CALL to ARTISTS

Request for Qualifications

Brief Project Summary:

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee of the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council was formed in early 2020 as the pandemic began. The group met and continues to meet virtually and started by defining its role as a committee of KAAHC, and its obligation to the community at large. The committee designed a mission statement from which to guide themselves as they developed programming and activities.

The first major project the committee launched into is to develop a Land Acknowledgement Kit that gives an outline for the nature of a land acknowledgement, a little bit of community context, resources for further study, and a map of the area.

The Land Acknowledgment Kit is housed in a binder covered by the artwork of Janice Jackson. Janice chose the design to be a bent wood box so that it did not represent any specific clan. She titled the work “The Book of Knowledge” and in addition to wool felt, she used materials from her Mother in Law, Esther Shea’s, “stash”. The Kit encased in “The Book of Knowledge” regalia will be passed to any organization that would like to learn about building their own Land Acknowledgement. The artwork of the Kit will include a small representation of the expertise, knowledge and artistry of people who have inhabited these lands since time immemorial.

The Kit will have four additional works of art within the pages including a cedar or spruce root woven piece, a Ravenstail or Chilkat weaving, a beading piece, a 2D piece (drawing/painting/digital/pen & ink, mixed media or other 2D genre). These pieces will separate each section of the Kit.

The additional works must fit within a standard 3-ring binder, either encased in a transparent sleeve that fits into the binder rings – or the artist designs a different system for the artwork to stay within its location in the Kit.

If the artwork within the Kit is not fixed within a transparent sleeve, the artwork must be sturdy enough to withstand many hands and years of admiration. Artwork can be affixed to another material which then snaps into the 3-ring binder – or the artwork itself can snap into the binder. Each additional piece must be no bigger than 9 inches wide by 11.5 inches high.

The paper that the Land Acknowledgement Kit will be written on will be waterproof, antimicrobial, archival paper.

Budget for Artists:
$2,000 - Cedar or Spruce Root woven piece
$2,000 – Ravenstail or Chilkat woven piece
$2,000 – Beaded piece
$1,500 – 2D drawing/digital/painting/pen & ink/mixed media or other, piece

Selection Process

Pieces will be selected for the Land Acknowledgement Kit by the Diversity and Inclusion Committee with guidance from Clan Leaders.

Eligibility:

It is the expectation that artists selected to submit work for the Land Acknowledgement Kit will have been practicing their craft for many years and have learned it from a Master in the genre. While the cover of the Kit was made by Janice Jackson, a member of the Tlingit and Haida Nations, it is the hope that the additional pieces will be made by Indigenous artists of this land including Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian.

Timeframe:

For the most part, the artforms sought for the Land Acknowledgement Kit require large amounts of time to create and that is understood. However, it is the Diversity and Inclusion Committee’s goal to begin loaning out the Kit by May of 2023.

Application Requirements:

A bio including the mentors (including family members) the artist has learned from, and for how long.

3 to 5 images of completed works, and the dates of their completion.

A draft drawing or brief written description of the artist’s proposal to include which artform the artist will be working with.

Two or three sentences as to why the artist would like to be part of this project.

Deadline to Submit Qualifications

January 31, 2023

Submission details:

Please submit qualification materials to the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council via mail, email, or in person.

Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council
330 Main Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901
About the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council

The Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council is honored to create programming and activities for community on the ancestral lands of the Taant’a Kwáan and Sanyaa Kwáan Tlingit – people who have been making art, dancing, and singing every day on these lands since time immemorial.

Formed in the 50’s and incorporated in 1970 the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council’s mission is to create and promote opportunities to experience the arts and explore the humanities. As a membership based, 501c3 not for profit organization, KAAHC hosts two art fairs annually in which artists showcase and sell works, three city-wide Art Walks to support artists and art businesses, the Wearable Art Show, the Youth Wearable Art Show, the Stories at Latitude 56 program, Artist Professional Development classes, Artist led classes, and the Main Street Gallery which is the only dedicated fine art gallery that allows artists to mount a full exhibit. KAAHC also contracts with the City of Ketchikan and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough to facilitate public art selection in the area.