



**City of Lawton**  
**Arts & Humanities Division**  
(580) 581-3470  
Arts@lawtonok.gov  
SWOKarts.com

## **Project: Elmer Thomas Park Mural**

**Deadline: March 15, 2024**

### **Overview and Project Description**

Artists are invited to submit qualifications for the design and installation of artwork for the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition (OVAC) and McMahon Auditorium Authority (MAA) at Elmer Thomas Park. The artwork will be located at 501 NW Ferris Ave, Lawton, Oklahoma, specifically, on a wall in Elmer Thomas Park.

The selected artist will paint their mural directly on a wall that measures approximately 5 feet by 70 feet. The mural is expected to remain in place indefinitely, but this is to be determined by the parks and recreation director. We encourage applications from artists who work with colorful imagery and whose work demonstrates a unified vision or aesthetic.

### **Theme and Intent**

This mural will include an artistic interpretation of aspects of Lawton-Ft. Sill and wildlife native to southwestern Oklahoma with an emphasis on flowers indigenous to the state. The goal of the mural is to showcase the natural beauty of southwest Oklahoma while fostering enthusiasm and pride from current residents.

The selected mural will be a dynamic and visually impactful artwork of remarkable quality and lasting value. This mural will be original art appropriate for outdoor wall installation and able to stand up to weather and environmental conditions.

### **Project Funds**

The artist or artist team will receive \$3,000 to create the mural. Artists will be responsible for design, fabrication, delivery, and installation of the artwork within the given budget, using appropriate paints for the surface and painting a protective sealant on top of the mural. All costs associated with the public art project are covered by this budget, and additional funds may be available but are not guaranteed at this time.

### **Eligibility**

This opportunity is open to artists or lead artists (artist working with a team of understudies) who are Oklahoma residents (at least 12 months of residency), 21 years or older, and non-student.

### **Application Requirements**

Artists will gather materials listed below attach, as a single PDF document, and send email to [arts@lawton.ok.gov](mailto:arts@lawton.ok.gov) Subject of E-mail Should read: **Lastname, Firstname - ETPMuralProposal** Each Community/Artist Partnership Grant Application should include an Artist Resume/CV, Artist/Writer/Curator Statement (250 words), 10-15 Artwork samples or URL for video artwork (work samples can include artwork, sketches or concept drawing, writing samples, documentation of curatorial projects, or other relevant work). Please keep video samples to 3-5 minutes, Artwork sample list (to identify your images), Sketches or concept drawing (optional but encouraged), Balanced Budget (income = expenses), Timeline identifying major milestones to completion, Secured or potential venues 11:59 p.m. (CDT) deadline.

The Mission of the Arts and Humanities Division is to encourage and promote artistic expression and diversity in the City of Lawton.

**Application materials include:**

- a. Artist Resume/CV
- b. Artist/Writer/Curator Statement (250 words)
- c. 10-15 Artwork samples or URL for video artwork (work samples can include artwork, sketches or concept drawing, writing samples, documentation of curatorial projects, or other relevant work). Please keep video samples to 3-5 minutes.
- d. Artwork sample list (to identify your images)
- e. Sketches or concept drawing (optional but encouraged)
- f. Balanced Budget (income = expenses)
- g. Timeline identifying major milestones to completion
- h. Secured or potential venues Selection Process

Proposals will be reviewed and scored by the Arts and Humanities Committee and approved by McMahan Auditorium Authority (MAA) to identify the short list of qualified artists to be considered for the project based on the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence as evidenced by representations of past work and other supporting materials.
- Appropriateness of artwork to the goals of the project, as evidenced by representations of past work and other supporting materials.
- Professional experience is adequate to meet the demands of the project.
- Availability to participate in the design, approval, and implementation of the project as required.

The list of qualified artists will be presented to the Arts and Humanities Committee for the Lawton - Ft. Sill Elmer Thomas Park Mural. The committee will identify up to two finalists who will be invited to develop mural proposals after attending a mandatory orientation session. Each finalist will be paid an honorarium of \$250 for the development and presentation of a design proposal. The artist selection will be approved by the McMahan Auditorium Authority. Once the selected artist's final design is approved by the Arts and Humanities Committee and the McMahan Auditorium Authority, any changes thereto must be approved in writing by both parties prior to installation of the artwork.

**Timeline**

Application opens Wednesday, November 24, 2023

Application deadline Friday, January 5, 2024

Notification of selected artist Monday, January 22, 2024

Presentation of the proposal Friday, February 2, 2024

Notification of selected artist Friday, February 9, 2024

Complete of artwork by March, 2024

Work with selected artist to submit grant application by March 15, 2024, 11:59 p.m.

Once selected, the artist or artist team will work with City of Lawton Arts and Humanities Administrator to coordinate an installation schedule.

**Questions/Follow Up**

Please direct questions or requests for additional information to Jason Poudrier, City of Lawton Arts and Humanities Administrator, at [jason.poudrier@lawtonok.gov](mailto:jason.poudrier@lawtonok.gov) or (580)581-3470.

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