



## Theme

Artists are encouraged to propose their unique take on what would best honor Merle Haggard, complement the site, while being mindful of context, safety, and durability. The artwork should be reflective of the cultural and musical history, which is the mission of the OMHOF. The artwork should reflect community spirit, while paying tribute to the musical and cultural treasures that make Muskogee a musical melting pot.

One objective is to create one of the most photographed sites in Muskogee, Oklahoma. There are two lines of site for these photos. One will have the Civic Center in the background. The other photo op will have the flagpole at the Federal Courthouse in the background to go along with the song's lyric, "We still wave Old Glory down at the courthouse."

The artwork has been envisioned as a life-sized statue/ memorial. The age of Merle should reflect the time he recorded & released the song "Okie from Muskogee" in 1969. The site provides opportunity for the artwork to be scaled to attract the attention of pedestrians and approaching drivers in Downtown Muskogee. It should be so detailed that it invites a close-up or extended inspection for appreciation. Visitors should feel compelled to have a seat with Merle or stand near him.

## RFP

- 1) The artwork should improve and not detract from the safety of the site
- 2) Artwork should be designed with consideration for multiple vantage points and be equally intriguing from all angles
- 3) Artwork should be constructed to reasonably discourage and / or deter theft and vandalism
- 4) The artwork should not have kinetic elements or water features
- 5) Overall artwork should be no larger than 10 ft x 5 ft and artwork of Merle should be life size scale.

Please request site plan drawings, as well as aerial photos for the location for artwork and legend details, as well as an additional information by contacting Merle Haggard Statue Committee, (email) [OKmusic@OMHOF.com](mailto:OKmusic@OMHOF.com).

## Project Budget

The selected artist or artist team will be responsible for the design, fabrication and shipment to the site and to assist with the installation of the artwork. The available budget must cover all of the above including, but not limited to, artist's fee, fabrication, engineering, permits, taxes, insurance, materials, tools, travel, project photography and documentation, expense contingency and any other associated costs accrued by the

artists specific to this Call to Artists. On site installation costs will be covered by the City of Muskogee.

#### Commission Requirements

Interested artists or artist teams must submit the following:

- 1) An artist statement, not exceeding one page, addressing conceptual approach to this project.
- 2) Current resume, not to exceed two pages for each artist.
- 3) Ten digital images of relevant, recently completed artwork. Submit on PC compatible thumb drive. Images should be JPEG format, 1920 pixels on longest side and 300 DPI. If using a fabricator or other design source, please provide 10 digital images of completed work in the same format.
- 4) Image list identifying images by number. List: title, media, completion date, dimensions, (height/ width/ depth) and a brief description of the work.
- 5) Contact information for two professional references.
- 6) Do not staple or bind any of the written materials

#### Basis for Selection for 6 Candidates

Artist submissions will be evaluated utilizing the following criteria

- 1) Artist qualifications technical competence and experience
- 2) Originality, feasibility, artistic quality and creativity of proposed artwork.
- 3) Approach to structural integrity, maintenance and durability; installation cost
- 4) Portfolio review

#### Basis for Selection for Finalists

Artist submissions will be evaluated utilizing the following criteria

- 1) Artist qualifications, technical competence and experience
- 2) Originality, feasibility, artistic quality and creativity of proposed artwork
- 3) Approach to structural integrity, maintenance and durability; installation cost

#### Selection Process

All finalists will be required to develop additional presentation materials.

#### Application Deadline

Applications must state " RFP" on the envelope and be received at the following address by Thursday, June 1st, 2023

#### Estimated Timeline

Date Application deadline Thursday, June 1st, 2023.

Date Interviews for candidates the week of August 10th, 2023.

The artist selected will be required to enter into a contract with the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame.

Commissioned artwork is the sole property of the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame.

Installation and final art date will be discussed with the selected artist. The final

installation dates and public unveiling ceremonies will be announced.

#### Rules and Guidelines

The Merle Haggard Stature Committee reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, as deemed appropriate and re-open the competition if deemed necessary, to change the dates if the project timeline, and/or to modify this Call to Artists to request additional information or proposals from any of all participating artists.

NIOTE: The funds for this project are secured and the project is ready to proceed.