

# Call for Artists: North Avenue Median Sculpture Phase I (Request for Qualifications)

**Budget:** \$20,000 (all inclusive)

**Issued:** January 31, 2019

**Deadline to Apply:** 11:59 pm, March 21, 2019

[Apply Online](#)

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The [Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts](#) in partnership with the [Municipal Art Society of Baltimore City](#) and the [Charles North Community Association](#), offer artists and designers a unique opportunity to design and exhibit new outdoor sculpture along the medians of Baltimore's North Avenue, between Maryland and St. Paul streets. Artists and Artist teams are invited to submit their qualifications and interest to this unique opportunity.

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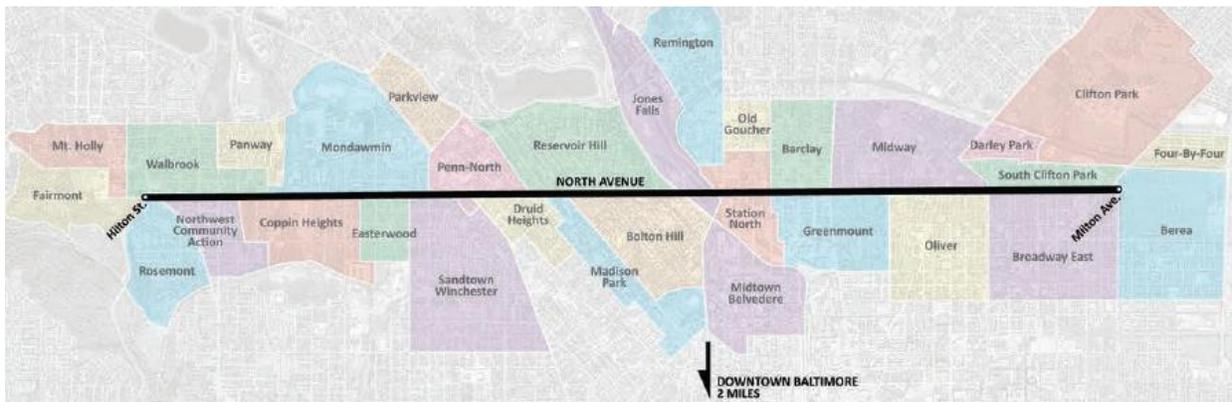
**CHARLES**  
NORTH COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION

**Municipal Art  
Society of  
Baltimore**



### ***Baltimore's North Avenue Corridor***

North Avenue plays a vital role in Baltimore as a corridor that connects neighborhoods and institutions across the City. One of the few east-west roadways that span the Jones Falls Expressway, North Avenue is an important corridor for the local economy, as well as the daily lives of many residents. The avenue is an important transportation corridor for the Baltimore, connecting the Maryland Transit Administration's Metro Subway and Light lines and is traversed by Baltimore's second-busiest bus line, carrying nearly 4 million passengers annually- a figure that has grown since the MTA has grown since the MTA implemented the *BaltimoreLink* bust network.



North Avenue also acts as a connector between a number of longest standing educational and cultural institutions such as Coppin State University, The Arch Social Club, Maryland Institute College of Art, The Great Blacks in Wax Museum, and the Duncan Street Miracle Garden, as well as the Station North Arts & Entertainment District. At first glance, it's easy to notice the vacant residential and commercial properties and deteriorating pedestrian and roadway infrastructure that signify the economic disinvestment that Baltimore and Baltimoreans have suffered from for decades. However, the entire corridor has a rich cultural history and daily life that is worthy of celebration. Through multiple incentive programs, investment projects the City of Baltimore, the surrounding communities, and multiple public and private partners have come together around the goal of revitalizing the corridor to its full potential and improving the everyday quality of life on the street.



**The North Avenue Sculpture project** is an initiative of the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts to contribute towards this goal through the commissioning and installation of contemporary outdoor sculpture and installations. Through sequential phases of the project, new artwork from emerging and established artists will be installed along North Avenue for time ranges from 6 months to 5 years. As the various phases of the project happen, the new art installations will help to “connect the dots” between the existing public art and institutions, and bring new art to locations that have seen less investment through this point.

### **Phase I: Charles North**

The first phase of the North Avenue Sculpture Project will occur in the Charles North Community, the near geographic center of the corridor. In this area, the sculptures will be located within the median spaces, specifically the “end cap” locations. These locations were activated with rotating sculpture installations in the early 2000s through the Baltimore Sculpture program and the pedestals from this time are still present. The Charles North Community Association, a partner on this project, as well as one of two neighborhoods that officially make up the Station North Arts & Entertainment District, has already done work to improve the median locations, by pruning the existing juniper shrubs, and landscape the median end caps with new plantings. The Charles North community is supporting the investment in new sculptures to add to the sense of a “gateway” to their community as well as help with traffic calming, and general visibility intended to improve the pedestrian experience in the area. In Phase I the project partners hope to commission one to two new sculptures which could be installed at three potential locations: 1) The east side of Maryland Ave & North Ave, 2) The center of the median between Maryland Ave and Charles St, or 3) The west side of North Ave & St. Paul St. (Please see attachment for a map of the locations).



### **Request for qualifications Process**

Artists and Artist based teams are invited to apply for the North Avenue Median Sculpture Project Phase I by submitting their qualifications. Artists are encouraged to have some experience working in sculptural forms, and fabricating work in a scale and medium intended for high traffic outdoor environments.

From the applicant pool, two to four Finalists will be invited to submit a full proposal for installation (Finalists will be provided a stipend). One to two projects will be selected from the finalists and commissioned to create a work intended for a period of three to five years.

**Review Process**

All applications will be received by BOPA.

Once the application closes (11:59, March 21, 2019) all complete applications will be shared with an Artist Selection Panel composed of project staff, board members of the Municipal Art Society, local stakeholders including the Charles North Community Association, art professionals, and representatives of the Public Art Commission.

After reviewing all of the applications received, the Artist Selection Panel will select three Finalists who will be asked to develop and submit a full proposal for sculptural installation to be installed at one of the North Avenue median spaces. Finalists will be offered a stipend of \$400 to develop their proposal.

Selected artist(s) will be notified by May 10, 2019.

The deadline to install artwork is July 12, 2019.

\*BOPA reserves the right to not select an applicant or award a commission for this project.

The deadline for finished artwork be installed is July 12, 2019. Artwork will be installed within the location for at least 5 years.

**Budget:**

A final budget of \$20,000 will be made available to the selected artists after reviewing the proposed project and technical installation requirements. Budgets will be negotiated individually with selected artists. Artist will be responsible for all costs and fees of creating and installing their artwork unless otherwise outlined in the artist contract.

**Schedule:**

January 31, 2019	Call for Artists published
March 21, 2019	DEADLINE to apply (11:59pm)
April 1, 2019	Finalists announced
May 1, 2019	Finalist Proposals Due
May 10, 2019	Selected Artist(s) announced.

***Application Requirements:***

All applications must include the following:

- Name(s) and contact information for the applicant.
- *Statement of Interest:* A brief statement describing the applicant's interest in this project and why they believe they are a good fit for this particular public art opportunity. (300 words max)
- **Samples of Previous work & description sheet (1page)** Please submit up to 10 examples of previous artwork that illustrate the artistic approach and ability to finish and install a project. Work samples may be photographs or video (JPG or MOV format accepted, please save video for web viewing). A single sheet describing previous work samples is also required. This should include relevant information such as size, material, year, budget etc.. for each work sample provided (saved as a PDF).
- **Resume(s)-** Please upload a professional resume or CV (8.5"x 11", 3 pages max)
- **References-** Please list two references who can speak previous work and ability to complete a similar project.

**[APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED ONLINE VIA THIS LINK](#)**

**Eligibility:**

This project is open to any artist or artist team, over the age of 18, legally living or working within the United States.

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts encourages diversity in the City's public art collection. Artists whose work is represented within the City's public art collection are not excluded; however, the artist selection panel will consider artistic diversity as a factor in the selection process.

Artists currently contracted by the Percent for Public Art program, employees or volunteer Board members from the Project Partners, members of the Public Art Commission, and employees of the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts or Baltimore City, may not apply.

**Project Partners:**

**Charles North Community Association:**

The purpose of the CNCA shall be to guarantee active, area-wide citizen participation in the development and implementation of plans, in concert with municipal, state, and federal authorities, to maintain, develop, renovate, and rehabilitate, the area within its boundaries and to provide for the continuation, on an orderly basis, of diverse uses of land and structures.

**The Municipal Art Society of Baltimore City** was founded in 1899 as part of the City Beautiful movement. It is one of only two remaining societies to be operating under its original charter “to provide sculptural and pictorial decoration and ornaments for the public buildings, streets and open spaces in the City of Baltimore, and to help generally beautify the City.” In 2016, MASOB embarked on a path to provide new opportunities to Baltimore artists and art places within the City, founding two annual prizes: an Artist Travel Prize and this Public Art Prize. [www.masbaltimore.com](http://www.masbaltimore.com)

**Program Information:**

*The North Avenue Median Sculpture Project and The Percent for Public Art Program and the Public Art Commission* are managed by the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts on behalf of the City of Baltimore.

A full description of the legal regulations of the City’s Percent for Public Art requirements can be found in Article V. Subsection 21 of the Baltimore City Code. An overview of the operations of the Percent for Art Program can be found in the [Baltimore City Public Art Guidelines](#) (2013).

**We’re here to help!**

We are happy to help to answer any questions about the application process. For any inquiries related to the call or artist selection process please contact: Lou Joseph, Visual Art Specialist, Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts [ljoseph@promotionandarts.org](mailto:ljoseph@promotionandarts.org), 443-263-4339

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