

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

JM Wright Technical High School Stamford, Connecticut

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RENOVATION AND ADDITION
J.M. WRIGHT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
STAMFORD, CT
PROJECT 81-AT-842

NORTH ENTRANCE

NCA
NORTHEAST
COLLABORATIVE
ARCHITECTS

About the Art in Public Spaces Program:

Connecticut's Art in Public Spaces program was established in 1978 and requires 1% of the cost of construction or renovation of publicly accessible state buildings be allocated for the commission or purchase of artwork as part of the building's construction project. The [Connecticut Office of the Arts](http://www.cultureandtourism.org) and the Department of Construction Services jointly administer the Art in Public Spaces Program. Visit the [Art in Public Spaces](http://www.cultureandtourism.org) program webpage for further information about the program and to view past installations throughout the state.

Project Summary:

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) and [JM Wright Technical High School](http://www.jmwrighttech.edu) are currently seeking qualifications of artists for an interior work of art for Wright Tech in Stamford, CT. This site-specific public art opportunity focuses on interior glass walls where applied transparencies/graphics will enhance various interior spaces. The committee may consider additional locations and opportunities for art throughout the process including exterior sculpture.

Budget: approximately \$425,000

RFQ Deadline: May 14, 2014

Eligibility:

Artists MUST register a portfolio in the Art in Public Spaces Registry. Submit a new registration or update an existing profile by the deadline indicated above. Review the [registry webpage](http://www.cultureandtourism.org) for more information about the registration process or email questions to ArtistRegistry@ct.gov. The JM Wright Technical High School building project is open to both in-state and out-of-state artists.

About JM Wright Technical High School:

JM Wright Technical High School is located in a residential neighborhood in the City of Stamford near downtown and situated just behind Scalzi Park. The school is currently undergoing major renovations to their existing campus which has been closed for five years, thus giving the campus a rebirth of new

student activity in the Fall of 2014. Only the freshman class will roam the halls in the first year of operation as the builds out over the next four years to an enrollment of approximately 700 students.

The school offers programs in a variety of trades including automotive technologies, carpentry, culinary arts, digital media, electrical, facilities management, health medical technician, hospitalities, information systems and plumbing & heating.

The mission of the Connecticut Technical High School System is to provide a unique and rigorous high school learning environment combining the academics with various trade programs. The schools within the system prepare students for both post-secondary education and immediate employment opportunities which respond directly to industry needs within the region.

Project Description:

The project architect along with a committee of representatives from JM Wright Tech convened and developed the framework for the new public art opportunity. The committee expressed interest in the installation of applied transparencies/graphics to be installed on interior glass windows throughout the school. Two surface materials dominate the interior of the school (1) glass and (2) white tiles. Introducing vivid natural colors will add warmth to the building and has the ability to soften the geometry of the building’s architecture.

The location of the school is uniquely situated with a public park just outside the main entrance. This location makes for an ideal situation where the natural color scheme of the park can spill into the interior of the building and therefore enhancing the connection between the two spaces. The committee may also consider alternative forms of art such as a sculptural work for the exterior courtyard and further treatment of publicly accessible exterior spaces.

Selection Process:

The JM Wright Technical High School project is administered as a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Therefore, artists interested in this project must first register a portfolio in the [Art in Public Spaces Registry](#). There is no application process. The JM Wright selection committee will review the portfolios of artists registered in the database and will shortlist a group of artists who will be invited to submit site-specific proposals for the project.

Portfolios of artists already registered in the Art in Public Spaces Registry will automatically be reviewed. The registry is designed as a one-time registration process allowing artists to be considered for multiple projects; therefore, portfolios should indicate a range of work samples. Updates may be made but COA recommends limiting updates to no more than once a year.

Project Timeline (all dates are subject to change):

RFQ Deadline:	May 14, 2014
Shortlisted artists selected by:	June 2014
Artist selected by:	August, 2014
Projected fully executed contract / project start date:	January 2015
Project installation / work completed by:	Summer 2015

Contact:

For ALL questions related to the Art in Public Spaces program and the JM Wright Technical High School RFQ

contact: Tamara Dimitri
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(860) 256-2720

For questions related to the Artist Registry email ArtistRegistry@ct.gov