



Restoring balance between wildlife and human life, together.

1300 Zoo Road NE, Calgary, AB T2E 7V6
WilderInstitute.org | CalgaryZoo.com

Call for Artist: Sculpture Concept Consultant

The Wilder Institute Calgary Zoo seeks a creative collaborator to support the design of a large-scale sculpture and soundscape art experience in the redeveloped Canadian Wilds.

Background:

The Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo is currently redeveloping the Canadian Wilds section of the zoo. As part of the project the zoo looks to showcase its active role in native wildlife conservation of Canadian species across the revitalized 21-acre space. The redevelopment project will see larger, more complex habitats for some species, relocating other species to more suitable spaces and build a new habitat for polar bears that need our help. Included in the first phase of the redevelopment are: polar bears, caribou, otters and whooping cranes.

Opportunity Summary:

We are seeking an artistic partner to inform the **design of a sculpture and technology experience**. This element is intended to be a fusion of art, technology and storytelling that frames the new Canadian Wilds experience and celebrates the human relationship with land in Canada. The art consultant's project scope includes concept development and sketching, in collaboration with the Design lead and fabricator. The artist is not required to determine how to fabricate/engineer/install the piece. This interdisciplinary project involves collaboration with a design firm, fabrication firm, and audio/visual partner and is led by the Interpretive Planning Strategist at the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo. The sculpture will be installed in Fall 2023.

This Call is open to visual and sculpture artists residing within Alberta.

Artist Compensation: \$5000.00 CAD + GST

Submission Deadline: 4:00 PM MT, November 30, 2022,

Submit Proposal Packages to: Marketing@calgaryzoo.com

Submission Checklist:

- Artist CV
- Letter of Interest
- Artist Statement
- Artist Portfolio – 10 images

Artist Information Session

November 15, 2023 @ 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM

Project Description:

The selected artist will work in collaboration with the Design firm and Fabrication firm on a concept and design for a three-dimensional, large scale sculpture installation, located at the entrance of the Canadian Wilds redevelopment. The artist will be part of the inter-disciplinary team to see this project from high-level concept through to detailed design.

The sculpture is intended to:

- Fuse art, storytelling and technology in a three-dimensional sculptural experience to provide framing for the new Canadian Wilds experience that celebrates iconic Canadian wildlife and landscapes and encourages personal reflection on the human relationship to land in Canada.
- Function year round, outdoors in all Calgary climate conditions in a daytime environment.
- Have the ability to be updated and changed in future and be maintained by the zoo.
- Incorporate visual art (sculpture) and soundscape design to create a powerful immersive experience

The artist will:

- Develop and refine a concept, in collaboration with the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo, Design Lead (Creative Machines) and Fabrication firm (F&D Scene changes).
- Provide comments on the construction drawings to ensure the concept and design is accurate
- Develop and provide an artist bio and statement that may be used on signage

Note:

- Artist scope of work does not require engineered drawings or construction design. The artist is a creative consultant who will guide the concept development and design.

Budget:

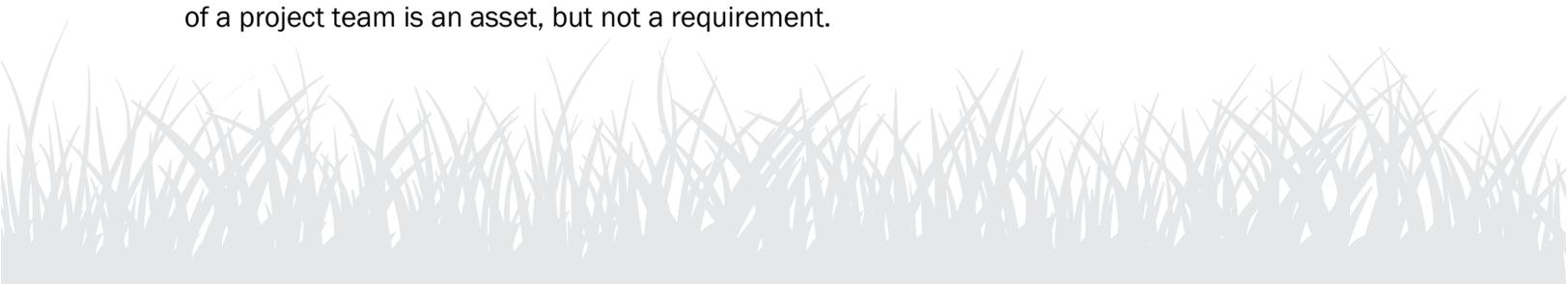
The total, all-inclusive budget for the artist contract is \$5000.00 CAD + GST. This includes all costs associated with the concept and design including:

- Artist fees
- Parking
- Research
- Design time

Eligibility:

This Call is open to visual artists residing within Alberta. We encourage submissions from artists that are typically underrepresented, including BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour), LGBTQIA2S+ identifying individuals, Deaf persons, and persons with disabilities. Virtual collaboration meetings are possible, so applicants need not live in or near the city of Calgary.

We welcome artists at various stages of their careers to apply. Experience working with as part of a project team is an asset, but not a requirement.



Submission requirements:

- **Letter of Interest** that explains your interest in this opportunity, connection to the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo or natural spaces in Alberta. Maximum one page, 500 words.
- **Artist C.V.** that includes previous experience, email and contact information.
- **Artist Statement** that describes your current artistic practice and the themes in your work.
 - o **Portfolio:** Up to ten images of current or past artworks uploaded as individual media files. The following information must be included for each image:
 - o Title
 - o Date
 - o Size
 - o Materials
 - o Brief description

Selection process:

This application process is competitive and will be reviewed by an internal and external selection panel.

Applications will be evaluated with the following considerations:

- Letter of Interest
 - o Interest in this opportunity and how the artist's background and practice will contribute to this project.
 - o Understanding of the project and connection to project goals.
- Artist CV
 - o Demonstration of relevant experience in public art, visual art and design.
- Artist Statement
 - o Indication of a connection between the artist's work, approach, artistic trajectory, and this project.
- Portfolio
 - o Demonstration of a clear artistic vision and strong execution of that vision.
 - o Demonstration of artistic skills and approach needed to deliver a compelling design for this project.

