

InSITE 2020 Questions & Answers

1. For the downtown proposals, I wonder if it is possible to get a list from the city of sites they consider most neglected, in transition (maybe slated for future demolition?), or interested in a temporary art piece... Knowing if a certain wall might be available really helps create a more tailored proposal. Maybe there are certain structures that are scheduled to come down in 18 months or more but would be perfect for temporary works. I have friends in Chicago and other cities who create a lot of pieces on structures that will be demolished or renovated for insurance in the fall so the artist gets to reimagine it in the spring, and all summer everyone gets treated to something outlandish whether that be an abandoned new stand, back of an apartment building facing the train, or an office lobby whose long term lease is up.
 - For the first phase of submissions, we are not looking for a tailored proposal. If this is an idea that you would like to propose, please speak about it in your application and if you are selected as a Finalist we will work with you and Downtown property owners to find a site. Here is the full Call for Artists: <https://racstl.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/InSITE-2020-Call-for-Artists-Downtown-St.-Louis-Public-Art.pdf>. On page 9 you can see the items requested for Phase 1 of the selection process. Selected Finalists will develop full concepts to propose in Phase 3.
2. Am writing to see if you are interested in submissions of pre-existing works. We hope to submit one of our immersive installations.
 - The Committee is interested in site-specific works, if you feel as if you can speak to how the work would be site specific, as well as meeting the other goals of the projects then you are welcome to apply.
3. I was curious if there were any restrictions on footings and if those were provided by the City? Most of my work is elevated above reach via a column of some sort and thus normally requires a deeper footing than normal, although it's usually pretty narrow. They are usually pretty simple and often times a 16-24" dia by 60-84" deep pier footing is enough. If there are restrictions in certain areas, can you tell me which areas of the site options might allow for such a footing?
 - Footings will not be supplied and if needed, should be considered part of the scope of your project. Please note that the site needs to be returned to its original condition after the exhibition timeframe. For the first submission phase you do not need to have a specific location in mind, just a type of location. We will work with selected finalists to find a site which meets their needs.
4. Can you expand on the definition of an emerging artist? Also, is folk/out-sider artists and beginning artist without previous art projects able to apply?
 - We are open to artists without previous public art experience, including folk/out-sider artists and beginning artists. However, applicants should have experience as an artist, as they will need to provide image samples of previously created works. Perhaps you have trained as an artist, exhibited your work, or are recognized as an artist by peers and arts professionals.

5. I also would like to know if the artist get to keep their rights to their work.
 - The artist does keep the rights and ownership of their work.

6. Are there particular buildings that we will have access to for the duration that the work is up? If I wanted to project video from inside one building onto the exterior of another are there particular buildings that you know I would be able to work with in advance of me putting together the proposal. Or should I assume that I will not have access to the inside of any building for my project. Related to that do you think I should or should not assume that I will have access to electricity if the project must be entirely outside.
 - We are not looking for a specific proposal at this time, so you don't need to look for a particular building at this stage. If you are selected as a Finalist, we will connect you with Downtown STL, Inc to find a building owner that will be willing to work with you. The jury (and building owner) will probably want to know that you have considered some of the logistics so you may want to touch on them a little in your application. For example, if your equipment needs to be in an open window or if it can work behind glass, the basic size needed for the equipment, and how it will be maintained (turned on and off). The electricity access will probably depend on the location and building owner. State the needs that you have in the description of the site and if you are a finalist, we will help you find it or help you work around it.

7. If applying as an artist team for the InSITE 2020 project, is it preferable to tailor the artist statement and professional references to reflect all team members/the team as a whole, or to apply as a lead artist and just include supplemental materials for other team members? Specifically here, we have collaborated before in various groupings, but are not a defined organization that would already have a combined group statement.
 - If you have a main lead artist then you could primarily use that person's artist statement, but you should probably also discuss the roles of the other artists, especially how they may influence the output. If the group is more of a collaborative then you should create a more combined group statement or a short statement for each artist and a description of how/why the team is working together. For teams, you are welcome to go over the word count to include the information that you need, but please consider the Committee's time in the length of your responses. For the resumes/CV and professional references, you will only be able to attach one file, so combine each of the participants' information into one file with their name on the pages. Again, groups can go over the page count, but try to keep it brief. If there is a lead artist, consider putting that person's resume and references first, but include information for the other artists in the group as well.

8. If we create a rendering of our proposed project can we include it in the image sample portion of our proposal?
 - We are not looking for proposals at this time. Please do not include the rendering with your sample images.

9. If the project spans multiple blocks must every part of it be within the bounds of Tucker, Market, 4th, and Convention Plaza, or would portions of it be allowed as far as 14th, Clark, and Cole?
 - We would consider the project if the bulk majority of the work is within the bounds of the site. Our goal in using this limited area is to create a walkable critical mass of

projects, so please consider this and consider explaining your reasons for going outside the space and how it would still achieve the goal above.

10. If an artist or group is able to obtain additional funding for a project, could that be used as part of the proposal - for instance, if construction costs are going to be too high and an artist knows a source that would supply money for that part of the project?
 - The result of the project should be solely funded through InSITE. However, if there are multiple elements or parallel components to the main project that are funded separately that would be okay.
11. An artist who would do a sculpture has asked me if they determine when (between 1 month and 12 months) the piece will be de-installed and if they retain the rights to de-install and keep the sculpture?
 - The artists will maintain ownership and the rights to the artwork. We only require that the work be on display during the month of May 2020. Specific timelines beyond that timeframe will be determined with Finalist artists in Phase 2 and the work can be on display for up to a year.
12. Shall I include video samples in my application, or limit the application to photos of the augmented reality work? Augmented reality of course is a new medium, so there could not be many samples of that sort of work.
 - You are welcome to upload videos or photos of the work, depending on how it will best be presented to the jury. You can upload up to 6 videos in WMV, MOV or MP4 formats, they must be under 100MB with a minimum resolution of 640x480.
13. May I submit simulations of the proposed...work? It would get the idea across very clearly.
 - We are not asking for specific proposals at this time, so please include a description of your proposed idea with the samples of your previous work.
14. Since my work samples will include video and web-specific artworks, may I use links to those specific pieces, rather than embedding them as files in the application page?
 - You may include links in your Letter of Interest, but the jury may not have time to follow each one. I would suggest including the best samples as work samples attached to the application.
15. Would a mural painted directly onto the building or overpass, etc. be considered “temporary”? Or is the competition more about it being “public” art?
 - A mural certainly constitutes public art! If you are selected, you would develop an agreement with the property owner for after the InSITE 2020 display period - which is up to one year. I would encourage you to submit your mural idea.
16. Do you know if this [specific address] location is available?
 - This location is within the footprint of the eligible sites (see the map on page 6), so it could be an option. We are not asking for specific locations at this phase of the process, if you are selected as a finalist we will help you work with the property owners. When describing your site in your application, you may want to suggest a Plan B site or qualities of a site in case this one cannot be secured.

17. Are there any indoor place to display the artwork?
- A major goal of InSITE 2020 is to activate the streets, sidewalks and outdoor spaces in Downtown, so we are not interested in exhibiting work indoors for this particular project.
18. Are there any outdoor places which would have access to Electricity?
- Many of the park spaces, spaces adjoining buildings and even some lampposts do have access to electricity. When describing your site please put the proximity to electricity as one of the necessary features of your site and if you are selected as a finalist we will help locate a site.
19. Do you see any issues with writing a proposal for a specific space? I don't know if it's public or private. The idea I have can go in a few different but it's kind of specific.
- We're not asking for specific proposals at this time, just the idea. You are welcome to pick a location as long as it is within the footprint of the eligible sites (see the map on page 6). However, no one wants the project to hinge on the possibility of getting that site, so you may want to suggest a Plan B site or qualities of a site in case that one cannot be secured. Tell the jury about the best site, but let them know that you have a contingency plan if that spot won't work.
20. I am planning on applying [as an individual artist]. I am part of an art group that would also like to submit a proposal that I would be an active part of. Am I allowed to submit as an individual artist as well as be part of a small team? Would that be true for all the members of the team?
- It would be okay to apply as a team and as an individual with different ideas. We don't want multiple applications from individual artists, but a team project changes with the team's dynamic.