



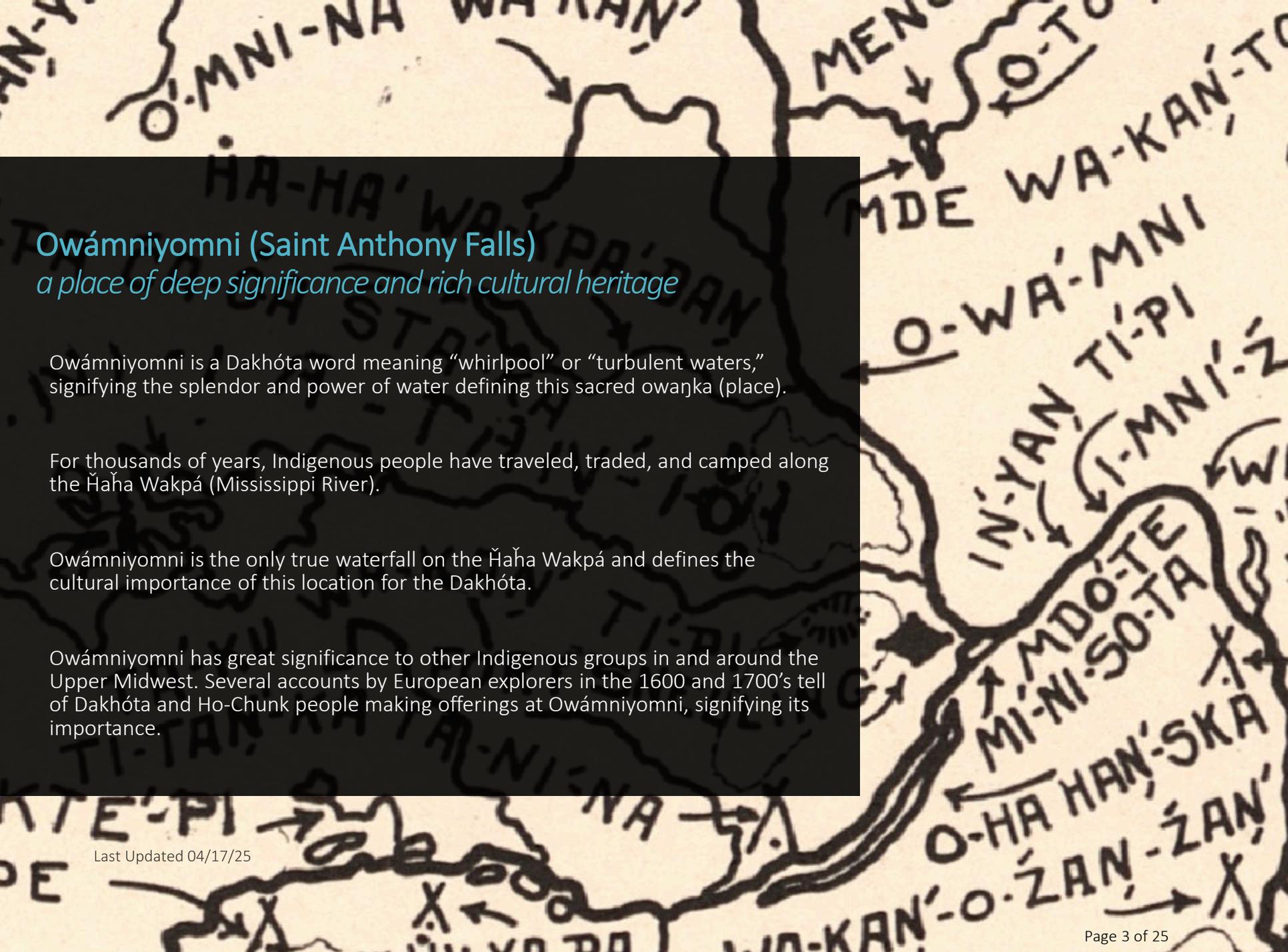
Call for Artists Public Art at Owámniyomni

Department of Arts & Cultural Affairs



What We Will Cover Today...

- Introductions
- Owámmniyomni
- Water Works Park
- Possible Art Opportunities
- Artist Compensation
- Artist Responsibilities
- Project Timeline
- Artist Eligibility
- How to Apply
- How Applications will be Reviewed
- Questions
- Tips
- Meeting Video and QA online



Owámniyomni (Saint Anthony Falls)

a place of deep significance and rich cultural heritage

Owámniyomni is a Dakhóta word meaning “whirlpool” or “turbulent waters,” signifying the splendor and power of water defining this sacred owaŋka (place).

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have traveled, traded, and camped along the Ĥaĥa Wakpá (Mississippi River).

Owámniyomni is the only true waterfall on the Ĥaĥa Wakpá and defines the cultural importance of this location for the Dakhóta.

Owámniyomni has great significance to other Indigenous groups in and around the Upper Midwest. Several accounts by European explorers in the 1600 and 1700’s tell of Dakhóta and Ho-Chunk people making offerings at Owámniyomni, signifying its importance.



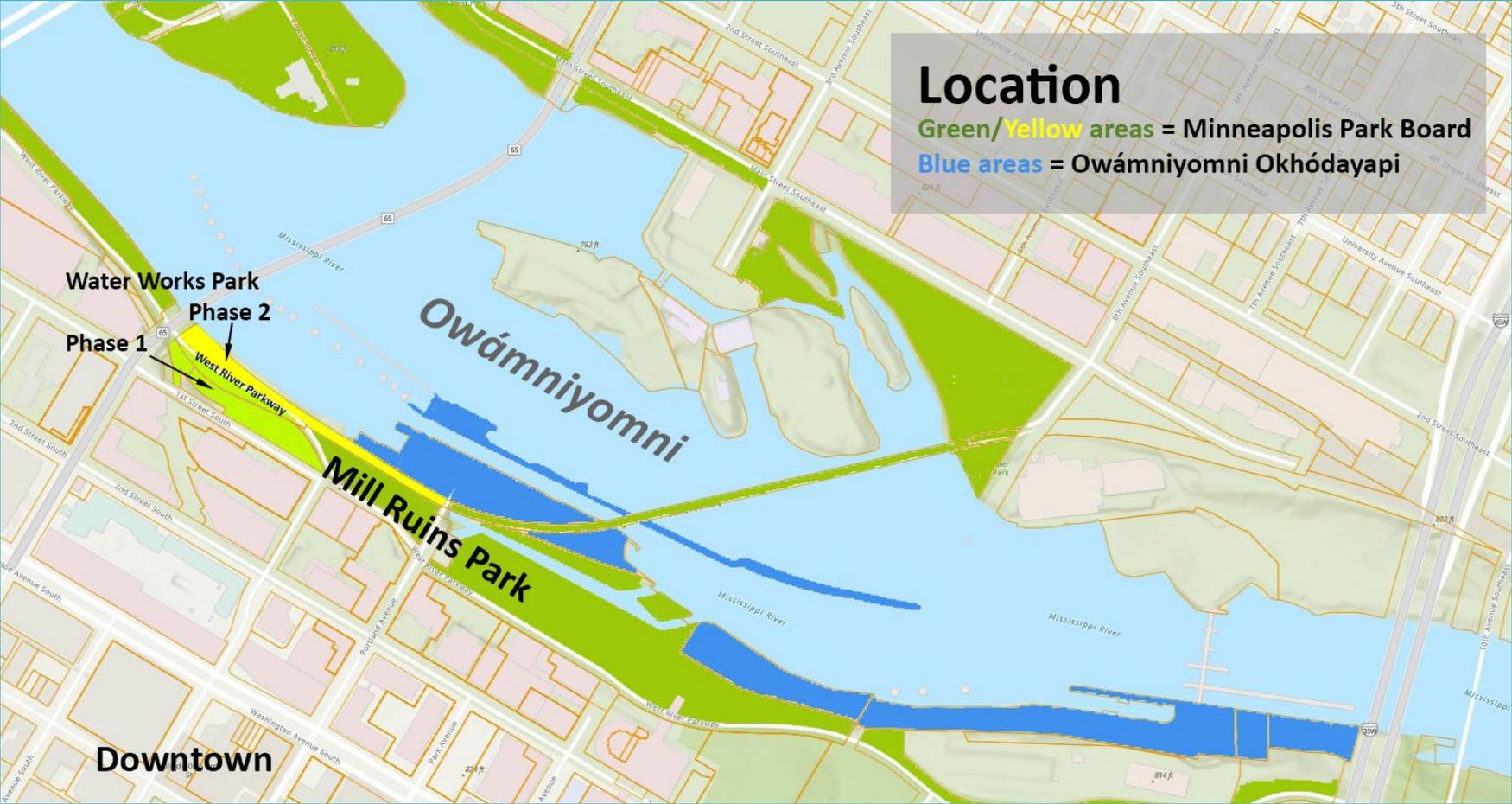
Colonization and Industrialization

- Despite this deep reverence for Owámniyomni, cataclysmic changes occurred with the onslaught of European expansion. With treaties, the Dakota Conflict, and mass execution of the Dakota 38 plus two along with Federal Indian Policies, the Dakota were exiled from the area and forced to give up their way of life.
- Industrialization dominated the riverbanks in the mid-19th century, and by 1880 Minneapolis was the flour milling capitol of the world. With industrialization came boat and barge traffic and in the early 1960's Wíta Naǵí (Spirit Island), a site sacred to the Dakhóta, was destroyed for construction of a lock and dam.

Reconstructing St. Anthony Falls, 1869. Oil painting, 1869. Painter: Peter Gui Clausen

Location

Green/Yellow areas = Minneapolis Park Board
Blue areas = Owámniyomni Okhódayapi



Water Works Park

Water Works Park

- Water Works at Mill Ruins Park is a segment of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) and part of the Central Mississippi Riverfront Regional Park. It overlooks Owámniyomni and Ĥaħa Wakpá.
- Its Phase 1 amenities include a pavilion, Owámni restaurant, a large seating and lawn area, gas fire pits, native plants and a playground
- Five acres of federal property next to the Park are expected to be transferred to Owámniyomni Okhódayapi (OO). MPRB and OO are exploring collaboration at Owámniyomni and a future expansion at Water Works Phase 2 on the river just south of the park
- This public art project could be integrated into Phase 1 or Phase 2



- We are seeking an artist/artist team with in-depth knowledge and understanding of Dakhóta and Indigenous histories, cultures and languages and deep connections to the Dakhóta community
- They will collaborate with the community to create permanent artwork for this site
- Artists will include stories, ideas and feedback from the Dakhóta community and the larger Indigenous urban community through engagement activities and one-on-one conversations
- There are opportunities for both a large-scale mural and free-standing sculptures to be created for this site.

Artwork Honoring Owámniyomni

Goals

RECOGNIZE
THE LASTING
RESILIENCY &
INFLUENCE OF
NATIVE PEOPLE

CULTIVATE
COLLABORATION
INCLUSIVITY &
SHARED STORIES

SUPPORT THE
GROWTH OF
NATIVE ARTISTS

CENTER DAKOTA
VALUES, STORIES
& VOICES

BUILD
COLLECTIVE
RELATIONSHIPS
TO LAND & WATER



Compensation for Finalists

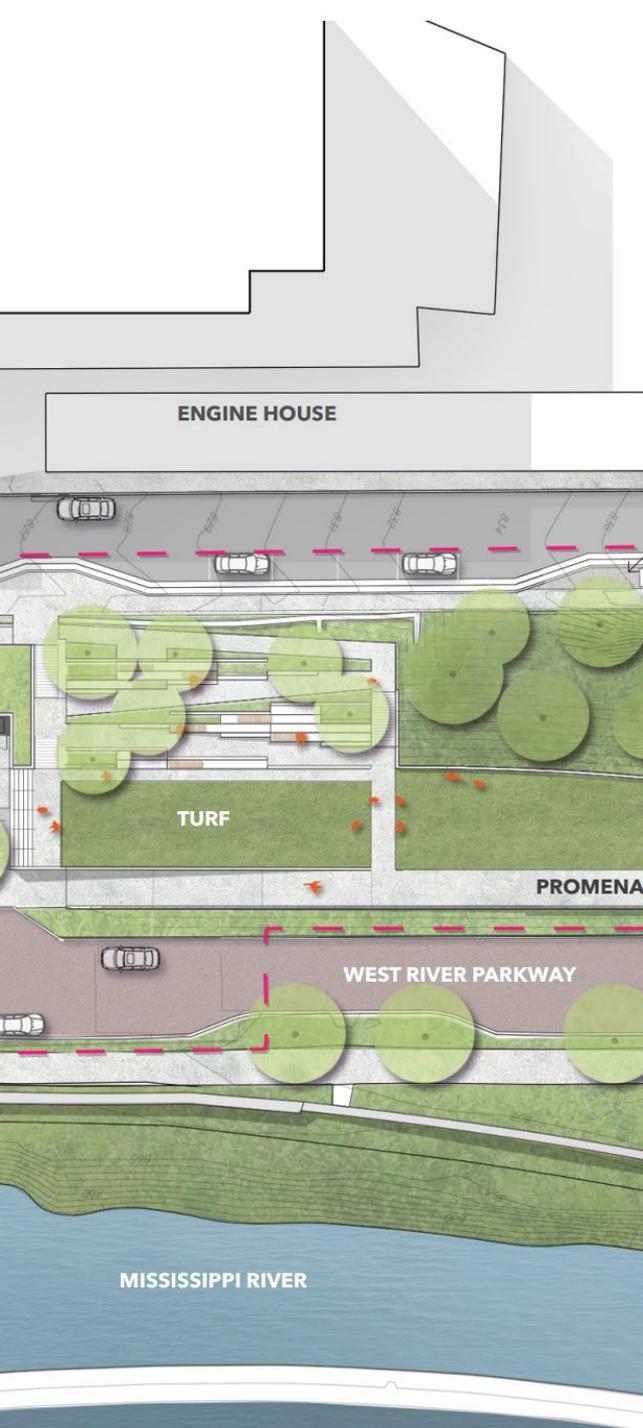
- Three to five finalists will be selected and will each receive a \$2,500 stipend to create one preliminary concept for the artwork.
- These concepts will provide the selection panel with an example of how the artist might approach the design and are not meant to be final designs.
- The actual designs will be developed in collaboration with the Dakota and larger Indigenous communities.

Compensation for Selected Artist Team

\$425,000 Budget includes -

- \$30,000 for the community engagement and design phase
- \$395,000 for the fabrication and installation phase
- This covers the artist/team's fees & expenses (including travel).
- A large portion of the budget will go to fabrication and installation costs.
- Contracts will define stages of completion and a payment schedule. The first contract for \$30,000 will cover only the community engagement and Design Phase. Fabrication and installation will be covered in a second contract.
- Compensation is based on submitting completed deliverables and not on number of hours worked.

Artist Responsibilities



- Engagement and Design, including developing an engagement plan, engaging communities, developing final drawings, and approvals.
- Communications and project management, including email and regular updates.
- Maintenance and fabrication including Design Review with a conservator, maintenance plan, fabrication of artwork or subcontract with others, subcontract with engineers and others as needed, and provide one-year warranty.
- Installation and site preparation, including coordinating delivery and installation of artwork, obtaining necessary insurance and permits, and restoring site after installation.
- Providing the City with permission to use the images for informational purposes and waiving VARA rights.
- Final high-quality documentation, including written documents and photos.

Timeline

April 8-22, 4pm CDT	Artist Informational Meetings
April 15	Posting of Meeting video on the website
April 23	Artist Assistance begins
May 14	Last day to email questions about the website or call
May 19	Answers to questions posted to the City's website
May 28, 4pmCST	APPLICATION DEADLINE
Week of June 23	Finalists notified
June 26 or 27	Finalist Informational Meeting
Week of July 21	Finalist Presentations Deadline and Interviews
Week of July 28	Selected Artist/artist team notified
Month of August	Contracting

Eligibility

- Artists residing in the United States and Canada
- Native American/American Indian/First Nations people are invited and encouraged to apply
- City of Minneapolis policy is to provide equal opportunities to all businesses, with an effort to address discrimination in the City's marketplace and in public contracting against Minority-Owned Business Enterprises and Women-Owned Business Enterprises
- Individual artists or teams, traditional and contemporary artists, and experienced and emerging artists may apply. Artist teams are strongly encouraged
- Artists do not need experience completing a public art project but should have the capacity to meet the project requirements with assistance from staff
- Artists must have in-depth knowledge and understanding of Dakhóta culture and language. They must have in-depth knowledge of Dakhóta relationships to Owámniyomni and Wíta Náǵi, and the land and water of the area
- Artists must have in-depth experience collaborating within the Dakhóta community
- Must be readily available during the timeline.

Eligibility continued

- Those under contract with the City or MPRB for art projects may not be eligible, depending on the timeline and schedule for those projects.
- Current City staff, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board staff and Minneapolis Arts Commissioners are not eligible.
- Open to practicing artists. Architectural, engineering and design firms; galleries; organizations; art consultants; fabricators and project managers are not eligible.
- Applications from Teams:
 - No restriction on the number of team members. *Small teams are recommended* to ensure simplicity in project coordination.
 - A lead artist must be identified in the application to be the main contact
 - The lead artist is the liaison and communicates between the team and City staff.
 - It is strongly recommended most members have previous experience working together as a team on at least one project. Additional team members may also be considered after beginning work on the project.



Indian Arts and Crafts Act

- Equal protection laws apply to all City contracting, which means the City cannot restrict contracting opportunities to members of a certain race or nationality or prioritize applicants from certain races or nationalities.
- To ensure that the selected artist is capable of honoring Owámniyomni, the City has included requirements that the artist must have “in-depth knowledge and understanding of Dakhóta culture and language,” “in-depth knowledge of Dakhóta relationships to this place, to its land and water, and history, including Owámniyomni and Wíta Náǵi,” and “in-depth experience collaborating within the Native American community.” The City’s evaluation criteria will focus on ensuring that the selected applicant has a deep and authentic relationship with the Dakhóta community.

Indian Arts and Crafts Act, continued

- The City is aware of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990, which governs the marketing of art and craft work as Indian produced, an Indian product, or the product of a particular Indian, Indian tribe, or Indian arts and crafts organization resident. As part of the City's application review, the evaluation criteria is whether an applicant is in compliance with this law (and other laws), and the City will not contract with applicants who are in violation of the law.
- How this works in practice: This selection process has two phases. In Phase 1, finalists are selected. In Phase 2, the finalists submit draft designs for an artwork. The selection panel reviews these draft designs and selects the final artist/artist team for the project. Finalists who indicate their design is an Indian Product will be required to document they comply with the requirements of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act.

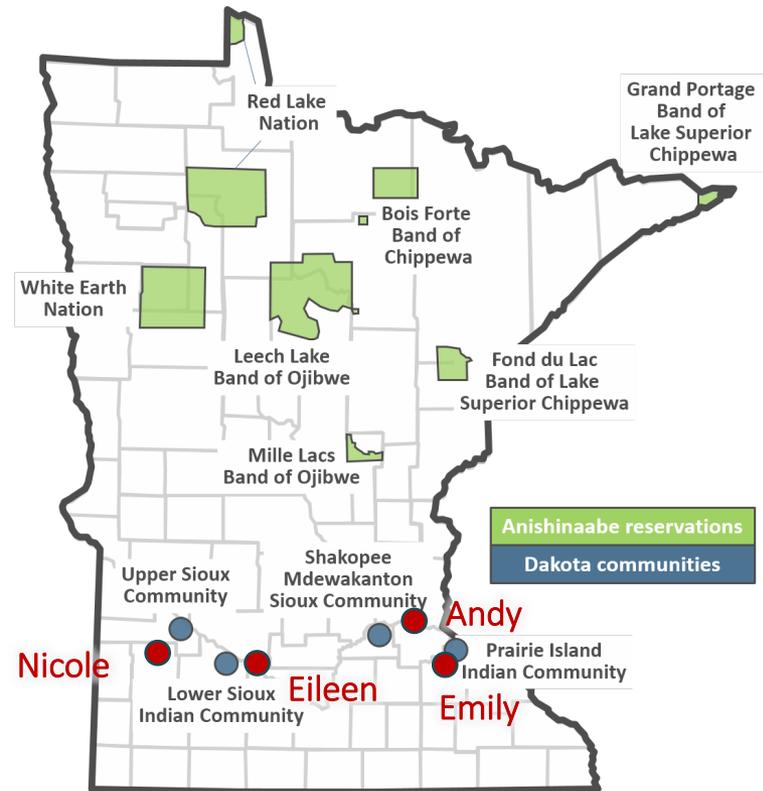
How to Apply

- **Attend the optional informational meetings:** To receive information about the meetings contact Lydia.FourHorns@minneapolismn.gov. A video of the April 8th meeting will be posted on the City's website.
- **Ask Questions:** Proposal questions should be submitted in email to Lydia.FourHorns@minneapolismn.gov by May 14 at 4pm CST.
- **Review the final posted questions and answers.** These will be posted on the City's website as an attachment to this Call for Artists by May 19, 2025. If you want to be on the weekly email list to receive questions asked and answers to date, email Lydia.Fourhorns@minneapolismn.gov
- **Complete the online application form by May 28, 4:00 pm:** This application includes answering questions, submitting a resume or bio, providing references, letters of recommendation and uploading artwork images. Handwritten or audio applications may be submitted upon request. Contact Lydia.Fourhorns@minneapolismn.gov

Getting Assistance

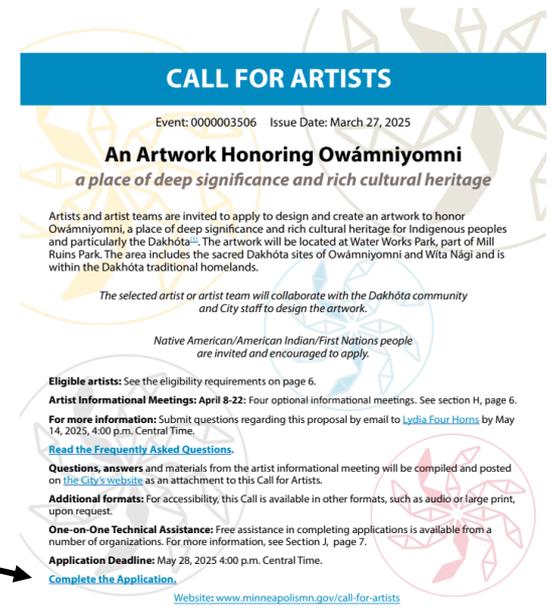
Optional: Contact one of these organizations to receive free assistance in developing your application.

- Nicole DeBoer, Executive Director, SW MN Arts Council, nicole@swmnarts.org.
- Andy Sturdevant, Artist Resources Manager, Springboard for the Arts, andy@springboardforthearts.org.
- Eileen O'Keefe, Executive Director, LSC Arts Incubator, eileen.okeefe@lowersioux.com.
- Emily Foos, Executive Director, Red Wing Arts/ Honoring Dakota Project, emily@redwingarts.org.



Creating an account and Logging into the application

1. Go to the Call for Artists at www.minneapolismn.gov/call-for-artists
2. Click on the application link
3. Click on **LoginToApplyNow**
4. Create a login on the application home page



CALL FOR ARTISTS

Event: 000003506 Issue Date: March 27, 2025

An Artwork Honoring Owámmiyomni
a place of deep significance and rich cultural heritage

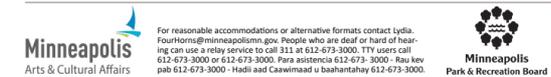
Artists and artist teams are invited to apply to design and create an artwork to honor Owámmiyomni, a place of deep significance and rich cultural heritage for Indigenous peoples and particularly the Dakhóta-. The artwork will be located at Water Works Park, part of Mill Ruins Park. The area includes the sacred Dakhóta sites of Owámmiyomni and Wita Nági and is within the Dakhóta traditional homelands.

The selected artist or artist team will collaborate with the Dakhóta community and City staff to design the artwork.

Native American/American Indian/First Nations people are invited and encouraged to apply.

Eligible artists: See the eligibility requirements on page 6.
Artist Informational Meetings: April 8-22: Four optional informational meetings. See section H, page 6.
For more information: Submit questions regarding this proposal by email to Lydia.Four.Horns by May 14, 2025, 4:00 p.m. Central Time.
[Read the Frequently Asked Questions.](#)
Questions, answers and materials from the artist informational meeting will be compiled and posted on [the City's website](#), as an attachment to this Call for Artists.
Additional formats: For accessibility, this Call is available in other formats, such as audio or large print, upon request.
One-on-One Technical Assistance: Free assistance in completing applications is available from a number of organizations. For more information, see Section J, page 7.
Application Deadline: May 28, 2025 4:00 p.m. Central Time.
[Complete the Application.](#)

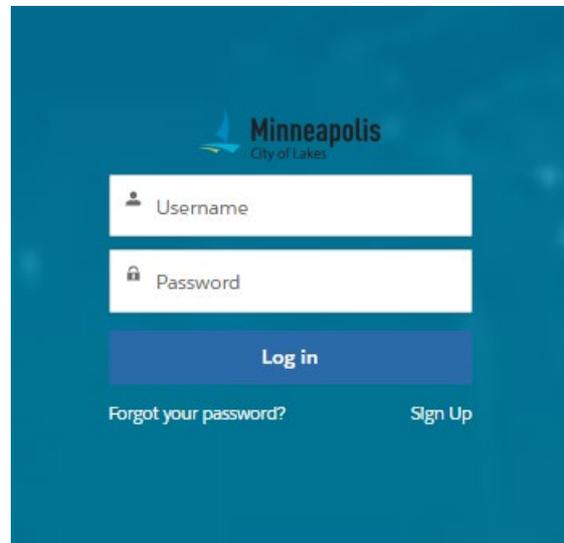
Website: www.minneapolismn.gov/call-for-artists



Minneapolis Arts & Cultural Affairs

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats contact Lydia.FourHorns@minneapolismn.gov. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-3000 or 612-673-3000. Para asistencia 612-673-3000 - Rau kev pab 612-673-3000 - Hathi ad Caawimaad u bashaahatay 612-673-3000.

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board



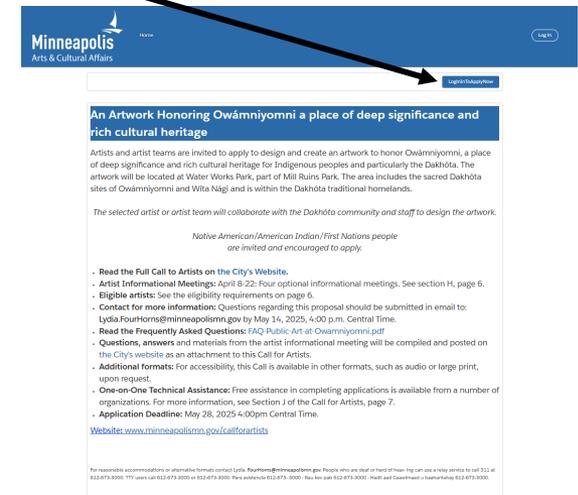
Minneapolis City of Lakes

Username

Password

Log in

Forgot your password? Sign Up



Minneapolis Arts & Cultural Affairs

[LoginToApplyNow](#)

An Artwork Honoring Owámmiyomni a place of deep significance and rich cultural heritage

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The selected artist or artist team will collaborate with the Dakhóta community and staff to design the artwork.

Native American/American Indian/First Nations people are invited and encouraged to apply.

- Read the Full Call to Artists on the City's Website.
- Artist Informational Meetings: April 8-22: Four optional informational meetings. See section H, page 6.
- Eligible artists: See the eligibility requirements on page 6.
- Contact for more information: Questions regarding this proposal should be submitted in email to: Lydia.FourHorns@minneapolismn.gov by May 14, 2025, 4:00 p.m. Central Time.
- Read the Frequently Asked Questions: [FAQ Public Art at Owámmiyomni.pdf](#)
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What to Submit

The online application form includes:

- answering questions
- submitting a resume or bio
- providing references and letters of recommendation
- uploading images of artworks

Handwritten or audio applications may be submitted upon request.

From Protecting the Generations, Marlena Myles



How will Applications Be Reviewed

Review Criteria: The Artist Selection Panel will review and evaluate applications based on the following (note: bullets are examples of ways artists might meet the criteria and are not requirements);

Center Dakhóta Values, Stories and Voices

- Does the artist/artist team have demonstrated Wósdóya (knowledge) of Dakhóta traditions, history and present culture?
- Has the artist/artist team done previous projects that engage people in a manner that is consistent with Dakhóta values and traditions?
- Does the artist's/artists' artwork show an understanding of Native/Dakhóta values, imagery

Recognize the Lasting Resiliency and Influence of Native Tuwáwa (People)

- Does the artist/artist team have an authentic connection with the Dakhóta community?
- Does the artist/artist team's previous work honor Dakhóta tuwáwa (people) and traditions as part of contemporary culture?



Review Criteria, continued

Build Collective Relationships to Makoče (Land) and (Mní) Water

- Familiarity with Owámniyomni including the history, identity, landscape, water and culture.
- A deep and authentic connection to Owámniyomni.

Cultivate Collaboration, Inclusivity and Shared Success

- Capacity to design meaningful and engaging artwork for the community.
- Capacity to engage the Native/Dakhóta community in expressing, celebrating, exploring or sharing their culture(s).
- Previous collaborative work with the Native/Dakhóta community and with other Native/Dakhóta artists.
- Previous work has brought people together to learn and understand Native stories, history and culture.

Support the Growth of Artists

- Demonstrates a commitment to a regular creative practice.
- Professional standing in their field (i.e. has exhibited in a gallery or museum).
- Willingness and interest in being mentored in public art.

An independent selection panel will include people with the following:

- Strong Wósdódya (knowledge) of Dakhóta stories, iyápi (language) and culture.
- Strong knowledge of traditional and contemporary Native art and culture.
- Strong knowledge of stories, history, water, landscape and plantings of the area around Owámniyomni.
- Strong connections to Native communities and tuwáwa (people), particularly the communities with a connection to Owámniyomni.

Artist Selection Panel

TIPS

Overall

- Direct your questions to the designated staff member; do not reach out to other staff or project affiliates.
- Read the submission guidelines carefully.
- Ask your questions before May 14. We cannot answer questions after that date.

Applications

- Do not send links to applications through Dropbox or any other file transfer programs.
- Do not email proposals to staff.
- Make sure you submit exactly what is requested.
- No videos, weblinks or outside information are accepted.

QUESTIONS

- Contact - Lydia Four Horns, Project Manager, LydiaFourHorns@minneapolismn.gov
- April 15, Informational Meeting Video from April 8 meeting will be posted on the City's website.
- May 19, the Questions and Answers will be available at:
- <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/call-for-artists>