



**Artists Working in Education in collaboration with
The Milwaukee Public Library**

**Gathering Art, Stories and Place: A Socially Engaged Artist Residency
Request for Qualifications**



DESCRIPTION: Artists Working in Education, Inc. in collaboration with Milwaukee Public Library Mitchell Street Branch as a part of the Gathering Art, Stories and Place NEA Our Town grant, is seeking an artist-in-residence to work collaboratively with teens, community members, and neighborhood experts to create two temporary public art installations and one permanent public art

installation throughout 2019 that directly engages and benefits the Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood. The projects must take place on Historic Mitchell Street or in the Mitchell Street Branch and be centered around youth and community voice. This residency includes regular programmed hours working with a core group of teens to complete projects. All media and forms of public art will be considered, including but not limited to the following: spoken word performances, musical performances, dance, happenings, video and electronic media, 2-D and 3-D visual installation, etc. Emerging and established artists are encouraged to apply. Artists are welcome to contact John Kowalczyk, john@awe-inc.org or Katie Loughmiller kmlough@milwaukee.gov, with any questions regarding the application process.

The goal of this project is to empower the Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood community to create, share, and celebrate diversity through storytelling and public art, specifically engaging teens in the process. This project aims to inspire individuals and organizations to look beyond their individual identities and find commonality in a spirit of growing awareness and appreciation for art and each other.

PROJECT SPECIFICS: The purpose of this Artist Residency is to encourage an artist or artist team to utilize their skills to collaborate with a core group of Milwaukee teens and community members to develop socially engaging public art experiences or projects within the historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood. The selected artist or artist team will encourage all participants to express their voice utilizing the artists expertise and facilitation. The medium or way your ideas are expressed should also be a collaborative decision made with the core group of teens. Projects should demonstrate a direct benefit for the Historic Mitchell Street community, whether tangible (i.e., beautification) or intangible (i.e., awareness).

The selected artist will be required to make the necessary connections to ensure community participation, and devise a plan for engaging teens and community members in the creation of themes, context, and the artwork itself with support from Artists Working in Education and the Library's Arts Project Coordinator. Work within the community will begin January 2019 and continue through the end of the 2019 calendar year. The selected artist or artist team will also be able to consult with the "Listening to Mitchell" artist team as well as the 2018 Artist-in-Residence for inspiration and Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood networking. The Mitchell Street Branch has a makerspace with an extensive list of audio and video equipment and software including a sound booth, a green screen, the entire creative Adobe suite, and much more. The makerspace is also equipped with a community kitchen. Artists are highly encouraged to utilize any/all of these tools during the duration of their residency.

WHAT: Artists Working in Education's Artist in Residence (AIR) Program provides opportunities to engage teams of local artists and youth to make decisions about land use, public space, and neighborhood revitalization through the creation of public art. Together, we create inclusive & collaborative public art projects that align youth driven planning with broader community goals. Projects may create neighborhood infrastructure, contribute to neighborhood beautification, or tell a story about a pertinent issue through public art.

WHY: Public art has the power and ability to shift perceptions, create identity and inspire pride within our neighborhoods. This project has the power to expand the boundaries of a typical library setting to be seen as a space to foster creativity, equity, and appreciation for arts. Untold stories will find a voice and be represented in the community and archived in the library's collection.

WHO: Participating artists and youth will gain an understanding of the public art process, learn from and talk to key decision makers and share ideas with the wider community. The artist's role is to teach the design process from idea conception through creation and installation. A.W.E. provides project management and engages neighborhood stakeholders in the process to fuel research, aid in site selection and participate in a culminating celebration. Additional experts in the fields of natural science, architecture, graphic design and urban planning may be utilized based on the scope and scale of each project.

WHERE: The residency will take place in and around the Milwaukee Public Library Mitchell Street Branch and the Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all artists and artist teams 18 years or older. Preference given to artists with a strong connection to the Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood in Milwaukee, WI. Artists who live in, were born in, or have family in the Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood are highly encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to artists bilingual in Spanish and English.

PROJECT BUDGET AND COMPENSATION: The Artist in Residence chosen for this project will be awarded a \$15,000 stipend plus a materials and fabrication budget which requires leading a three part teen residency program with 190 contact hours plus additional planning hours throughout 2019, completing 2 temporary public art projects or installations, and completing 1 permanent public art installation. The Artists in Residence would meet with the teens weekly and for additional special events. Additional special events include celebrations for completed projects, community engagement sessions, and planning meetings. Payments will made upon project milestones throughout 2019.

There is a separate budget for materials, installation, expert consultation, contractors, and fabrication depending on the project's' scope, scale, and needs. AWE will work with the artist to coordinate any contractors, fabricators, or experts needed to create and install the piece of art.

Time commitment and compensation break down through 2019:

January 2019 - May 2019 (School Year): 2 hours a week with teens, 2 hours a week of planning and community engagement, additional time as needed to complete the project. \$3,500 Artist Stipend

June 2019 - August 2019 (summer): 6 hours a week with teens, 4 hours a week of planning and community engagement, additional time as needed to complete the project. \$8,000 Artist Stipend

September 2019 - December 2019 (School Year): 2 hours a week with teens, 2 hours a week of planning and community engagement, additional time as needed to complete the project. \$3,500 Artist Stipend

SELECTION PROCESS: A Selection Committee made up of a Neighborhood Leader, Professional Artist, Program Director, and a Milwaukee Public Library Representative will review all complete submissions and select finalists. Each finalist will be invited to interview and references may be requested. After the finalists are interviewed the selection committee will select an artist to commission for the residency.

SCHEDULE (subject to change):

Deadline for submissions: October 21

Review and selection of finalists: October 23-October 29

Notification sent by: October 30

Finalist interviews with selection committee: November 2 and November 9 (must be available one of these dates, interviews will take place between 10am-2pm)

Artist selected and notification sent: November 15

January 1 - December 23, 2019: Residency takes place

HOW TO APPLY: Please email john@awe-inc.org one PDF containing all of the following application materials:

1. Please provide a 200-500 word descriptive summary of your approach to working with community and youth of Historic Mitchell Street neighborhood to complete a series of public art installations.
2. Describe any previous experience in working on large scale community based public art projects.
3. Describe your relationship to and/or interest in the Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood.
4. Describe how you will collaborate with the teen interns and the community to develop and produce your projects:
 - a. What questions about Historic Mitchell Street Neighborhood will you explore through your residency?
 - b. How do you plan to engage the public and youth in the development of your projects?
 - c. What opportunities will be provided for teen interns to work collaboratively, and to develop opportunities for audience participation?
5. Resume- Limit of 3 pages. Please include address and contact information on resume.
6. Documentation of Previous Work- Up to 6 images and/or video clips up to 5 minutes of previous.

If necessary, artists may send a CD or DVD containing digital application materials to Artists Working in Education Inc. 4315 W. Vliet St. Milwaukee, WI 53208, attn: John Kowalczyk.

Deadline for submissions are October 21, 2018 at 11:55pm. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Information sessions will be held at Milwaukee Public Library Mitchell Street Branch on October 5 and October 19 from 12pm-1pm.