The City of Dallas’ Office of Arts and Culture (OAC) and the Department of Code Compliance (Code) request proposals for the beautification of a vacant lot in the Jubilee Park area of the City focusing on the Congo Neighborhood. As a part of the Beautiful Communities: Re:Imagine Vacancy Initiative, we are requesting five, double sided (4’x2.5’) vertical panel art murals that will be placed on lot at 1022 S. Congo Street. These art pieces will serve as a pop-up, neighborhood visual art installation which include images reflecting the rich culture of the community. The temporary art installation will be on display for a 6-month period. Proposals are being requested from muralists for the creation of the pieces. The tentative completion date for this project is October 29, 2023 with an unveiling ceremony on November 4, 2023. Both individual artists and artist collectives are encouraged to submit proposals. Please read below for more information and how to apply.

Funding for the project is made possible by the Office of Arts and Culture and the Department of Code Compliance.

BACKGROUND

RE:Imagine Vacancy is a program that is part of a larger revitalization effort by the OAC and Code to beautify empty lots in neighborhoods across the city. In the past, these vacant lots have been a source for legal dumping, making the green spaces unsafe and hazardous for the neighboring community. Through partnerships with local artists and community stakeholders, we hope to engage the community and create a place of natural beauty and art in Dallas neighborhoods.

Current area residents and stakeholders hold great pride in the community, and creating a visual art space is a pivotal starting point for additional community engagement and beautification. The selected proposal for muralists will be awarded $15,000 for the design, fabrication, installation, execution, and removal of the pieces. Community engagement will be a key component to obtain the rich history of the neighborhood. Awards include any materials or supplies that will be needed to complete the project.

SCOPE OF COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT

To re-imagine this landscape, we request proposals for a site-specific installation that creates a space that empowers the community while beautifying the exhibit area. Below are guidelines and requirements:

- Create an art space that belongs to the local community and invokes feelings of some of the following words: legacy, self-worth, celebration, life, joy, abundance, and history.
- Refer to the history of the neighborhood through community engagement.
- Designs should be uplifting, connective, inspiring, and colorful.
- Muralists will be responsible for securing materials to create five murals (4’x2.5’).
- Artist(s) should authentically engage with the community to obtain feedback, history, and stories that would influence the art pieces.
- Selected artist(s) must create cohesive murals that would demonstrate the history of the community by way of their independent creativity.
Art installations will be in collaboration with selected landscaping company. Installation will take place on designed granite pathways on the vacant lot.

Art installations must be temporary in nature, lasting at least 6 months, and accessible within the designated space. Artists are responsible for removing the piece after the display period is over if necessary.

Artwork must provide a positive cultural experience appropriate for children and adults in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Artwork must be free of safety hazards, have no sharp edges, have no protrusions at a level that could be struck, not be easily climbable, and have no openings less than 3” or larger than 6” (i.e., nothing in which a child could get a body part caught).

Artists must be available for a 6-month maintenance period.

HOW TO APPLY:

Submission Eligibility and Requirements:

Muralists are encouraged to apply. Experience with temporary art or environmental art is preferred, although not required. Artists must live in the city of Dallas in order to be eligible for consideration. Submission can be made by visiting https://bit.ly/oac_commarts or scanning the QR code.

Artists will be prompted to answer questions regarding their experience and vision for Re:Imagine Vacancy – Congo, and requested to submit at least 5 preliminary color images or drawings of the proposed installations, showing placement and dimensions. The secondary 5 sides will be required upon engaging with the community. Artists may also upload 3-5 images of previous works for examples, and submission of artist(s) Resume/CV will also be requested. All images must be clearly labeled with the name of the artist, title of the work, media, and dimensions, and should be in pdf, jpg, or png formats. Questions should be directed to rhonda.ivery@dallas.gov or kevin.mondy@dallas.gov.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Application for any project advertised by the City of Dallas Community Arts Program constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in this prospectus as well as recognition of ordinances and policies of the City of Dallas (including the Good Faith Effort and the Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise goals of the City Dallas).