



Illinois Capital Development Board
Art-in-Architecture Program

Request for Qualifications

for

**The Phillip J. Rock Center and School
Glen Ellyn, Illinois**

Project Number: 759-011-007

CALL TO ARTISTS

The Art-in-Architecture Program of the Capital Development Board is pleased to announce a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to Illinois professional artists to create permanent original public art for The Phillip J. Rock Center and School in Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

FINAL DEADLINE Friday, April 11, 2025

3:00 P.M.

CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov

Note: Applying before the final deadline is highly encouraged. Any portfolio submitted after the deadline will not be considered for this project.

ELIGIBILITY

These public art commissions and potential purchases are open to all professional artists, artisans, or artist-led teams *that live and work in the state of Illinois*.

- An artist/artisan is defined as a skilled practitioner that generates designs and concepts for creative works that reflect form, beauty, and aesthetic perception. All artists on a team must be from Illinois.
- Subcontractors may be used and are defined as those providing technical implementation such as construction, fabrication, and/or assembly for portions or all of a finished product under direct supervision and control of an artist.
- Faculty and staff of The Phillip J. Rock Center and School are not eligible to apply for this commission.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

A new 24,665 square foot building is being constructed to replace the existing facility built in the 1960s. Once complete the existing building will be demolished to make way for a playground and site improvements.

The Philip J. Rock Center and School is more than a facility; it is an extended family to parents and their children who live with both hearing and vision disabilities. Our devoted staff accompany the kids throughout the day, constantly working toward the goal of helping each student live as independently as possible

according to their personal abilities. The shared vision of "Together for Independence" makes this a reality.

The Philip J. Rock Center and School serves students who are deafblind, blind or visually impaired, or deaf or hard-of-hearing. Also, many students have mental and/or physical impairments. These students have multiple needs and require a functional academic curriculum with a focus on daily living skills. It is a publicly funded residential school serving students from the age of three through their twenty-second birthday/school year.

Visit The Philip J. Rock Center and School [website](#) to learn more.

ARTWORK SITE

The Committee is seeking an exterior sculpture which serves to greet visitors, students, and staff at the entrance of the building. This sculpture is to be multi-sensory and appropriate for all ages. It would benefit from visual components, tactile components, and maybe even auditory or olfactory components as well.

Reference [pages 7-9](#) for renderings of the building and artwork site.

ARTISTIC OBJECTIVES

The Committee's goal is for the sculpture to be sensory, interactive, joyful, and welcoming. It must be accessible to the visually impaired and deaf. This artwork must be created with love to echo the staff's passion.

While not playground equipment, the artwork should be an artful playscape that meets all aspects of the Americans with Disabilities Act as well as the Illinois Accessibility Code. It must be durable, safe, and cost effective to maintain with limited annual maintenance.

Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood.

—Fred Rogers

SELECTION PROCESS

The Fine Arts Review Committee will review the portfolios of eligible applicants. At least three artists/teams will be selected as semi-finalists and paid a fee of \$1,500 each to develop and present a site-specific design proposal. After the

presentations, the Committee will select a winning artist/teams for the commission. Correspondence will be sent to the semi-finalists and to the winning artist/team detailing the proposal process and contracts.

BUDGET DETAILS

The budget for the artwork is \$83,000. This budget covers all expenses associated with, but not limited to the project design, labor, fabrication, project management, materials, tools, contracted services, operations and meetings, and travel required to complete the artwork plus installation, related permits, licenses, insurance, and transportation and delivery of the work to the site, as well as documentation of the completed project. Any expense that exceeds the contracted amount will be the artist's responsibility.

The artist is responsible for working with the Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program, the Client Agency, and other relevant partners to oversee all aspects of the art installation.

LEGAL AGREEMENT

The Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program reserves the right to alter any aspect of the selection process or overall project in any way for its own convenience at any time. This Request for Qualifications does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract and these provisions are subject to change.

HOW TO APPLY

Email portfolio materials to **CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov** no later than **Friday, April 11, 2025 at 3:00 P.M.** Any portfolio submitted after the deadline will not be considered for this project.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY APPLIED TO THE ILLINOIS ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

If you have previously applied you do not need to send your portfolio again. To apply for this project email the following:

Cover Letter- letter of intent or artist statement (one page maximum)

- Include the project in which you are applying
- Include name and contact information- address, telephone number, and email address

IF YOU HAVE NEVER APPLIED TO THE ILLINOIS ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM OR YOU WISH TO UPDATE YOUR PORTFOLIO

Please email a full portfolio which includes one copy of each of the following:

Cover Letter- letter of intent or artist statement (one page maximum)

- Include the project in which you are applying
- Include name and contact information- address, telephone number, and email address

Résumé (include your contact information)

- If applying as a team, provide a resume for each team member

Artwork Images (up to 15 images for individuals or teams)

- One image per JPEG
- Pixel dimensions per image: approximately 600 x 800
- Image resolution: 72-300 pixels per inch
- Maximum file size per image: 1MB
- Name each image: lastnamefirstnameimagenumber.jpg, for example:
KahloFrida01.jpg
KahloFrida02.jpg
KahloFrida03.jpg, etc.

Artwork Image List (one document)

- A corresponding, numbered image list listing the artwork title, media, dimensions, date, location (if applicable), budget (if applicable), and brief description (optional)
- Do not include images within this document

Support Material (OPTIONAL)

- One page maximum
- Press clippings, volunteer work, artwork/commission spotlight, or other relevant information

Please note:

- Attach all files to the email
- JPEG files are required for artwork images

- PDF or Word files are required for all documents
- Name each document “lastnamefirstname_document”, for example:
KahloFrida_coverletter.pdf
KahloFrida_imagelist.doc
- DO NOT include artwork images within the body of the email
- DO NOT send design proposals
- All submittals become property of the Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program. Submissions can be made available for public viewing. The artist retains copyright.

QUESTIONS

The Art-in-Architecture Procedure Manual, commission opportunities, and other information are posted on the [AIA Program website](#). For questions, email **CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov**.

ABOUT THE ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

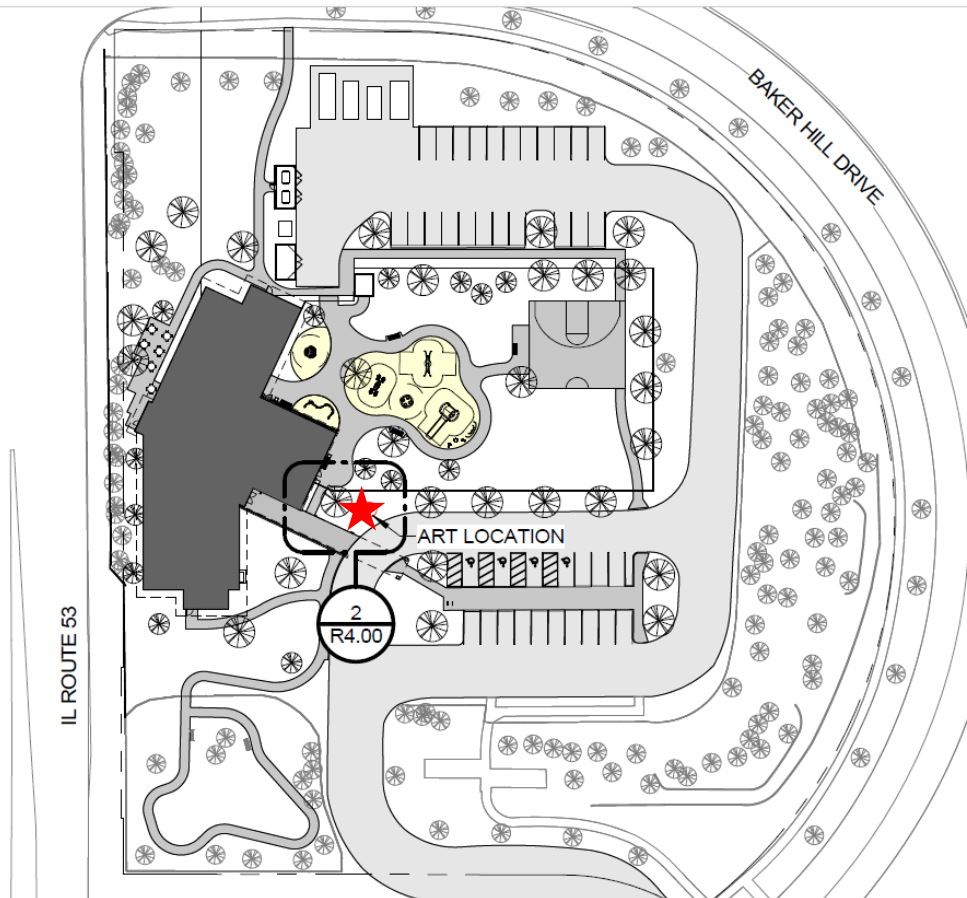
The Illinois Art-in-Architecture Program promotes and preserves Illinois art and enriches communities by commissioning original artwork for public buildings constructed with State funds.

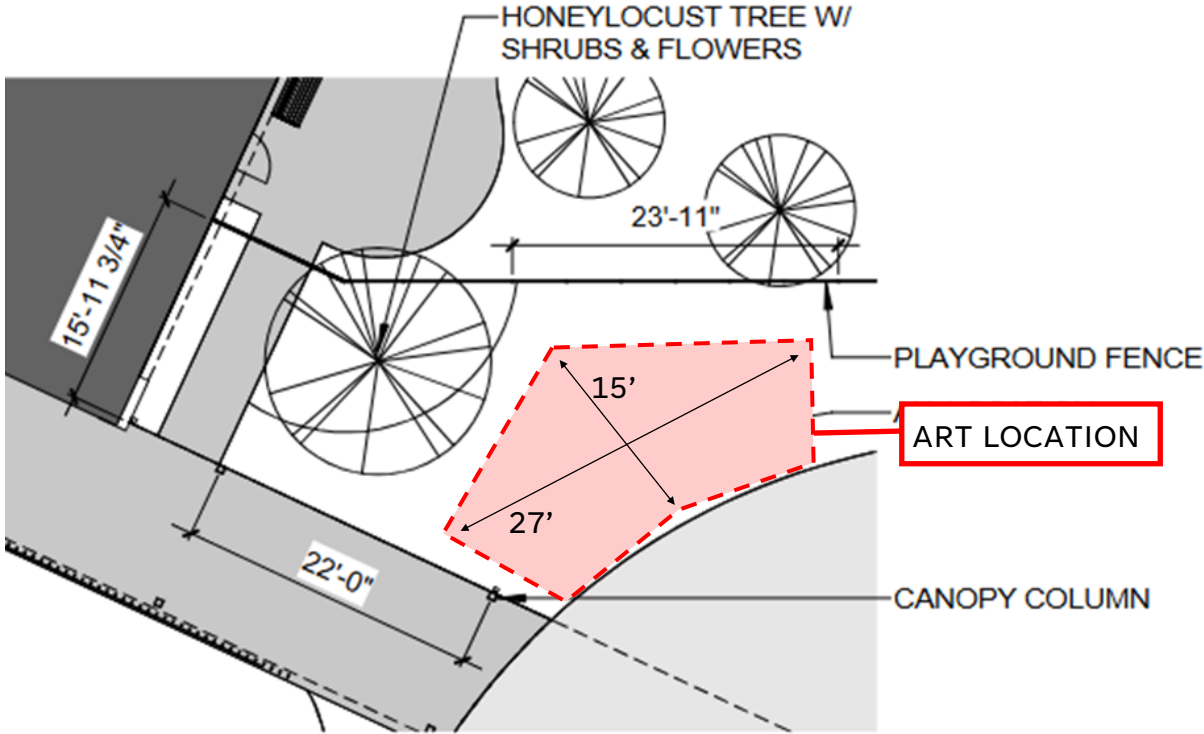
The enabling legislation for the Program requires that the Capital Development Board “shall set aside 1/2 of 1 percent of the amount authorized and appropriated for construction or reconstruction of each public building financed in whole or in part by State funds and generally accessible to and used by the public for purchase and placement of suitable works of art in such public buildings.” A committee including art professionals and the project architect oversees each project and selects the artwork.

Since its inception in 1977, the Art-in-Architecture Program has purchased or commissioned works of art by Illinois artists for public display throughout Illinois. For more information visit the [AIA Program website](#).



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