



Release Date: Monday, August 26, 2024

Deadline: Thursday, September 12, 2024, 11:59pm central standard time (CST).

***Main Street Fort Smith (formerly 64.6 Downtown) is a nonprofit committed to creating vibrant spaces in downtown Fort Smith through business development, arts and culture, special events, and the promotion of attractive amenities to accelerate development of diverse commerce.***

***We are the conductor at the intersection where the arts, recreation, entertainment, and lifestyle collide to create a vibrant downtown.***

Main Street Fort Smith has a successful history of awakening underutilized spaces in downtown Fort Smith through art, music and events to drive development, commerce and community activation and interest. Currently, downtown Fort Smith has an underused pedestrian pathway connecting the north and south corridors of the Belle Grove Historic District to the newly renovated Bakery District retail and restaurant space. To enhance the pedestrian experience, activating this space will drive foot and bike traffic to a safe passageway between two major roadways in downtown Fort Smith, Rogers Avenue and Garrison Avenue (Hwy 64), in downtown Fort Smith.

Main Street Fort Smith is looking to bring a unique art activation to the community that diverges from the traditional mural. We wish to harness different mediums and/or viewpoints along the sidewalk and/or buildings that seek to engage the community in a new way, offering a fresh perspective on public art.

The dimensions from avenue to avenue are 190'. The width of the surface area on the sidewalk is 18'.

The artwork should:

- Enhance the visual appeal of the location, serving as a landmark and casual wayfinding between two major downtown avenues.
- Provide excitement and interest for the community.
- Be an original art piece appropriate for outdoor installation.

Submissions will be evaluated by a Selection Committee based upon the overall quality, uniqueness and fun of the proposed artwork.

Funding is provided in part by the Department of Arkansas Heritage. Main Street Fort Smith will be notified by the Department of Arkansas Heritage on or before January 1, 2025, if they are a recipient. The project is contingent upon appropriate matching funds raised. Main Street Fort Smith is not fiscally obligated to the artist if monetary achievement is not reached.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

The project is open to all artists, age 18+, and who are current Arkansas residents. Artist teams are eligible to apply.

## **PROPOSALS**

Main Street Fort Smith is looking for the following:

- Proposals from creative individual or team artists including but not limited to Artists, Designers, Builders, Fabricators, Technologists and Engineers.
- Ideas that engage the public in positive discourse and community engagement.
- Proposals that communicate a clear vision and represent the artist's expertise.
- Projects that could utilize a range of materials, processes and techniques.

## **ARTIST FEE - \$12,500**

Main Street Fort Smith is applying to receive a grant from Department of Arkansas Heritage and is dependent upon a match in full to realize this project. Main Street Fort Smith commits \$12,500 as an artist fee, and will budget the remaining match for supplies, transport, hotel, artist per diem, marketing, and any other cost associated with the production.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

- Artwork must last for at least 3 years, and artist must be available for touch ups one year following the installation. The canvas must be appropriately coated upon completion to ensure added durability of the artwork.
- Artist should understand the processes, techniques and materials involved in their proposal.
- Artist should have the capacity to manage the project within the allocated budget and timeline.
- Artist must be able to provide plans according to the project schedule and complete the artwork prior to December 1, 2025.

## **SUBMISSION**

Project Proposals must include:

- 1) Artist information:
  - Name
  - Date of birth
  - City of residence
  - Email, website and social media handle(s)
  - Experience (resume or CV)
- 2) Images of up to five (5) samples of large-scale indoor or outdoor artworks completed in the last ten (10) years.
- 3) A brief artist statement (500 words) about your approach to activating this space.

## **APPLY**

Project proposals must be:

- Compiled into one document

- Submitted in .pdf format
- Submitted no later than 11:59PM CST on Thursday, September 12, 2024
- Submitted via email to [director@mainstreetfs.org](mailto:director@mainstreetfs.org)

*Incomplete proposals, late proposals, or proposals not compiled into one document will not be considered.*

## **SCHEDULE**

Application closes September 13, 2024, 12am. Applications must be submitted to [director@mainstreetfs.org](mailto:director@mainstreetfs.org) by September 12, 11:59pm central standard time (CST).

Notification of selected artist will be on or around January 5, 2025. Our notification timeline aligns with Department of Arkansas Heritage's notification of award timeline to Main Street Fort Smith. The project is contingent upon Main Street Fort Smith receiving funds from the Department of Arkansas Heritage plus matching funds. If no funds are received from Arkansas Heritage, the project will not progress, and Main Street Fort Smith is not liable for any payments to be made to the selected artist.

Once notifications have been made, Main Street Fort Smith will work with the selected artist to:

- Create a timeline for Production. Project must be completed prior to December 1, 2025.
- Budget supplies, hotel, per diem, travel and other production related costs.
- Create a concept which must include up to 2 rounds of edits.
- Assist with the management of the production

Please submit all questions to [director@mainstreetfs.org](mailto:director@mainstreetfs.org). Emails to questions whose answers are provided in this form will not be answered.





