

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Southern Connecticut State University Academic & Laboratory Science Building New Haven, Connecticut

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About the Art in Public Spaces Program:

Connecticut's Art in Public Spaces program was established in 1978 and requires 1% of the cost of construction or renovation of publicly accessible state buildings be allocated for the commission or purchase of artwork as part of the building's construction project. The [Connecticut Office of the Arts](#) and the Department of Construction Services jointly administer the Art in Public Spaces Program. Visit the [Art in Public Spaces](#) program webpage for further information about the program and to view past installations throughout the state.

Project Summary:

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) and [Southern Connecticut State University](#) (SCSU) are currently seeking the qualifications of artists for approximately two separate public art commissions for the new Academic and Laboratory Science Building on the campus of SCSU in New Haven, CT. These site-specific public art opportunities must relate to the sciences and include: an exterior sculptural work for the courtyard and wall-mounted interior 2D or low-relief work(s). The committee may consider additional locations and opportunities for art.

Budget: \$315,000.00 (*represents the overall allocation for the SCSU science building project public artworks*)

RFQ Deadline: February 12, 2014

Eligibility:

Artists MUST be registered in the COA Artist Registry. Submit a new registration or update an existing profile by the deadline indicated above. Review the [COA Artist Registry](#) webpage for more information about the registration process or email questions to ArtistRegistry@ct.gov.

The SCSU science building project is open to both in-state and out-of-state artists.

About Southern Connecticut State University and the new Science Building:

Founded as a teachers college in 1893, Southern has evolved over the past century into a comprehensive university offering 114 graduate and undergraduate programs.

As part of campus expansion, a new 98,332 square foot Academic and Laboratory Science building on the New Haven campus of Southern Connecticut State University is in development. The building will work in concert with two pre-existing buildings to enclose a new “science enclave”. The new center will enhance the science experience on campus and will embrace innovation. It will house teaching and research training laboratories for nanotechnology, physics and optics, the earth sciences, the environmental studies, cancer research, astronomy, biology, and chemistry. More information about the project is available at <http://www.southernct.edu/about/construction/new-science-building.html>.



Rendering of new Academic and Laboratory Science Building (exterior courtyard)

Project Description:

The project architects along with a committee of representatives from SCSU convened and developed the framework for the new public art opportunity for the greater SCSU community. The committee expressed an interest in artwork appropriate for the new building. The artwork should relate to the sciences across a diverse spectrum, connect to the study and activities offered, complement the architecture of the building and take advantage of public spaces appropriate for the placement of large-scale works of art.

A few items identified by the science faculty as potential considerations include: materiality of the sciences, photovoltaic cells, atoms, cells to planets, solar, kinetics, ingenuity, sound, smell, reflection, phase change (ice and water), and tactile experiences. The committee has provided this expansive list as a potential source for inspiration. Artists are encouraged to explore these various facets which are relevant to the disciplines of research and academic programs that will take place within the walls of the new building and surrounding campus structures.

Project Locations:

The committee has identified exterior and interior spaces appropriate for works of public art.

Exterior Location:

The exterior courtyard provides an opportunity to connect the three science-focused buildings on campus with a single work of art for the shared quad. The location is ideal for a vertical sculpture; one that is highly visible from all vantage points and is visible through the glass vestibule of the building. This sculptural work would need to be situated in a specific location due to the quantity and complexity of underground utilities throughout the quad along with landscaping and seating features which are part of the overall quad design.

The committee has not defined a specific material choice other than expressing the need of a durable and low maintenance work of art which relates to the sciences.

Interior Location:

The committee has discussed several potential locations suitable for interior works of art and in particular they are seeking a wall mounted 2-D or low-relief work that would engage one or more highly visible public spaces within the new building.

A secondary sculptural opportunity is possible within the interior of the building. In particular, a location near the main entrance is well suited for a suspended work of art and may be a consideration as part of the project.

Project Timeline *(all dates are subject to change):*

RFQ Deadline:	February 12, 2014
Artist selected by:	May/June 2014
Projected fully executed contract / project start date:	August / September 2014
Project installation / work completed by:	Spring 2015

Contacts:

For questions related to the Art in Public Spaces program and the SCSU Science Building RFQ contact:

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For questions related to the Artist Registry email ArtistRegistry@ct.gov