



Illinois Capital Development Board
Art-in-Architecture Program

Request for Qualifications

for

**University of Illinois, Springfield
Library Commons
Springfield, Illinois
Project Number: 830-080-018**

CALL TO ARTISTS

The Art-in-Architecture Program of the Capital Development Board is pleased to announce a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to Illinois professional artists to create permanent original public art for the University of Illinois Springfield Library Commons in Springfield, Illinois.

FINAL DEADLINE Friday, July 11, 2025

3:00 P.M.

CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov

Note: Applying before the final deadline is highly encouraged. Any portfolio submitted after the deadline will not be considered for this project.

ELIGIBILITY

These public art commissions and potential purchases are open to all professional artists, artisans, or artist-led teams *that live and work in the state of Illinois*.

- An artist/artisan is defined as a skilled practitioner that generates designs and concepts for creative works that reflect form, beauty, and aesthetic perception. All artists on a team must be from Illinois.
- Subcontractors may be used and are defined as those providing technical implementation such as construction, fabrication, and/or assembly for portions or all of a finished product under direct supervision and control of an artist.
- Faculty and staff of the University of Illinois Springfield are not eligible to apply for this commission.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The new Library Commons will be a welcoming, inclusive, dynamic environment that will promote student success at the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS).

The 57,700 square foot Library Commons will bring together student-focused campus services that will facilitate student retention and success. In addition to the Library, the Library Commons will house Information Technology Services, the Center for Academic Success and Advising, and the Career Development Center creating flexible spaces and services that will assist students in navigating their lifelong personal and professional journeys.

In keeping with the University's holistic goals to be forward-thinking about its impact on the environment, sustainability has been a key goal for the Library

Commons. Energy efficient systems, native plantings, maximizing permeable surfaces, reduction of heat islands, reduction of bio accumulative and toxic sources, and integration of safe cleaning practices and products are important elements of the project.

The Library Commons will be located just off the main quad in order to complete the campus' academic core. The brick on the exterior will mirror that of the neighboring academic buildings while glass and metal panels will allow a transparent view both within and out.

ARTWORK SITE

The total area available for art is approximately 1,014 square feet of interior wall space located within the atrium, a three-story public gathering space serving as a vibrant welcome to the Library Commons. The artwork wall overlooks the atrium, encompasses the west side of the 2nd and 3rd floors, and faces the primary open stairs. Reference [pages 7-9](#) for renderings and plans of the building and artwork site. Specifically, [page 9](#) provides an elevation drawing highlighting the total square footage for artwork as well as the available space for securing the work.

ARTISTIC OBJECTIVES

The Committee is seeking an interior wall art installation that emphasizes movement and flow, emulating the exterior and interior architectural wrapping elements. The artwork site is viewable from many vantage points throughout the building therefore the work must set the tone for an inspiring and dynamic atmosphere in which students can work and collaborate. The Committee does not have a preferences regarding media or style. The work must be durable, safe, and cost effective to maintain with limited annual maintenance.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Fine Arts Review Committee will review the portfolios of eligible applicants. At least three artists/teams will be selected as semi-finalists and paid a fee of **\$2,000** each to develop and present a site-specific design proposal. After the presentations, the Committee will select a winning artist/team for the commission. Correspondence will be sent to the semi-finalists and to the winning artist/team detailing the proposal process and contracts.

BUDGET DETAILS

The budget for the artwork is **\$118,000**. This budget covers all expenses associated with the completion and installation of the work including, but not limited to the project design, materials, fabrication, tools, project management, operations, meetings, travel, installation, licenses, insurance, contracted services, delivery of the work to the site, and documentation of the completed project. Any expense that exceeds the contracted amount will be the artist's responsibility.

The artist is responsible for working with the Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program, the Client Agency, and other relevant partners to oversee all aspects of the art installation.

HOW TO APPLY

Email portfolio materials to **CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov** no later than **Friday, July 11, 2025 at 3:00 P.M.** Any portfolio submitted after the deadline will not be considered for this project.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY APPLIED TO THE ILLINOIS ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

Please email the following:

Cover Letter- letter of intent or artist statement (one page maximum)

- Include the project in which you are applying
- Include name and contact information- address, telephone number, and email address

IF YOU HAVE NEVER APPLIED TO THE ILLINOIS ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM OR YOU WISH TO UPDATE YOUR PORTFOLIO

Please email a full portfolio which includes one copy of each of the following:

Cover Letter- letter of intent or artist statement (one page maximum)

- Include the project in which you are applying
- Include name and contact information- address, telephone number, and email address

Résumé (include contact information)

- If applying as a team, provide a resume for each team member

Artwork Images (up to 15 images for individuals or teams)

- One image per JPEG
- Pixel dimensions per image: approximately 600 x 800
- Image resolution: 72-300 pixels per inch
- Maximum file size per image: 1MB
- Name each image: lastnamefirstnameimagenumber.jpg, for example:
KahloFrida01.jpg
KahloFrida02.jpg
KahloFrida03.jpg, etc.

Artwork Image List (one document)

- A corresponding, numbered image list listing the artwork title, media, dimensions, date, location (if applicable), budget (if applicable), and brief description (optional)
- Do not include images within this document

Support Material (OPTIONAL)

- One page maximum
- Press clippings, volunteer work, artwork/commission spotlight, or other relevant information

Please note:

- Attach all files to the email
- JPEG files are required for artwork images
- PDF or Word files are required for all documents
- Name each document: lastnamefirstname_document, for example:
KahloFrida_coverletter.pdf
KahloFrida_imagelist.doc
- DO NOT include artwork images within the body of the email
- DO NOT send design proposals
- All submittals become property of the Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program. Submissions can be made available for public viewing. The artist retains copyright.

LEGAL AGREEMENT

The Capital Development Board Art-in-Architecture Program reserves the right to alter any aspect of the selection process or overall project in any way for its own convenience at any time. This Request for Qualifications does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract and these provisions are subject to change.

QUESTIONS

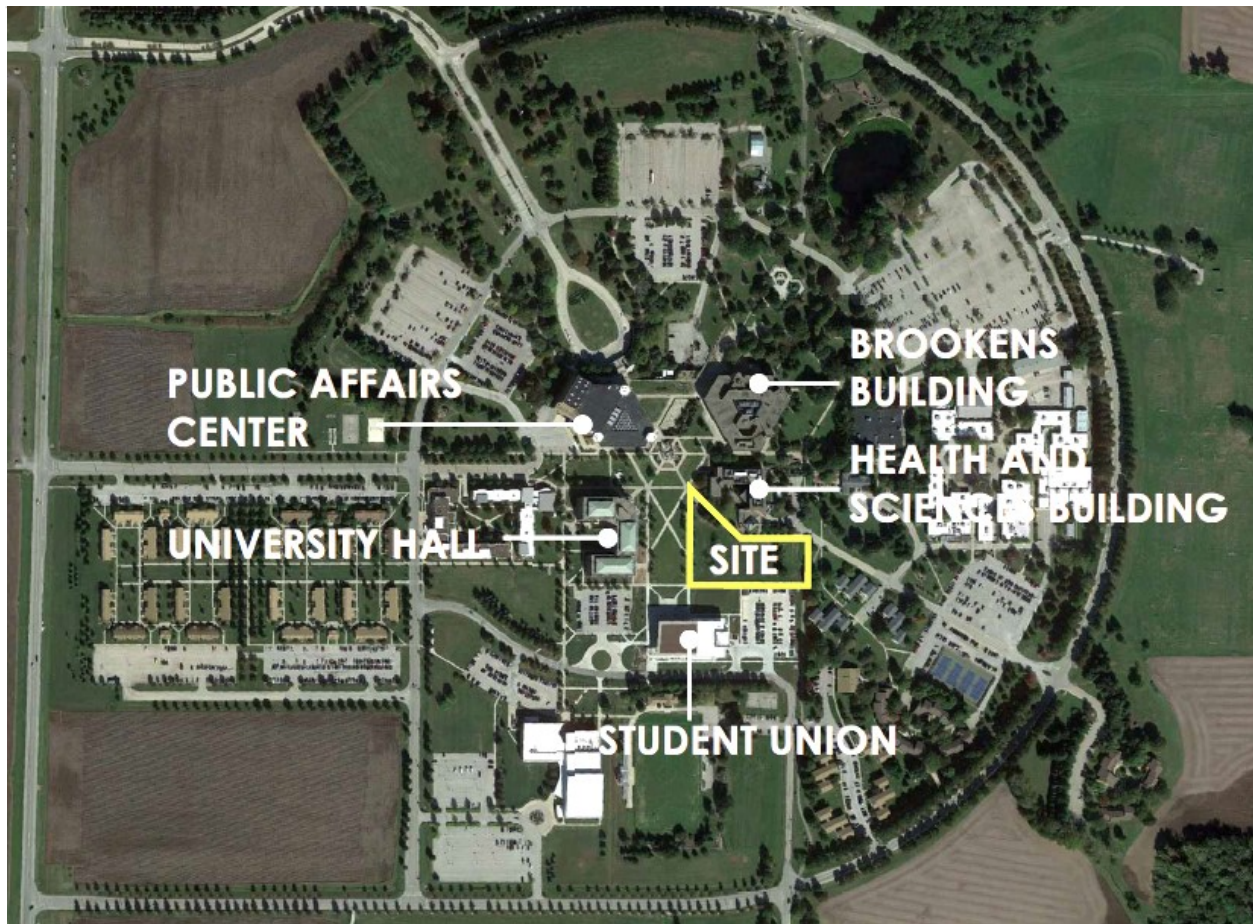
The Art-in-Architecture Procedure Manual, commission opportunities, and other information are posted on the [AIA Program website](#). For questions, email **CDB.ArtinArchitecture@illinois.gov**.

ABOUT THE ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

The Illinois Art-in-Architecture Program promotes and preserves Illinois art and enriches communities by commissioning original artwork for public buildings constructed with State funds.

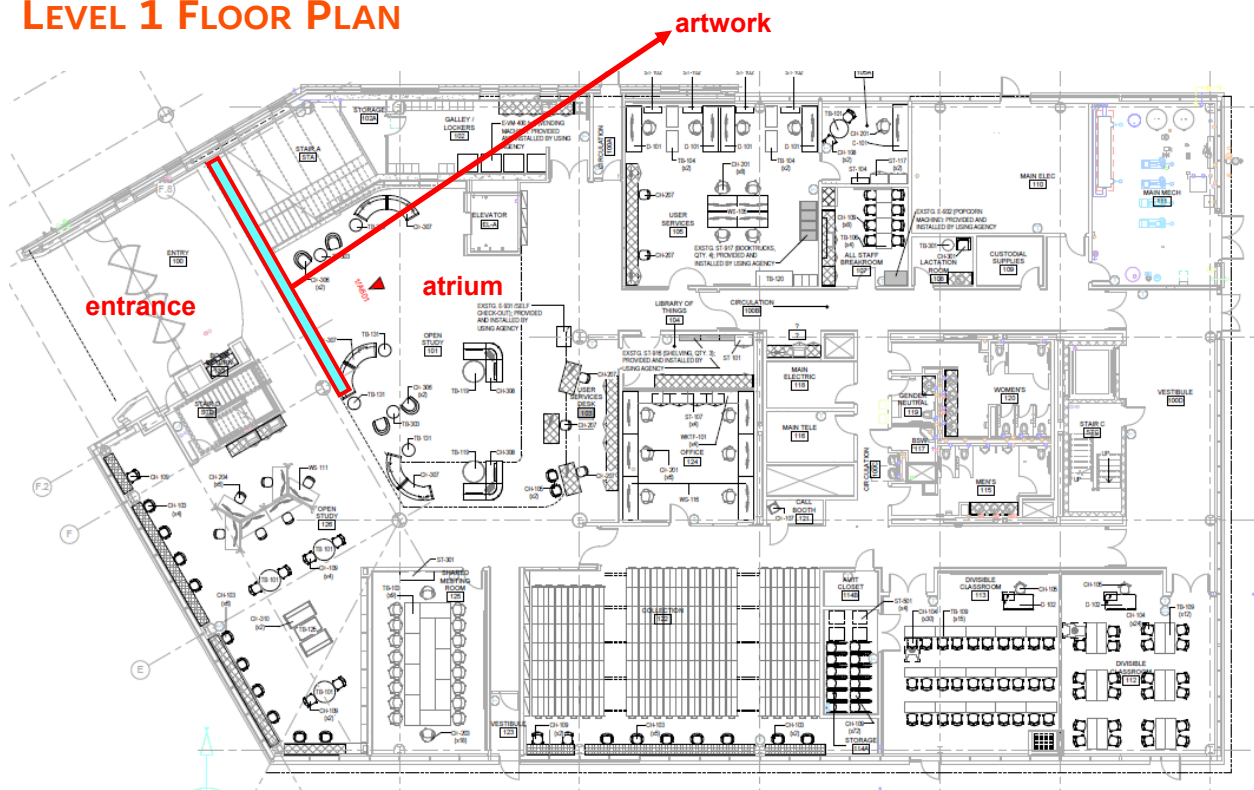
The enabling legislation for the Program requires that the Capital Development Board “shall set aside 1/2 of 1 percent of the amount authorized and appropriated for construction or reconstruction of each public building financed in whole or in part by State funds and generally accessible to and used by the public for purchase and placement of suitable works of art in such public buildings.” A committee including art professionals and the project architect oversees each project and selects the artwork.

Since its inception in 1977, the Art-in-Architecture Program has purchased or commissioned works of art by Illinois artists for public display throughout Illinois. For more information visit the [AIA Program website](#).



UIS Library Commons
Springfield, Illinois
830-080-018

LEVEL 1 FLOOR PLAN



ATRIUM



ARTWORK SITE

APPROXIMATE TOTAL WALL AREA FOR
ART-IN-ARCHITECTURE

1,014 sf

ROUGH BOUNDARY OF WHERE HANGER
SUPPORTS CAN PUNCTURE WALL

500 sf

