



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Mural Wall at The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park

Overview

The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park invites artists and creative teams to submit qualifications for a mural design for a prominent outdoor barn wall located within the future sculpture park in Edmond, Oklahoma.

We are seeking an imaginative, memorable, site-responsive design that will become an important visual element of the park and contribute to the experience of visitors as they explore the landscape and sculpture collection. We'd like the artwork to reflect the history of the barn which was used to house Arabian horses.

The selected artist will be commissioned to develop a design for a large-scale, south facing, barn wall measuring approximately:

100 feet wide × 13 feet high

The wall presents an extraordinary opportunity for an artist to create a work that can be experienced at a monumental scale while remaining connected to the character, landscape, history, and spirit of both the park and Oklahoma.

About The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park

The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park is a 62-acre destination for sculpture, art, nature, play and community in Oklahoma. The park is envisioned as a place where visitors can encounter ambitious works of art in an expansive natural setting, creating opportunities for discovery, reflection, conversation, and connection.

The barn wall will be one component of this larger environment. The successful proposal should consider how the artwork will relate to the surrounding landscape, architecture, sculpture, and

visitor experience. We are particularly interested in design that feels classic, distinctive, joyful, thought-provoking, and rooted in place, while serving as a symbol for what the barn was originally built for, Arabian horses. This wall overlooks an event lawn that will be used for events of all types. For this reason, we want the mural to be appealing to all audiences and have a classic higher end feel so it blends well as a backdrop to weddings, etc.

We are looking for an artist who sees the possibilities.

To learn more about the park, please visit www.uncommonground.org or follow us on social media.

The Opportunity

The selected artist will be asked to develop an original concept for the approximately **100' W x 13' H barn wall**.

The artwork may be:

- A mural
- A large-scale graphic or illustrative work
- An abstract or conceptual design
- A pattern or repeating visual language
- A site-specific interpretation of the landscape or Oklahoma or Arabian horses
- An interpretation of the barn itself

We want artists to bring their own ideas, artistic voice, and creative perspective to the opportunity. However, we have included a couple photos below to highlight a direction that you might consider reflective of the barn's original use.

Artistic Considerations

While artists are encouraged to consider the barn's original use, you are welcome to propose original ideas, proposals may consider themes and characteristics such as:

Oklahoma & Sense of Place

The work might respond to the landscape, history, culture, people, ecology, geology, agriculture, or distinctive character of Oklahoma.

Art & Nature

The park's setting creates an opportunity for the artwork to engage with the natural environment rather than functioning simply as a standalone wall mural.

Discovery & Wonder

The park is intended to inspire visitors of all ages. We welcome work that creates a sense of curiosity, delight, surprise, contemplation, or wonder.

The Barn/Horses

Artists may choose to embrace, reinterpret, obscure, highlight, or otherwise engage with the architecture and history suggested by the barn.

Longevity

The artwork should be designed to remain visually compelling over time and should take into consideration Oklahoma's climate, sun exposure, wind, temperature fluctuations, and other environmental conditions.

Site & Scale

Location: The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park, Oklahoma

Approximate wall dimensions:

100 feet wide × 13 feet high

Approximate surface area:

1,300 square feet

The selected artist will be provided with additional site information, photographs, dimensions, surface/material specifications, and other relevant information as available.

Artists should consider the scale of the work from multiple viewing distances, including how it will be experienced by visitors approaching the barn, standing near the wall, and viewing it from farther away within the park. There are some windows and a door on the wall as well. See photos below.

Scope of Work

The selected Oklahoma artist will be expected to:

1. Develop an original concept for the barn wall.
2. Provide preliminary sketches, renderings, or digital visualization of the proposed design.
3. Refine the concept in collaboration with The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park.
4. Provide final artwork/design files and specifications necessary for implementation.
5. Provide recommendations regarding appropriate materials, paints, finishes, coatings, or other fabrication considerations.
6. Participate in reasonable meetings or conversations with the park's project team during the design process.

7. Provide appropriate guidance during installation, if requested and included within the final agreement.

Proposal Requirements

Please submit the following:

1. Artist Statement

A brief statement introducing your artistic practice and explaining your interest in this project.

2. Concept Proposal

A written description of your proposed approach for the barn wall.

This does not need to be a fully developed final design. We are interested in understanding your creative vision and how you would approach the opportunity; however, you may choose to provide a mockup if you'd like.

3. Relevant Experience/Portfolio

Please provide five examples of previous work that demonstrate your ability to create work at a large scale or in a public/site-specific environment.

4. Budget

Provide a proposed fee or budget range for your work.

Please distinguish between:

- Artist/design fee
- Materials
- Installation
- Equipment

5. Timeline

Provide your anticipated timeline for concept development, design, revisions, and completion. The park opens November 2027. Artwork needs to be completed by the 1st of October.

Selection Criteria

From this RFQ, up to five artists will be selected to submit an RFP. Those selected will receive \$1,000 stipend to create renderings for their specific proposal.

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Artistic quality and originality
- Strength and creativity of the proposed concept
- Ability to respond thoughtfully to the site
- Appropriateness of the work for a contemporary sculpture park
- Experience with large-scale, public, or site-specific artwork
- Understanding of scale and visitor experience
- Durability and feasibility
- Budget and overall project value
- Ability to collaborate effectively with the park's project team

The selection committee may request additional information, revisions, interviews, or presentations from finalists before making a final selection.

Budget

A project budget will be established in consultation with the selected artist based on the proposed concept, scope of work, materials, and installation requirements.

Artists should submit their anticipated fees and estimated project costs as part of their proposal.

The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park reserves the right to negotiate the final scope, fee, and project budget with the selected artist.

Project Schedule

RFQ Issued: September 21, 2026

RFQ Deadline: October 15, 2026

RFQ Finalists Selected: November 2, 2026

RFP Deadline: December 1, 2026

Finalist Selected: January 15, 2027

Final Design: July 31, 2027

Installation/Completion: by October 1, 2027

The schedule may be adjusted as necessary based on construction, site conditions, weather, fundraising, permitting, and other project considerations.

Artist Eligibility

The opportunity is open to:

- Professional artists
- Muralists
- Painters
- Artist teams

Artists from Oklahoma and throughout the United States are encouraged to apply.

We welcome proposals from established and emerging Oklahoma artists whose work demonstrates the vision and ability to successfully undertake a project of this scale.

Important Considerations

The selected artwork will become part of the visitor experience at The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park. This mural design will change every five years.

Artists should therefore consider:

- Long-term durability
- Maintenance requirements
- Oklahoma weather and climate
- Sun exposure
- Visitor safety
- Environmental conditions
- Relationship to the surrounding sculptures and landscape
- Visibility from various distances
- Appropriate materials and coatings
- Accessibility and public viewing

Any proposed materials or installation methods will be subject to review and approval by the park and its project consultants.

Submission

Please submit electronically to:

The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park
Attn: Melissa Pepper
mpepper@uncommonground.org
Subject line: Barn Wall RFQ — [Artist Name]

All materials should be submitted as a single PDF or through the submission method designated by The Uncommon Ground Sculpture Park.

Questions

Questions regarding the site, project, submission requirements, or artist eligibility may be directed to:

Melissa Pepper

mpepper@uncommonground.org

Subject line: Barn Wall RFQ Questions — [Artist Name]

We look forward to seeing your vision for this extraordinary wall.

Bring us something uncommon!

Examples of Murals



Current Barn Photo





Architectural Renderings



Map of Park – Site Location Marked by Blue Star

