

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

for the selection of a

The Metropole Art Curator

Project: Metropole Redevelopment and Renovation
Project Address: 423 2nd Ave Ext S., Seattle, WA 98104
Owner: Satterberg Foundation
Architect: BuildingWork
Building Manager: Kendra Walker
Date Released: November 4, 2022

Deadline to Apply: January 13, 2023

THE METROPOLE BUILDING

Satterberg Foundation, a Seattle-based philanthropic organization, purchased the historic Metropole Building in Pioneer Square to support environmental and social justice nonprofits in and around Seattle. In an effort to support the nonprofit sector while pushing the envelope in the real estate development community, the Metropole will provide childcare, affordable offices, and gathering spaces in a beautiful setting that adheres to the highest sustainability standards.

Satterberg Foundation aims to provide centrally located, long-term spaces for organizations committed serving communities of color in response to social and environmental needs. The Metropole will give nonprofits an affordable option to conduct business and continue to represent their communities in an inclusive and safe space. Tenants will have an opportunity to lease office space at an affordable rate while collaborating with values-aligned organizations and individuals.

The Metropole Building will feature a childcare center, traditional lease office spaces, an event center with meeting breakout rooms and a large boardroom, ground floor art exhibit space and a rooftop meeting deck. Tenants will have access to amenities such as break rooms, complimentary meeting space, storage and a nursing room.

The Metropole Building has been designed to set a new standard for environmentally responsible design. New building construction is extremely energy intensive and consumes great amounts of material resources. Therefore, new construction is one of the largest contributors to global warming. By restoring and reusing a 125-year-old building, we are keeping millions of pounds of embodied carbon, energy, and material resources in place, instead of adding to the landfill and the atmosphere.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Metropole is seeking an arts professional or non-profit organization to curate the applicable interior surfaces and structures of the newly renovated Metropole Building in Pioneer Square, Seattle, WA. Independent curators and individuals representing non-profit art organizations, art centers, galleries and/or museums are invited to submit qualifications, past project experience, and/or resumes. We are looking to display an engaging and intriguing collection of art for the building's primary interior spaces.

Qualified curators and organizations will have experience and capability to perform the tasks described in the Scope of Work. Art for the building may be cultural or popular in nature and may feature themes related to the building's driving values of inclusivity, diversity, anti-racism, social justice and environmentalism.

The installation of the artwork is expected to begin in December 2023. The Metropole is currently slated to open in February 2024.

ELIGIBILITY

This is an open call to arts professionals located in the greater Seattle area (including King and Snohomish Co). Qualifications submitted by arts professionals, non-profit art organizations, art centers, galleries, and/or museums for exhibitions of emerging and established artists will be considered. The successful candidate will possess a proven record and have demonstrated abilities in curating, planning and implementing dynamic art exhibitions. The qualified candidate will have strong organizational skills, an eye for detail and experience organizing art installations. The ideal candidate will have extensive experience working with artists of color.

SCOPE OF WORK

The selected art curator or organization will be responsible for selecting art work for the lobby, lower lobby/event space and stairwell.

Art should be curated in alignment with the spirit and vision for the Metropole, which is described below.

Satterberg Foundation aims to provide centrally located, long-term spaces for organizations committed serving communities of color in response to social and environmental needs. The Metropole will give nonprofits an affordable option to conduct business and continue to represent their communities in an inclusive and safe space. Tenants will have an opportunity to lease office space at an affordable rate while collaborating with values-aligned organizations and individuals.

The art display should highlight communities of color and the way in which this is designed and displayed is up to the artistic vision of the curator or organization.

We will ask for the curator/organization to select the art for the first 12 months at the Metropole, with the intention to rotate art on a 6-12 month schedule.

Additional information in regards to the Scope of Work can be found at the end of the RFQ.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Art Display

Describe the concept and curatorial vision for the proposed display.

2. Project Understanding/Statement

Provide a statement of how the consultant will address the Scope of Work and describe experience with similar projects.

3. Consultant Identification

Provide the name(s) of consultant(s) that will perform the services and their resume(s).

4. Visual Portfolio

Provide a visual portfolio of up to five (5) images of completed projects. Include the specific project name and location, client name/organization together with title, artists involved, media and year of completion.

SELECTION PROCESS

All submittals will be evaluated on the completeness and quality of the content.

The subcommittee of the Metropole leadership team will convene to review submissions through this request for qualifications. The committee will generate a short list, and will reach back out to those candidates for an interview and a proposal.

SCHEDULE

The following dates represent the best estimate of the RFQ schedule that will be followed. The Metropole reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to adjust this schedule, as it deems necessary.

Nov 4, 2022	RFQ Released.
Nov 4-Jan6	Virtual and in person meetings held to discuss the project in more detail with interested parties.
Jan 13, 2023	Deadline for submissions.
Jan 16-Feb 3	Submission Review.

Feb 6-17 Selected candidates notified for further analysis. Time for additional questions and interviews.

February 20-24, 2023 Curatorial team selected and notified.

BACKGROUND

Metropole - Project Summary

The Satterberg Foundation (“Owner”), in partnership with architect BuildingWork is renovating the 30,000 SF historic Metropole Building and adjacent Busy Bee Building in Pioneer Square for the purposes of serving a diverse community of nonprofit tenants from Communities of Color.

Spaces are to be offered at affordable rents that adequately cover the ongoing operating expenses for the building. It is the intention of the Owner that the property be self-sustaining.

The project is also being designed to play a leadership role in environmental sustainability, with a goal of achieving LEED Platinum certification. It is hoped that the project will be a contributor to the ongoing revitalization of Pioneer Square and to improving the health and welfare of Communities of Color living and working in downtown Seattle.

The center will provide office space for non-profit tenants and will feature a childcare center for children aged 6 mo. – 5 years old. In addition to daily users, the center will have a training and event space for up to 100 individuals, a rooftop event space for up to 30 individuals, conference room meeting space, breakout rooms and an artist activation gallery.

The project is expected to open in January 2024.

Satterberg Foundation

Satterberg Foundation is a Family Foundation imagined by Virginia (Ginny) Satterberg Pigott Helsell. Ginny and Bill Helsell spent the decades of the 60s, 70s, and 80s bringing together the children of their blended family, and were committed to ensuring that connection far into the future. The Satterberg Foundation is the result of their caring. All of the details of how it would grow and mature were left in the care of their children, the Founding Board of the Foundation.

Mission

The Satterberg Foundation strengthens our communities by promoting a just society and a sustainable environment. Doing this work deepens the interconnection of our family.

Vision

The Satterberg Foundation envisions a world in balance with vibrant communities in which all people enjoy the opportunity to grow and thrive.

Elements of a Just Society

- Access to housing, food, health care, education, and employment

- Empowerment to have one's voice heard
- Advocacy and policy/systems change

Elements of a Sustainable Environment

- Environmental resilience, conservation, preservation, and protection
- Pollution reduction and avoidance
- Education and stewardship
- Advocacy and policy/systems change