

Calling All Artists...

REQUESTS FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:
THE GUILD CULTURAL PRECINCT
http://www.toronto.ca/culture/the_guild.htm

Need affordable, collective studio space in Toronto to create professional works in ceramics, metal, textile, hot glass, large sculpture fabrication, wood or jewelry? If so, read on...

The purpose of this Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) is to assess the interest and needs of artists and not-for-profit arts organizations interested in affordable, shared, collective artist studio rental opportunities at The Guild Cultural Precinct, on the shores of Lake Ontario overlooking the Scarborough Bluffs. Responses to this REOI will aid the City of Toronto Economic Development and Culture - Cultural Services in determining the nature and level of interest in space at The Guild Cultural Precinct when it is slated to open in November 2012, and help further shape the vision of the Guild and inform the design process.

The historic Guild of all Arts was envisioned as an artists' retreat to stimulate and nurture artistic endeavours in a unique landscape setting. The original vision of the Guild Founders, Rosa and Spencer Clark, provided the inspiration for a modern revitalization plan adjusted to suit contemporary needs and business concerns.

A key element of the Guild Inn site is an environmentally sensitive hotel development led by Centennial College that will provide quality lodging, fine dining and convention amenities at the location of the original Bickford estate house. In 2006 Goldsmith, Borgal & Company Ltd Architects in conjunction with Artscape, the MBTW Group and Novita, were retained by the City of Toronto to define a feasibility, design and development model for a new cultural precinct on the 81- acre site surrounding the new hotel.

The cultural precinct will contain a contemporary sculpture park and festival gardens set amidst native forest, architectural follies and formal gardens. Existing and new facilities will house well-equipped collective studios for sculptors and artisans, allowing them to share ideas, methods, and techniques with each other and the public. Interior and exterior exhibition space will be provided to display elements of the Guild collection as well as a wide variety of new work. Interpretation of the site's history and geographic setting will be provided through displays at the Visitor Centre and historic Osterhaut cabin. A café and craft shop will further enhance the visitation experience. In keeping with key development principles of cultural and environmental continuity and sustainability, existing structures will be adaptively reused incorporating low energy and environmentally sustainable design solutions.

The project is conceived to proceed in two primary phases. Phase One will include the Sculpture Park, Festival Gardens, Fabrication Studio and Visitor Facilities. Phase Two proposes the inclusion of an Art Gallery and enhancements to the Greek Theatre. This REOI is in reference to Phase One.

This is not an application for space. Subsequent to the completion of the REOI process, rental opportunities are expected to open in September 2011 with expected occupancy by November 2012.

Submission Requirements For Expressions of Interest The full Request for Expressions of Interest can be downloaded at http://www.toronto.ca/culture/the_guild.htm (scroll to the bottom of the page for the download). Questions about

submissions should be directed to Carolyn Taylor via email at carolyn@municipalmind.com

Deadline for Submissions

All submissions must be received by 12 Noon on September 10, 2010.

About this REOI

This REOI is being administered on behalf of the City of Toronto Economic Development and Culture - Cultural Services, by Carolyn Taylor, carolyn@municipalmind.com, 416-570-1613.