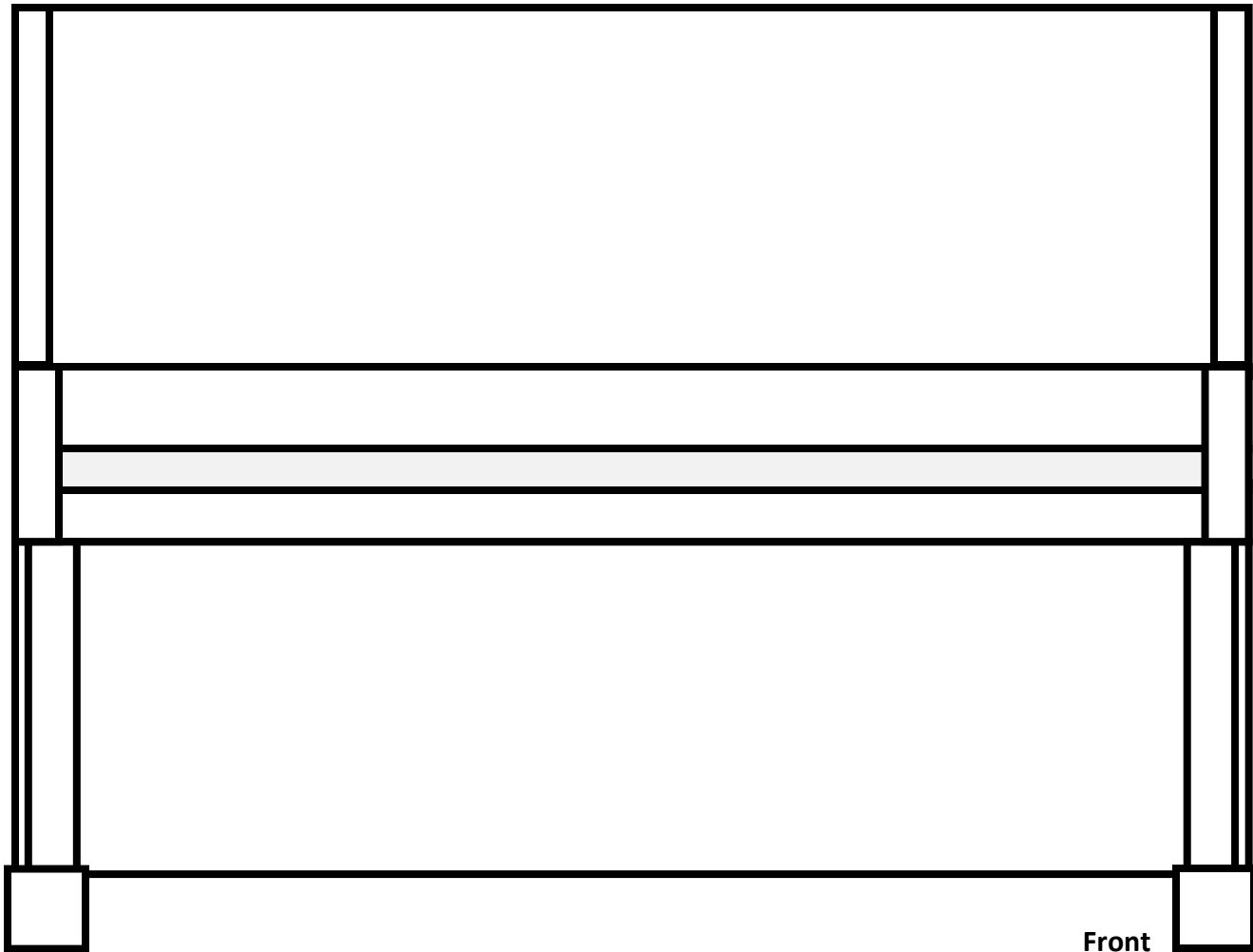
Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Description of Team: _____



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



Front



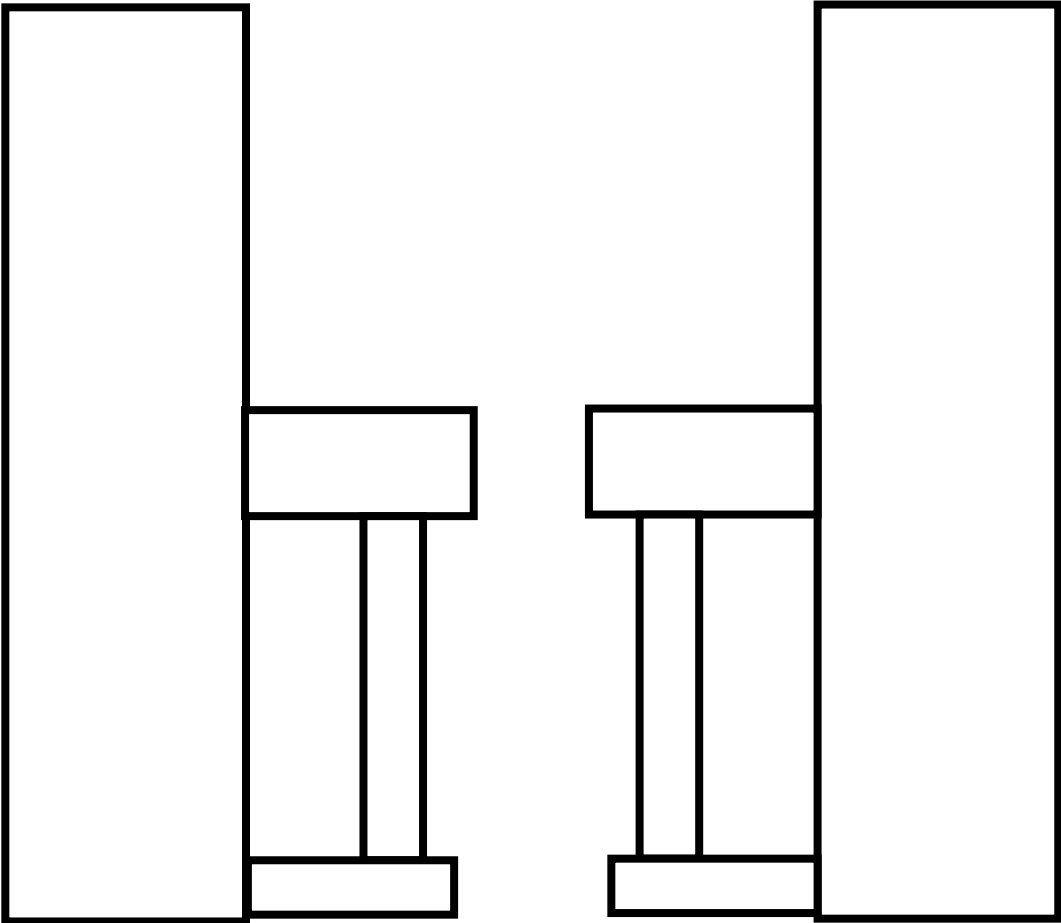
Top

TITLE: _____

DESCRIPTION/NARRATIVE: _____



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