

**CALL TO ARTISTS  
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS  
CAPITOL VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY  
Artwork for Interior – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Submission Deadline: MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018 BY 2:00 P.M. EST  
Award Amount: \$12,000**

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**Introduction**

The District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL) is seeking professional proposals from local artists or artist teams for the design and fabrication permanent work of public art for the interior of the renovated Capitol View Neighborhood Library, 5001 Central Avenue, SE, Washington, DC.

**Project Overview**

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The Capitol View Neighborhood Library, a 20,000-square-foot brick-and-concrete building, which opened in 1965, was the culmination of 10 years of work on behalf of the Capitol View community. It is located on a site in Southeast Washington that is bounded by Central Avenue on the north, 50<sup>th</sup> Street on the west, and Ayers Place on the south.

The Capitol View community straddles East Capitol Street east of the Anacostia River, in Washington's far northeast and southeast quadrants. Capitol View takes its name from the fact that the U.S. Capitol can be seen in its distant western view.

Capitol View is one of the few communities in Washington developed for African Americans by African Americans. An African American businessman, John Whitelaw Lewis, along with

Capitol View Realty Company, began developing a subdivision for African American families in the area between 49th, Blaine, 54th Streets and Central Avenue in the 1920's.

By the 1950's Capitol View grew to be everything within a triangular shaped area bound roughly by Blaine Street to the north, Southern Avenue on the east, and Central Avenue on the south to 47th Street.

As the population grew and the neighborhood became established, the citizens of the area, including the Capitol View Civic Association, the Marshall Heights Civic Association and members of the local PTA, petitioned the Library for a location. The building was designed by E.W. Cooke, with D.C.'s Office of the Supervising Architect, and funded under the D.C. Public Works Program in 1961/62. The new Library opened on January 23, 1965. Edward James Talbert served as the first branch librarian, with an eleven-person staff. The branch's initial collection had 24,438 volumes, with a \$19,000 book budget for the first year. The branch recorded a daily circulation of approximately 500 books in its first five days of operation.

The Capitol View community has always had a deep and rich culture of churches and placed a premium on families and education. The area continues to be over 90% African-American.

As part of the DC Public Library's ongoing transformation of the physical campus, the Capitol View Neighborhood Library was selected for renovation as part of the FY18 budget, due to aging of facilities systems and to realize better use of space for residents.

The renovation of the Capitol View Neighborhood Library has been a phased process: Phase One, the interior renovation, was completed in October 2017. The interior improvements include:

- Improved entrance into the building
- Expanded space, including more space for children, adults and teens
- Upgrades to the heating, air conditioning and electrical systems
- New computer training lab with 12 computers
- New windows
- More meeting and study spaces in varying sizes
- New, larger elevator
- New furniture, carpet and fixtures
- Environmentally friendly design

Phase two, the exterior renovation, began in September 2018. The goals of the exterior renovation are to:

- Create a sense of arrival
- Re-make the facade of the building
- Reconnect the site to the neighborhood

The Library will reopen in early 2019. To learn more about the renovations, including several summaries of community input received, please visit [dclibrary.org/capviewrenovation](https://dclibrary.org/capviewrenovation).

## Project Goals

To further enhance the newly renovated DCPL branch and contribute to a dynamic neighborhood, DCPL is seeking to commission a work of art, to be hung on a wall in the children's area on the second floor, that achieves the following goals:

- Create a vibrant, inspirational and welcoming piece of art that complements the interior design of the building.
- Contribute to an inviting community space with engaging art to promote frequent visits and increase community ownership and investment in the Library.
- Respond to the community's desire for artwork at the Library that reflects their neighborhood and community.
- Foster an emotional connection with visitors, particularly young children and their parents and caregivers, who will frequent that area of the library.

## Artwork Specifications

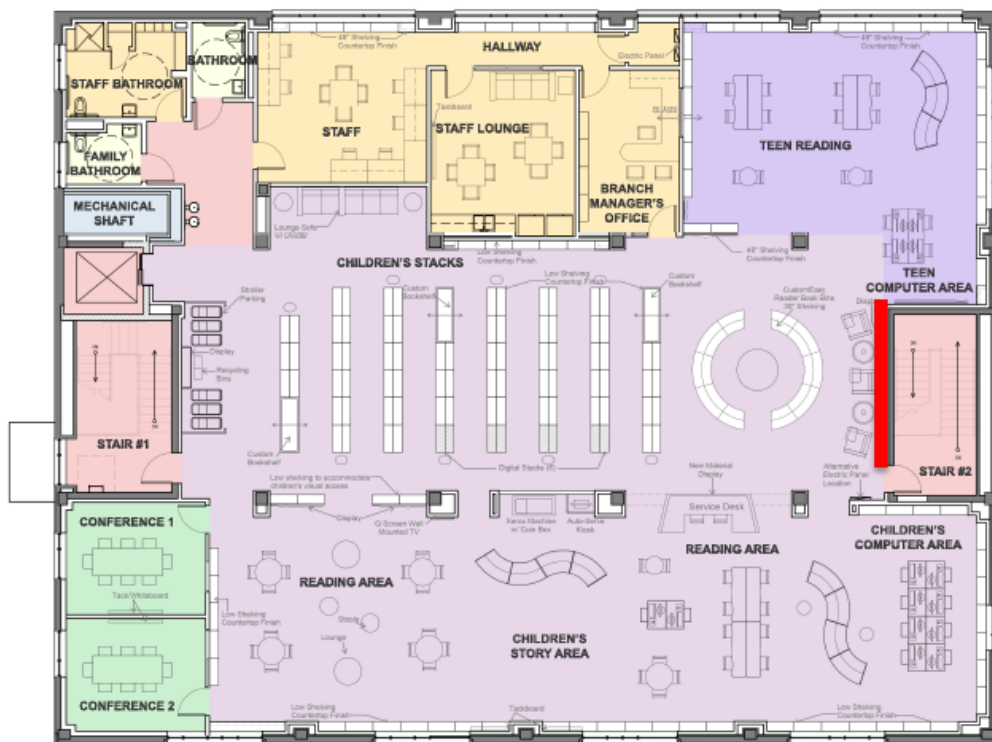
Due to safety and environmental concerns for the building, applicants should adhere to the following when developing proposal(s):

- Artwork must be highly durable, sustainable and low maintenance.
- Artwork must have a minimum five (5) year lifespan.

## Site Location & Artwork Footprint

The proposed artwork will be sited on the second floor, on a wall directly above the two round early literacy book bins, on the wall abutting Stair #2, identified with a red line in the drawing below. The wall is approximately 11' tall and 14' wide. The selected artwork will be horizontally oriented, approximately 4-5' tall and 8' wide.

A site visit is possible and encouraged – please contact Ryan McCoy at [ryan.mccoy2@dc.gov](mailto:ryan.mccoy2@dc.gov) to arrange for a time.



## **Budget**

The budget for design and fabrication is \$12,000. The budget is inclusive of all artist design fees and costs associated with design, fabrication, insurance, and a contingency.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

This RFP is open to all artists, designers, and art/design teams aged 18 or older. While US citizenship is not required, the lead artist/designer must have a social security number or Federal Tax ID (EIN) in order to receive payment.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

The DC Public Library will conduct a thorough review of applications based on the evaluation criteria below. The contract shall be awarded to the responsible Contractor whose offer is most advantageous to DCPL based upon that criteria. Thus, while the points in the evaluation criteria indicate their relative importance, the total scores shall not necessarily be determinative of the award. Rather, the total scores shall guide DCPL in making an intelligent award decision based upon the evaluation criteria.

## **APPLICATION DETAILS FOR RFP – Due MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. EST**

- Name, Address, Phone, Email Address, and (optional) Website of artist or team leader.
- Statement of Interest. Please answer the following prompts (250-500 words each):
  - a. Describe your artistic approach and how this opportunity furthers your artistic practice.
  - b. Describe your connection to the Capitol View neighborhood and/or D.C. generally, and how this project will demonstrate this connection.
- Artist or Team Biography (250 words) highlighting relevant credentials and experience, especially projects in Ward 7, Washington, DC and/or the Capitol View neighborhood.
- Resume (Teams should include all resumes in a single PDF).
- Five (5) Work Samples (high-quality JPGs). Samples should reflect capacity for this opportunity with the majority of projects completed in the last five years.
- Image Script.
- OPTIONAL: Up to six (6) items of support material (e.g. publicity, letters of support, programs, awards, etc.)

Please submit your proposal via Submittable at this link:

<https://dclibrary.submittable.com/submit/130699/interior-art-at-the-capitol-view-neighborhood-library>

Submissions are due by 2:00 p.m. on Monday, December 31, 2018. Upon finalizing your application, please email [Diane.Wooden2@dc.gov](mailto:Diane.Wooden2@dc.gov) to alert her that your submission has been entered.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

The Contractor shall respond to the following Evaluation Factors:

Evaluation Factors	Points
<b>Factor 1 - Artistic Quality</b>  Level of excellence demonstrated in previous work samples, including overall coherence, clarity, and visual impact; innovation; emotional impact; accessibility to a broad audience.	<b>25</b>
<b>Factor 2 – Demonstrated Professional Accomplishment in Chosen Field</b>  Including exhibition history, awards, honors, and publications, demonstrated proficiency and technical knowledge of the medium(s) in which the artist regularly works, and aptitude for planning and collaboration with partners as indicated by past project information.	<b>25</b>
<b>Factor 3 - Proposed Artistic and Public Engagement Approach</b>  Including demonstrated understanding of project goals as reflected in statement of interest.	<b>25</b>
<b>Factor 4 - Connection of Past Work to D.C. Culture and/or History</b>  Including potential for resonance with local communities and experience working on projects related to D.C. culture/community/heritage.	<b>25</b>
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

December 11, 2018	RFQ released
December 18, 2018	Questions Due
December 21, 2018	Response to Questions Posted
December 31, 2018	RFQ Closes
January 2-7, 2019	Applications reviewed by review panel + community advisors; Finalist announced
Mid February, 2019	Fabrication & Installation