Project Summary

MARTA Artbound seeks an artist to create an artwork to be translated into a large mosaic installation at the Airport MARTA Station. The selected artist will work in tandem with a mosaic fabricator to bring their original artwork to its best translation in mosaic tile. The mosaic fabricator will produce and install the finished mosaic. The selected artist will only be responsible for creating the original artwork and consulting with the mosaicist, and will not have any responsibility for coordination, construction, or installation of the finished mosaic tilework.

Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applicants will be artists who work primarily in paint or two-dimensional media, and who show artistic merit demonstrated in a strong portfolio of past work. Artists’ references will be reviewed to assure that shortlisted artists are able to collaborate creatively with project team members.

Budget

The project is funded by MARTA and has a budget of $35,000, which covers the creation of the artwork as well as consultation time with the mosaic fabricator on artistic aspects of realizing the work. Artist travel or lodging needs that may arise from the working relationship with the mosaicist will be covered in a separate project budget once the mosaic fabricator has been engaged.

Site Description

The designated site in the Airport MARTA Station is located at a “decision point” as riders exit the fare gates and proceed either to the North or South Terminal of the Airport. The area is extremely transitional and does not see significant dwell time from customers. The artwork site is a wall measuring approximately 70’ x 15’ (see photos), so the completed mosaic will be monumental in size.

The entire passenger area of the Station is undergoing a cosmetic upgrade, and this artwork is part of that initiative. As such, it is planned to open with the completion of the upgrades in 2021.

Currently, the site contains an artwork that was commissioned in 1988 and will be placed in storage prior to relocation. Please see the Site Documentation for the current site conditions and renderings of the planned upgrades.

Project Goals

Commission an exciting and visually stunning new artwork that will capture the public’s imagination and create a landmark within the busy movement of the Airport.

Provide a significant public artwork that is consistent with the high caliber of the Airport’s public art program.

Give our ridership a sense of pride and create excitement around Artbound as well as the station enhancement/upgrades at the Airport Station.
Required Submittals: Application Deadline is March 2, 2020 at 5 pm.

Please send the following materials via WeTransfer.com in one PDF Document to artbound@itsmarta.com

- 15 – 20 digital images of relevant previous work, labeled with title, dimensions, date of completion; If public artwork, also include location, project budget, and project partners as applicable.
- Statement of Purpose describing a general approach to the design and/or the space
- Resume with current contact information
- Three professional references

Selection Process

The selection process will have two phases.

Phase 1:
- Artists will submit the items listed in “Required Submittals” for review by a formal Selection Panel composed of MARTA, Airport, and arts community stakeholders.
- Artist Submittal Packages will be ranked by the Panel, and 3-4 artists will be designated Finalists to create a proposal for final review.

Phase 2:
- Finalists will each be provided a stipend of $1500 to create a proposal artwork
- The award recommendation will be made by the Selection Panel from among these proposed artworks.
- MARTA will notify Finalists of the Panel’s decision and a contract will be executed with the awarded artist. Please note that MARTA will own the selected proposal and final artwork by the commissioned artist.

The commissioned artist will complete their final artwork at an appropriate size that may be scaled up by the mosaic fabricator to create the mosaic. MARTA will vet and select a mosaic fabricator through a separate process, and MARTA Artbound will facilitate the working relationship between the artist and the selected fabricator.

The artist will not be responsible for any project management related to the mosaic work, and is only responsible for creating the initial artwork, and consulting with the mosaicist to best realize the artwork in both spirit and likeness.
The dark blue wall with brushed aluminum artwork is the existing art site. The entire blue area of the wall will be prepped for mosaic tile.

**Rendering of Future Site**

This perspective is coming downstairs from the Platform into the Airport at Ground level. Riders will proceed toward the artwork and have a decision point to turn right or left and enter the Airport via either North or South Terminal.
Future Site Condition from side view, entering Station from airport

This perspective shows the view coming into the Station. Passengers may also enter from the doors directly opposite this POV. From here, riders will either immediately make the left through the fare gates, or use the adjacent kiosks to purchase tickets and then make the turn. In both views the existing artwork is shown in the new art site as a placeholder. The yellow and red wall finishes, respectively, will not be on the finished wall but are also meant as a placeholder.