

Lots Alive

Request for Proposals (RFP)

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts and the Baltimore Office of Sustainability's Growing Green Initiative welcome proposals from visual and performing artists, designers, and architects for their new grant program, *Lots Alive*.

Lots Alive supports the creation of **temporary public art projects** sited on vacant lots within the Baltimore City limits. Project lifespans can range from 1 day to 1 year and can include, but are not limited to: site specific sculptures, artist-designed parklet furniture, fence treatments, and performing arts. Projects that actively engage residents and community members in the design of the project are encouraged to apply.

Winning proposals will be eligible for grants ranging from \$2000 to \$10,000.

Designed in partnership with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake's Growing Green Initiative, *Lots Alive* aims to breathe life into underutilized vacant spaces through creative interventions.

About the Growing Green Initiative (GGI)

Managed by the Department of Planning's Office of Sustainability, GGI is a city-led effort to use sustainable, innovative, and cost-effective practices for stabilizing and holding land for redevelopment, and reusing vacant land to green neighborhoods, reduce stormwater runoff, grow food, and create community spaces.

About the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA)

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization which serves as Baltimore City's arts council, film office, and events agency. By producing large-scale events such as Artscape, America's largest free arts festival, and offering funding and support to arts programs across the city, BOPA's goal is to make Baltimore a more vibrant and creative city.

DEADLINE
November 9, 2015

Applicant Eligibility

This RFP is open to artists, designers, architects, and community residents over 18 years of age and living in Baltimore City.

Employees of the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts are not eligible to apply.

Timeline

Submission Deadline: November 9, 2015
Award Notification: January 6, 2016

All projects must be implemented for Spring, Summer or Fall of 2016

Final Reports Due: October 31, 2016

Application Checklist:

- Site Address
- Site Photo
- Project Description
- Project Drawings
- Project Budget
- Project Timeline
- Letter of Support from local Community Organization
- Letter of Support from Property Owner (if privately owned)
- Artist Resume
- Artist Work Samples

Site Selection

Applicants are encouraged to select vacant lot sites that are highly visible, city-owned, and do not currently have an established project or programming. Projects on privately owned sites are also eligible to apply, but please see below for required documentation from property owner. Since the focus is temporary art, vacant lots that are within a future redevelopment area will be considered. A single lot or a grouping of lots can be included in the application.

How to Identify an Available City-Owned Lot

Available city-owned lots can easily be found using CityView's "adopt a lot" map overlay (<http://cityview.baltimorecity.gov/cv/map.aspx?question=200>). On this map, white circles mark available lots, green circles mark community managed open spaces, and red circles mark adopted lots.

Some city-owned lots may require grant awardees to sign an Adopt-A-Lot license agreement (http://www.baltimorehousing.org/vtov_adopt) if applicable and depending on the art piece.

How to Identify a Property Owner

CityView (<http://cityview.baltimorecity.gov/>) is also a good place to find property ownership information. To find property information, enter in the property location or address in the first box under "My Location." You can also search specific neighborhoods under "My Neighborhood." Then click on "view all categories" below the "Find" heading, and select "Property Information." Another drop down menu will appear and select "Property information" then scroll down to the Info heading to view property information, including the owner. Properties labeled as "MCC" owned are city-owned.

If you are interested in applying for a non-City owned site, the property owner must be contacted prior to submitting your application. The grant application will require you to submit either a letter of support for your project or evidence of following Self-Help Abatement for the lot (<http://communitylaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/self-help-nuisance-abatement-handout.pdf>).

You can search for property owner contact information via the Maryland Department of Assessment & Taxation's Real Property Data Search (<http://sdat.resiusa.org/RealProperty/Pages/default.aspx>).

Selection Criteria

Projects will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1) Artistic Merit
- 2) Appropriateness of Budget
- 3) Visual Impact/Visibility
- 4) Community Involvement and Impact

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Budget

Project budgets showing both income and expenses must be submitted as part of your application. Budgets should realistically reflect the costs of executing the project. Matching funds are not required for this grant, however, if the project budget exceeds the total award amount requested (\$2,000-10,000), the source of additional funding must be made clear in the proposed project budget. For a budget template, [CLICK HERE](#).

Application

Applications are available online at: <http://promotionandarts.submittable.com/submit/46445>

Required application materials are as follows:

1. Project Site Address
2. Project Site Photo
3. Project Description (500 words or less)
4. Project Drawings – drawings must clearly illustrate the proposed work
5. Project Budget
6. Project Timeline – note that all projects must be implemented by October 30, 2016
7. Letter of Support from the proposed site's local community organization
8. Letter of Support from the property owner or evidence of Self-Help Abatement for the lot (if the lot is privately owned)
9. Artist Resume/CV – artists working in teams may submit one resume for work completed as a team
10. Artist Work Samples (5 images)

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Contact

Lots Alive is a program of the [Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts](#) and the [Baltimore Office of Sustainability](#).

For more information on this project please contact:

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