

Public Art

Oakville Public Library Glen Abbey Branch

Request for Expressions of Interest

Deadline: Sunday June 12, 2022 by 11:59 p.m. EST



Request for Expressions of Interest

Public Art Opportunity

Oakville Public Library
Glen Abbey Branch
1415 Third Line
Oakville, Ontario

Deadline: Sunday June 12, 2022 by 11:59 p.m. EST
Budget: \$50,000 CAD (maximum)

Artist Opportunity

The Oakville Public Library (OPL) invites artists to submit expressions of interest to create a permanent indoor public artwork for the Kid's Zone with components on the outdoor patio area of the Glen Abbey Branch. This competition is open to professional Canadian artists and artist-led teams.*

OPL values diversity and social inclusion. OPL strives to recognize and address systemic oppression in order to create an environment that is welcoming and respectful to all, regardless of age, ancestry, citizenship, creed, race, ethnic origin, place of origin, disability, family status, marital status, gender identity/gender expression, or sexual orientation. OPL embraces such differences and endeavours to reflect diversity among its staff and volunteers and throughout all collections, programs, communications, staffing practices, training, and services.

*As per the Canada Council's guidelines, a professional artist is defined as an individual who has specialized skills and/or artistic training, has a history of public exhibitions in a professional context, ** has produced an independent body of work, and is critically recognized as an artist.

** *A professional context is one that is recognized by a professional curator, gallery owner, art dealer, collective of professional artists or jury of professionals in the field.*

Two Stage Competition

This is a two stage competition. An artwork proposal is not requested at this time.

Stage One: Applicants are reviewed based on the merit of artist's past work, professional qualifications and experience.

Stage Two: Short-listed artists will be will be paid an artist fee of \$1,500 to develop their artwork concept proposal based on detailed artwork specifications.

The selected artist will enter into a contract with the Oakville Public Library for the artwork creation and installation phase of the project. The final artwork to be unveiled in Fall 2023.

Project Goals

The goals of this project are to:

- Provide visual interest and enhance the Glen Abbey Branch of the Oakville Public Library with an inspiring public artwork;
- Engage the community at large, at all age levels, and in the neighbourhood;
- Foster dialogue.

Background

The Oakville Public Library's (OPL) vision is to connect people to what inspires them.

OPL is situated on Treaty #14 and Treaty #22 lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and the Haudenosaunee. Oakville is currently home to many different First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. Regardless of where we come from, we are all interconnected through the land that we live on, water that we use and air that we breathe. We are committed to a continuous learning journey in allyship. We seek to elevate Indigenous voices and lived experience to cultivate reconciliation in Oakville.

OPL aspires to be the destination in Oakville to inspire, connect, create, and learn. OPL's mission is to bring together people, information and ideas to enrich lives and build healthy communities. Libraries are an integral part of any community. A library is a cultural hub, a meeting place, a space to work and play, among other things. OPL's role is pivotal in helping connect customers to the world at-large, sparking innovation in the community and supporting growth and mental health through access to library resources.

Glen Abbey Branch

Located within the Glen Abbey Community Centre in northwest Oakville, the Glen Abbey Branch is OPL's busiest location. As a community and cultural hub in north Oakville, the branch is well used by families with young children, students, older adults and seniors, and newcomers. It hosts a variety of programming for all-ages that inspires creativity and is recognized for its excellent programs, services, and ability to serve as a place for those needing respite from home and school/work pressures.

In 2020, the Glen Abbey Branch introduced two unique spaces: the Creation Zone which is an area dedicated to creativity, innovation, and life learning skills through hands-on experiences and the Kid's Zone, a bright and spacious area that welcomes children and families for fun and engaging drop-in programs. The new outdoor space expands the Glen Abbey Branch with a 1,900 square foot functional patio. Adjacent to the Kid's Zone, it is a welcoming and accessible public gathering space for structured library programs as well as leisurely activities.

For more information visit: [Home | Oakville Public Library \(opl.ca\)](https://www.opl.ca)

Project Considerations

The artwork must adhere to the following design parameters:

- Be an interior, wall based, installation, suitable for exhibition in a public space with elements extending outdoors onto a patio wall and fence;
- Be appropriate for Site 1 (Kid's Zone, interior wall based) and Site 2 (Outdoor Zone, exterior wall based) in scale, execution, materials and creativity (refer to appendices);
- Does not restrict or obstruct visitors' movement through the library or compromise accessibility standards;
- Be fabricated using high quality, long-lasting materials;
- Not pose a risk to public safety;
- Must incorporate themes related to the Kid's Zone activities

The selected artist may be required to submit drawings certified by a structural engineer licensed to operate in Ontario.

Artwork Location

The primary location for the artwork will be sited on two walls of the Kid's Zone located on the south-east and north-east walls (site 1, appendices A, B, C) with elements to be installed on the outdoor patio wall and fence (site 2, appendices D, E, F).

Site 1 Kid's Zone: South-east and north-east wall dimensions are approximately 44.5' wide x 9' tall (from ceiling to top of bookshelves).

Site 2 Outdoor Patio Wall and Fence: Panels to be installed on the outdoor patio wall and fence areas. Panel dimensions on the patio wall to be approximately 6' x 6'. Panel dimensions on the fence to be 30" x 30" each, with approximately 6 (minimum) to 12 (maximum) panels installed on the interior and exterior sides of the fence.

Artwork must be created for the interior site 1 with themes extending into outdoor site 2.

Project Budget

The total budget for all expenses related to this project is a maximum of \$50,000 Canadian dollars. This is the total amount available for all related expenses of this public art project including but not limited to: artist fees, all applicable taxes, detailed renderings, materials, site preparation, technical consultations and approvals or other expertise as required, fabrication, installation, insurance, equipment, permit fees, travel to meetings and to the site, and an artist statement for the completed work.

Eligibility

This competition is open to all professional Canadian artists and artist-led teams. The selected artist must be able to travel to Oakville Ontario for a minimum of three visits: to attend a technical consultation meeting; to manage the installation of the artwork; and to engage with public dialogue (i.e. artist talk /public unveiling event).

Selection Process

The public art concept will be selected by a specially-convened independent selection committee, made up of visual arts professionals, community representatives, and Oakville Public Library staff.

This is a two stage competition.

Stage One: The selection committee will review all applicants based on the selection criteria and narrow the entries to a short list of artists who will move to Stage Two.

Stage Two: Short-listed artists will be required to develop a concept proposal for the artwork consisting of artist statement; preliminary design drawings (digital designs are accepted); maquette/model; and a draft budget.

Short-listed artists will be paid an artist fee of \$1,500 to develop their proposals. The selection committee will conduct interviews as part of the deliberation process.

At the end of Stage Two, the selection committee will choose the successful artist based on the merits of the concept proposal and technical feasibility. The selected artist will then enter into a contract with the Oakville Public Library for the artwork creation and installation phase of the project. The artist must guarantee the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

Reserved Rights of the Oakville Public Library

The Oakville Public Library is the administrative lead for this project. The Oakville Public Library, at its sole discretion, reserves the following rights to:

- Request clarification or additional information, as it deems necessary to evaluate submissions;
- Determine the suitability of the submission and capability of the prospective artist(s);
- Select the artist(s) that it deems most appropriate for the project;
- Choose to not recommend any application, proposal or finalist and to terminate or re-advertise any project;
- Issue public announcements regarding the competition.

Estimated Project Timeline (2022 - 2023)

2022 April 15	Public call for expressions of interest opens
2022 June 12	Deadline for Stage One: expressions of interest due
2022 July	Selection committee meets to review applications and select short-listed artists
2022 August Technical questions will be answered within 10 days	Deadline for Stage Two: short-listed artists' concept proposals due
2022 September	Selection committee reviews proposals and interviews with artists scheduled
2022 September	Award of project, selected artist enters into a contract with the Town of Oakville
2022 September - 2023 August	Design, creation, and fabrication of artwork
2023 August	Installation of artwork on site
2023 September	Public unveiling for Culture Days 2023

The schedule above is provided as a guideline only and is subject to change.

Submission Requirements: Stage One

Applications are due on or before deadline: Sunday, June 12 by 11:59 p.m. EST

Applications to be submitted by email to: public.art@oakville.ca.

A complete submission package includes the following documentation in **one PDF document**. The PDF must be labelled with the name of the artist and project (Last Name First Name _Library) and include:

1. Application form (page 12).
2. Artist curriculum vitae (resume – one for each team member, if applicable). Provide a list of your training/education, exhibitions, grants/awards and other professional art experience (maximum four pages), and briefly list the highlights of your artistic work in the past 24 months.
3. Expression of interest statement. Submit a brief statement outlining your interest in this project (maximum two pages). Outline your experience and approach to creating artwork for the public realm. Experience with permanent public projects is an asset, but not a requirement.
4. A maximum of 10 images of your artwork with caption including title, materials, dimensions, location, and commissioning body (if applicable). Audio/video files may be provided via URL.

Do not submit original artwork. Application materials will not be returned.

5. References. Provide the name, address, phone number and email for two references who have been directly involved with your artistic practice and/or past public art projects.

You will receive an email notification that your application has been received.

Artist(s) will retain copyright over their proposals, however the proposals may be used by the Oakville Public Library in meetings with stakeholders and town staff. Please note that proposals will not be returned.

Appendices

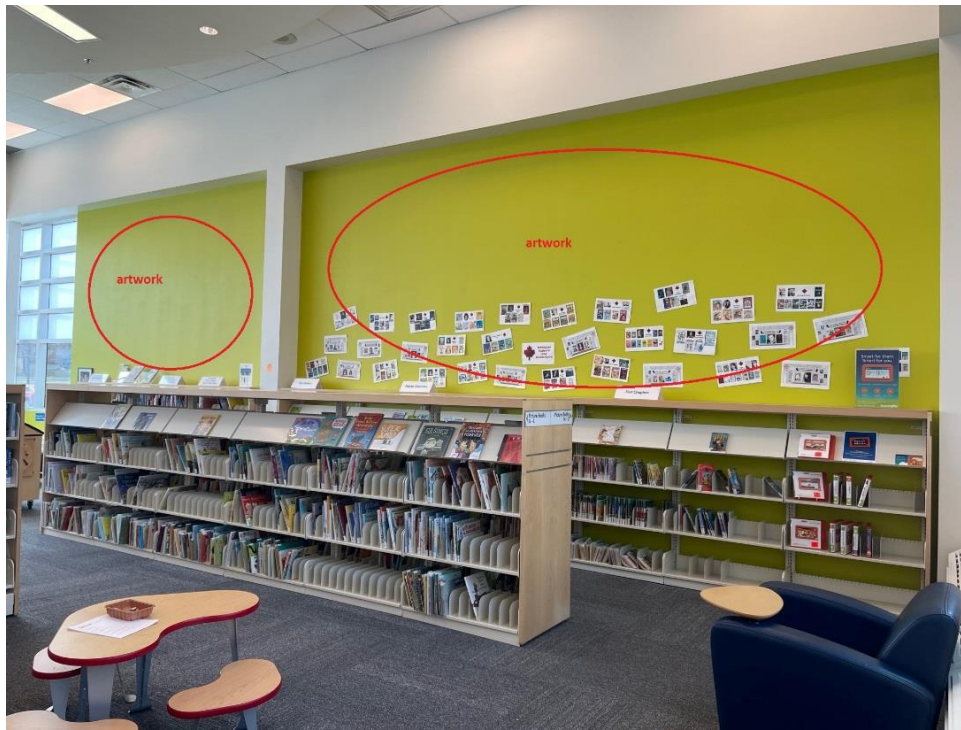
Appendix A: Site 1 Kid's Zone, full view



Appendix B: Site 1 Kid's Zone, south-east wall above book shelves.



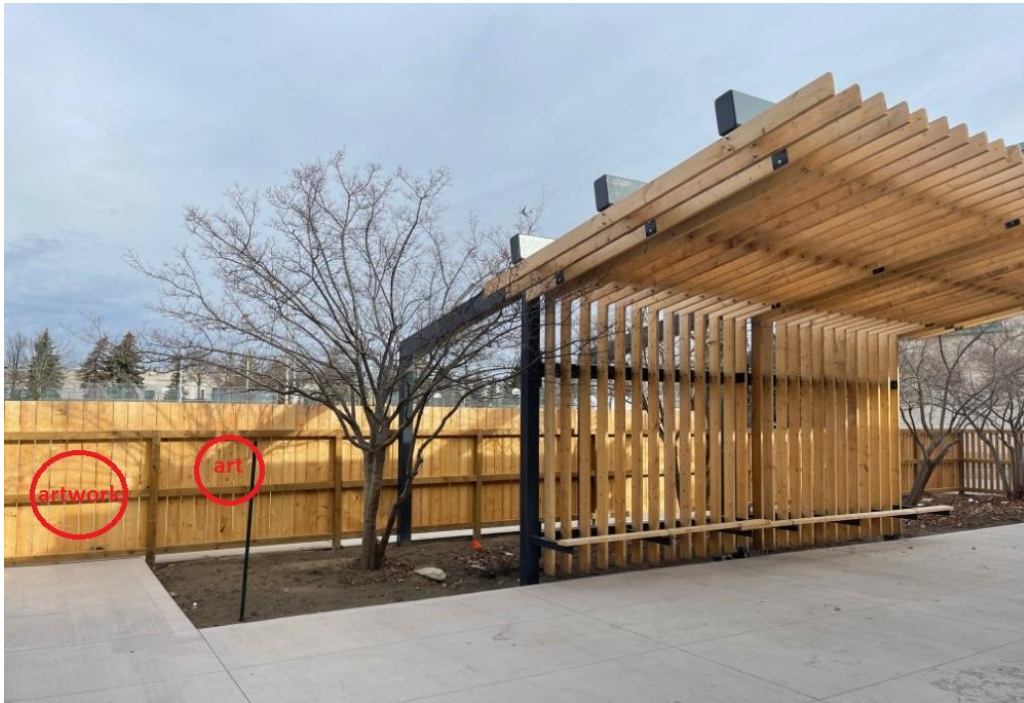
Appendix C: Site 1 Kid's Zone, north-east wall above book shelves.



Appendix D: Site 2 Outdoor Zone, suggested art panels installed on fence and wall.



Appendix E: Site 2 Outdoor Zone, suggested art panels installed on fence.



Appendix F: Site 2 Outdoor Zone, view from parking lot to the Outdoor Zone of the exterior fence with suggested art panels.



Application Form

Applications are due on or before Deadline: Sunday, June 12 by 11:59 p.m. EST

Applications must be submitted by email **one PDF document** to: public.art@oakville.ca

First Name:	Last Name:
Address:	
City:	Province:
Postal code:	Country:
Phone:	Website:
Email:	

The applicant is in agreement with the Eligibility and Selection Criteria as outlined in this document:

Signature of applicant:	Date:
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Contact: Tonia Di Rasio, Program Supervisor – Culture

905-845-6601, ext. 4614 and/or public.art@oakville.ca

Public Art Competition, Recreation and Culture, Town of Oakville, 1225 Trafalgar Road,
Oakville, ON L6H 0H3 www.oakville.ca