



Percent for Art Call for Artists Olney Recreation Center



Project Budget: \$185,000

Deadline for Submissions: EXTENDED to August 19, 2022

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
Jim Kenney, Mayor**

**OFFICE OF ARTS, CULTURE AND THE CREATIVE ECONOMY
Kelly Lee, Chief Cultural Officer
Marguerite Anglin, Public Art Director**

**REBUILD PHILADELPHIA
Kira Strong, Executive Director**

Project Overview:

The City of Philadelphia's Percent for Art Program and Rebuild announce a competition to commission a site-specific, community driven public artwork for the Olney Recreation Center, which is a Rebuild construction project consisting of a new recreation center building, playground areas tailored to different age groups, updates to the outdoor playing fields, new lit walking paths, as well as ADA accessibility updates. The Olney Recreation Center represents the largest Rebuild project to date. The public art opportunity is to create an innovative sculptural or three-dimensional art installation on a portion of the exterior site wall near the facility, along E. Spencer Street. The goal of this project is to commission a public art piece that is a true reflection of the people, culture, and community of Olney. Artists should consider durable materials appropriate for exterior application **other** than paint-only and are encouraged to interpret what an art wall application could be, **beyond** the typical painted mural.

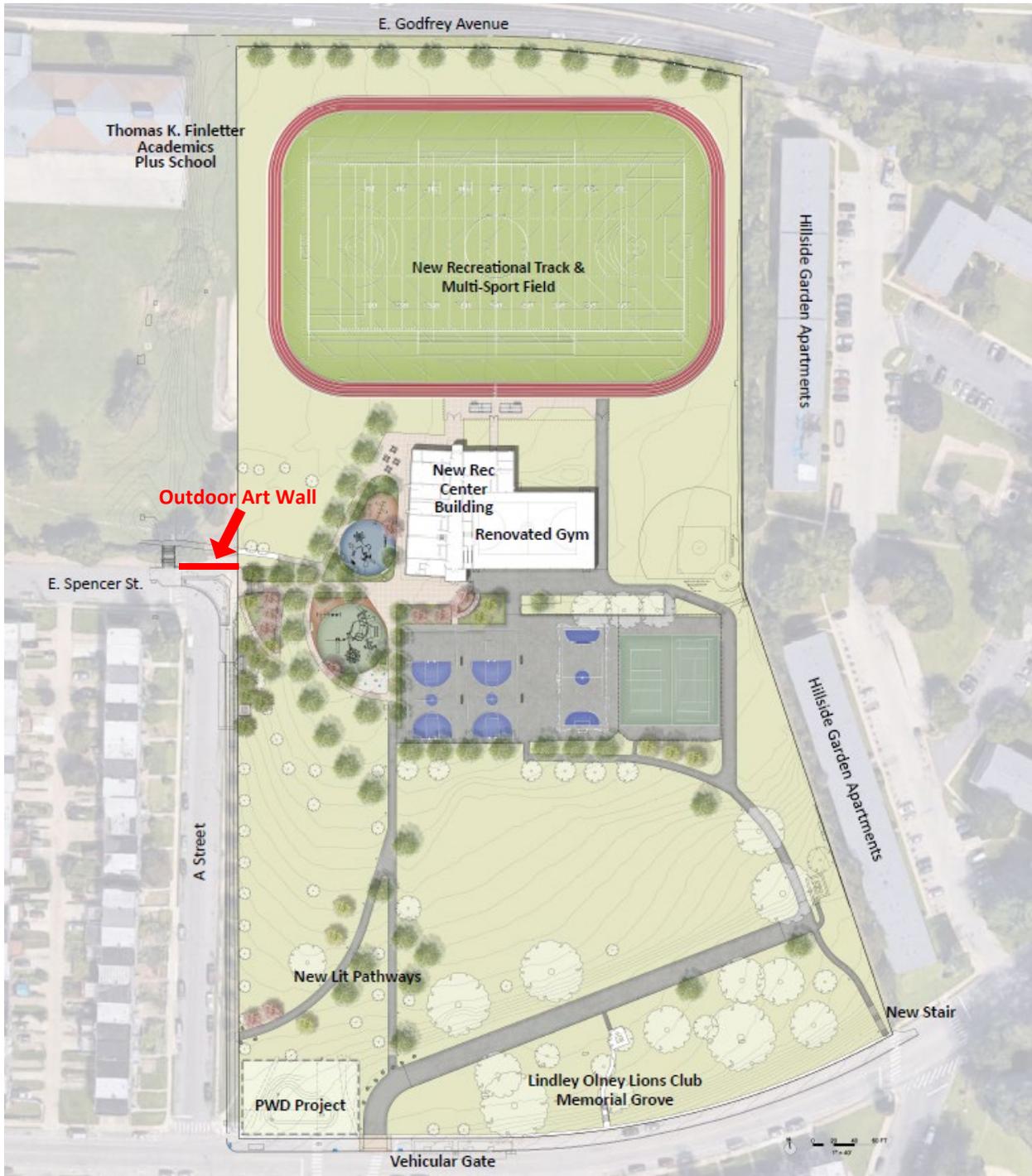
The City of Philadelphia's Percent for Art Program encourages Artists who live or work in the local community around the Olney Recreation Center to propose works that respond directly to the characteristics of the specified site. Local artists will be prioritized for this opportunity, but any artist may apply. Priority will also be given to artists who reflect the diversity of the community and who propose to work in collaboration with community members. **Minority and female artists are strongly encouraged to apply.**

Community input is a priority for this project and artist teams will be encouraged to work with the public to align their proposal with the desires and feedback from the community. A Public Input Meeting for Semi-Finalists will be held to allow artists to hear directly from members of the Olney community who wish to share their ideas and aspirations about this project.

Location and Site Description:

The location for this public art opportunity is an exterior concrete retaining wall near the Olney Recreation Center building. The retaining wall is very visible at street level and serves as a visual entry point for the site, since the recreation center building is set back from the street and hidden by trees and landscaping. The wall is located at the intersection of A Street and Spencer Street and can be seen from over a block away by pedestrians and cars approaching the recreation center from A Street. The purpose of this public art commission will be to create a dynamic and inviting art installation that signifies a point of arrival to the Olney Recreation center and reflects the values of the Olney community.

The portion of the retaining wall that will receive the art installation is approximately 10ft high x 66' long, totaling 660sqft of area, and is currently painted red. Artists will need to consider preparation of the concrete wall surface to be included in the artist's scope, such as paint stripping, wall repair, or resurfacing to make the surface ready for the artist's wall treatment. Artists will also need to consider the existing exterior lighting conditions, and how the wall treatment will be visible or illuminated at night. The depth of the sculptural artwork/wall application should not be more than 4 inches total from the surface of the retaining wall and should not obstruct use of the sidewalk to comply with A.D.A. regulations.



Site plan drawing of Olney Recreation Center with outdoor wall marked in red



Outdoor wall dimensions: 10ft high x 66ft long



Site photo of exterior Olney Percent for Art wall location (Spencer and A Streets)



View from southwest entrance of new Olney Recreation Center building. Renderings courtesy of Kelly Maiello Architects. (Note: image shown for context, art wall not shown in this view).

Percent for Art Process:

One artist or artist team will be selected for the commission through a two-part application process. Artists or artist teams competing for the commission must demonstrate the ability to create original works of art that are engaging and convey a positive visual experience. Examples of past artwork should be indicative of the artist's or artist team's aesthetic, craftsmanship, and overall appropriateness for an outdoor site. After a review of all applications, a selected number of artists or artist teams will prepare and present a full proposal for site-specific work of art. A finalist will be chosen to proceed with the next round of review and prepare a presentation to the [Philadelphia Art Commission](#) for final approval. Once an artist or artist team receives approval from the Art Commission, the artist or artist team will enter into a contract with the City of Philadelphia to proceed with the fabrication and integration of their work onto the site.

This **Call for Artists** is Part 1 of the Percent for Art Process for the Olney Recreation Center project. In Part 1, three to five (3-5) Semi-Finalists will be selected by the Percent for Art Committee (Committee) comprised of community members, residents, local arts and culture professionals, representatives from the Design team, Project User-Antoine-Johnson, PHMC, Olney Recreation Center staff, and representatives of OACCE, Rebuild, and Philadelphia City Council offices. There will an Artist's informational meeting on June 24, 2022 to provide background on the project and application. All interested artists are strongly encouraged to attend.

In Part 2, **Semi-Finalist Proposal**, Semi-Finalists will attend a mandatory pre-proposal meeting to discuss specific details about the site opportunity and learn of the required materials to include in their proposal for a site-specific artwork for the exterior wall at Olney Recreation Center. Semi-Finalists will participate in community engagement conversations and work with the public to align their proposal with the desires and feedback from the community. Semi-Finalists will receive a stipend of \$1000 to develop their proposals. Upon notice, all Semi-Finalists are required to sign the Artist Terms of Agreement form attached. **Note** this is separate from the contract that will be signed by the selected Finalist.

One Semi-Finalist's proposal will be selected by the Percent for Art Committee. The selected Finalist is expected to work with OACCE and the Olney design team on technical concerns to ensure the full integration of the artwork into the site design. During this design development stage, the selected Finalist may be required to make aesthetic and technical revisions and adjustments to their design to conform the art concept to the site. The artist is expected to make these changes prior to presenting to the Art Commission for final approval.

A total budget of up to \$185,000 has been allocated for this Percent for Art commission. This sum is inclusive of all artist(s) fees, renderings, insurance, fabrication, installation, travel, and all other project related expenses.

Eligibility:

This competition is open to artists and artist teams from the Greater Philadelphia region. Artists who live or work in the local community around the Olney Recreation Center will be prioritized but any artist may apply. Priority will be given to artists who reflect the diversity of the community and who propose to work in collaboration with community members.

Minority and female artists are strongly encouraged to apply. The City of Philadelphia reserves the right to determine additional artist eligibility requirements.

Notification of Results:

All artists that applied will be notified via email of their selection status. Artists that are selected as Semi-Finalists to move on to Part 2 of the Percent for Art process will confirm

their interest and receive a \$1000 stipend to cover the costs of producing their written and visual proposal including images, models, renderings, or other materials.

Semi-Finalists must attend three (3) mandatory meetings:

- the Pre-Proposal Meeting on week of September 12, 2022, with the Olney Percent for Art Committee where the artists will be informed in detail of the necessary proposal materials to submit and may ask questions of the Committee and;
- a Community Engagement event the week of September 18, 2022, to gather input and ideas from members of the public
- the Proposal Selection Day on week of January 9, 2023, when presentations of the artists' proposals are made to the Committee

Contract Award:

Upon final approval by the Philadelphia Art Commission, the artist selected will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Philadelphia prior to commencing with fabrication and installation of the proposed artwork. No selection shall be deemed final until the proposal has been fully approved and an agreement is properly executed by the selected applicant and the City. Changes to the proposal may be required and/or requested by the City at any stage of the process. If a proposal is not selected from the group of Semi-Finalists, the City reserves the right to return to the original group of teams who responded to this Call for Artists or otherwise solicit proposals. The City of Philadelphia reserves the right to change, modify, or revise the Call for Artists in part or whole, at any time without prior notice. The City of Philadelphia reserves the right to make no selection for this Call for Artists. An example contract is attached and is expected to be reviewed by all applicants. The selected artist must meet the Insurance and other requirements listed in the contract. If candidates have any questions or requests for changes to the contract, these should be raised prior to submitting their art proposals.

Call for Artist Application:

Percent for Art Project Timeline Milestones *WITH UPDATED DATES**

Activity	Date
Call for Artist opens	Jun. 17, 2022
Non-Mandatory Artist Info Meeting RSVP HERE	Jun. 24, 2022
Questions to OACCE about the project are due	Jun. 29, 2022
Question & Answers are posted on CreativePHL.org	Jul. 8, 2022
Call for Artists Submission Deadline EXTENDED	Aug. 19, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
Semi-Finalists are notified	Sept. 9, 2022
Pre-proposal Meeting with Semi-Finalists to Review Proposal Format (this is mandatory for Semi-Finalists)	Week of Sept. 12, 2022
Public Input Meeting with the Community and Semi-Finalists (this is mandatory for Semi-Finalists)	Week of Sept. 18, 2022, date TBD
All Proposal materials due	Oct. 26, 2022
Community Engagement Period	November - December 2022
Changes to All Proposal materials deadline	Jan. 9, 2023
Semi-Finalists Presentations to the Committee	Week of Jan. 9, 2023
Finalist is notified	Jan. 18, 2023
Design Development Phase (note this timeframe may vary)	January - February 2023
Finalist presents to the Art Commission for Review	March - April 2023
Contract with Finalist Finalized	April - September 2023
Site work/fabrication starts	Fall 2023-Spring 2024

Project Completion and dedication	Spring 2024
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**Schedule may change.*

Application Requirements:

OACCE collects applications and materials through the Submittable platform, which requires all first-time users to create a free account. The following must be submitted through the online application form found on CreativePHL.org/public-art/percent-for-art/

1. Artist(s) Info: Name, Address, Phone, Email, Website, Demographic information
2. Resumé or Artist Bio
3. Artist Statement
4. Response to question: **Why does this Percent for Art opportunity interest you?**
5. Response to question: **How can you creatively engage the community through public art at the Olney Recreation Center?**
6. Response to question: **What experience do you have with engaging the public or with a community into your work? Why is including public input important for public art?**
7. Response to question: **How can your public art positively impact the community's experience of the Olney Recreation Center?**
8. Response to question: **Do you have a personal experience or connection to the Olney community or Olney Recreation Center? How would this connection lead to creating a successful work of art?**
9. Five to ten (5-10) visual, relevant work samples such as jpgs, pngs, or other acceptable file of your previous artwork
10. Image Identification List that includes artwork Title, Year, Materials, Dimensions, Location, Project Budget/Commission Amount

If you need application assistance, please contact Stephanie Fuentes at Stephanie.Fuentes@phila.gov at least 7 days prior to the deadline.

Attachments:

- Sample Contract between Final Artist and City of Philadelphia
- Sample Artist Semi-Finalist Agreement/Acknowledgement Form

About:

Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy

The Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy (OACCE) closes the gap in access to the arts for all Philadelphians and is committed to equitable support of culture and creativity throughout the city's neighborhoods. OACCE supports free cultural programming; creates opportunities for local artists and creative organizations; connects Philadelphians to quality arts experiences; and preserves the City's public art assets.

The Percent for Art Program was started in Philadelphia 60 years ago and requires that one percent of the budget of a City-funded construction project is designated for site-specific public art. Philadelphia's Percent for Art Program is a model that has been replicated in cities across the country, reflecting the importance of having art in our public spaces and in our daily lives.

Percent for Art commissions beautiful and enduring artworks, which reflect the diversity of Philadelphia's residents and visitors, its rich cultural landscape, its many histories and the variety of public spaces in Philadelphia's communities.

ReBuild Philadelphia

Rebuild is a historic investment of hundreds of millions of dollars in neighborhood parks, recreation centers and libraries across Philadelphia. Proposed in Mayor Jim Kenney's first budget as a part of his vision for a more equitable Philadelphia, Rebuild's promise to acknowledge history, engage the community, and invest intentionally, seeks to uplift pivotal community spaces, empower neighborhoods, and promote economic opportunity through diversity and inclusion.

If you need application assistance, please contact Stephanie Fuentes at Stephanie.Fuentes@phila.gov at least 7 days prior to the deadline.