

Prior to the end of the legislative session, the legislature passed an act authorizing the work to place an artistic suffragist memorial. Today we will meet to discuss the location of that artwork. We also hope to review with the committee the draft RFP the committee is working on.

Presenters: Dr Marlene Merrill and Lucille King

## **PUBLIC ART REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

### **League Women Voters Kansas, American Association of University Women, and Capitol Preservation**

**Description:** Suffragist Memorial Committee is seeking professional artists or artist teams to develop innovative, original art to be incorporated as part of the new display at the Kansas State Capitol building.

#### **Background**

We want to honor the role that Kansas women have played in the formation of our State. Statewide we have been celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution, granting women suffrage. It is our goal to commemorate these Kansas women who had statewide and national impact or importance in achieving women's right to vote. We have identified historic Kansas women from across the state to inspire artist's creativity. It is our wish that this public art evoke inspiration about our Kansas past, educate people about important Kansas women, and be relevant, e.g., pass on our values to the next generation.

Our Centennial program in 2020 included a traveling exhibit about these women. The traveling exhibit was so successful that we would like to have a permanent memorial and believe the state Capitol would be the perfect site.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

We want a Kansas artist. The Kansas Creative Arts Commission artist lists will initially be used to contact Kansas artists. The opportunity to compete for this project is open to all professional artists, age 18 and over, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, sexual identity, or physical or mental disability. Interested local and regional artists are strongly encouraged to submit their qualifications.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

The selection panel will comprise arts professionals familiar with the field of public art and community members. The panel will review proposals and select a small group of finalists for interviews.

Using a list 13 notable Kansas women identified by the Kansas Historical Society, several who made lasting contributions to women's rights were selected. These diverse women represented first women mayor, first women legislator, and advocates for women to vote, etc.

The criteria used by the panel will include:

- Artistic quality, innovation, and originality
- Reflect the diversity of women involved in suffrage,
- Innovation and originality,
- Professional public art experience,
- Sensitivity to the site,
- Intellectual expression,
- Public education.

## **SUBMISSIONS**

Interested artists should enter and submit their application materials.

- 1. A letter of interest** outlining your approach to public art and insights regarding your interest in making art for this project. Include what you bring to the project as an artist; challenges and/or sources of inspiration presented by the project; what you would hope to gain from this experience.
- 2. A professional resume/CV**, including professional references and their contact information.
- 3. An annotated image list**, including thumbnail images, of past works in a PDF format that clearly indicates the title, dimensions, materials, date of work, and locations.
- 4. A proposal for current project.** Please indicate title and description of the art, dimensions, materials, cost estimate, and timeline to complete.