

Portal to Experiences of Arts and Culture

Call for Proposals

Introduction

The Waterloo Public Library, in collaboration with the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery (CCGG), is seeking project proposals from local artists.

The 2024-2028 Waterloo Public Library strategic plan includes an objective *'to be a portal to experiences of art, culture and diverse expressions of the human experience.'* As part of this strategy, the library has partnered with the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery to bring a unique public artwork to the library. This piece will not only enhance the experience of customers in the library but also encourage them to explore the incredible exhibitions of the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery across the street.

We are welcoming projects in the craft of ceramics, glass or copper enameling that include a component of public engagement. Proposals should engage with ideas related to community, neighbours, storytelling, belonging or other themes related to the role public libraries play in connecting people to experiences of creative expression.

The successful artist will communicate a strategy for how the community will be involved in the creation of this piece. It will be left to the artist's discretion how the community will be engaged; ideation or input sharing and/or tangible artistic contribution to the piece are acceptable. Arrangements for access to a ceramic and a glass kiln as well as studio space for public engagement workshops at the CCGG may be arranged for artists requiring these as part of the project process. Tools such as slab roller, pug mill (for clay recycling) and potter's wheel are also available. Opportunities to engage with the public at the gallery, library and / or at community events can be facilitated. Staff from the library and / or CCGG will support the work to arrange these opportunities. We anticipate installation by October 2024 with a public launch in November.

To support planning, we have provided photo options for where the piece may be exhibited below.

Proposals

Proposals should include:

- CV or resume of creator (PDF format)
- **A single PDF document including:**
 - Proposal title
 - List of participants (if known)
 - Rationale for the project
 - Theme / general project concept
 - Description of the planned artworks, processes, and installation including any unique installation requirements
 - Description of strategy for public engagement
 - Description of possible educational or public engagement activities
 - Proposed location for artwork installation (selected from 3 options provided)
 - Materials needed
 - Project timeline
 - Draft budget items and costs (total proposed budget should not exceed \$15,000)
 - Up to 5 supporting images (past work or concepts for the proposal)

Submission Information

For further information, contact Laura Dick at 519-886-1310 or by email at ldick@wpl.ca.

Submissions must be submitted online by 4:00pm on Friday, April 5, 2024:

<https://form.jotform.com/clayandglass/WPL-CCGG>

We welcome submissions that are representative of the diversity of our community and encourage proposals from artists of colour, Indigenous artists, Deaf artists, artists with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ2S+ community. If you require accommodations or assistance with your proposal, contact Laura Dick.

About Waterloo Public Library

Waterloo Public Library envisions a thriving community that is multi-literate, engaged and welcoming to all. In pursuit of this vision, we provide equitable access to lifelong learning and contribute to the well-being of all.

The library provides materials, tools, spaces and programs while prioritizing equitable access to all. We are an active member of the arts and cultural community in Waterloo Region, committed to helping our community connect to diverse expressions of the human experience. Learn more about the strategic plan for Waterloo Public Library [here](#).

About the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is a long-standing site of excellence and a destination for contemporary art for international tourists and regional citizens. We present critically acclaimed exhibitions that challenge ideas and perceptions of the definitions of art, craft, and design today. The Gallery is a relevant and dynamic cultural organization providing supportive education programs to people from across the Region. Using exhibitions as a starting point, individuals develop arts vocabulary and appreciation and cultivate confidence in their interpretation of contemporary artworks. For more information, visit: www.theclayandglass.ca

Land Acknowledgement

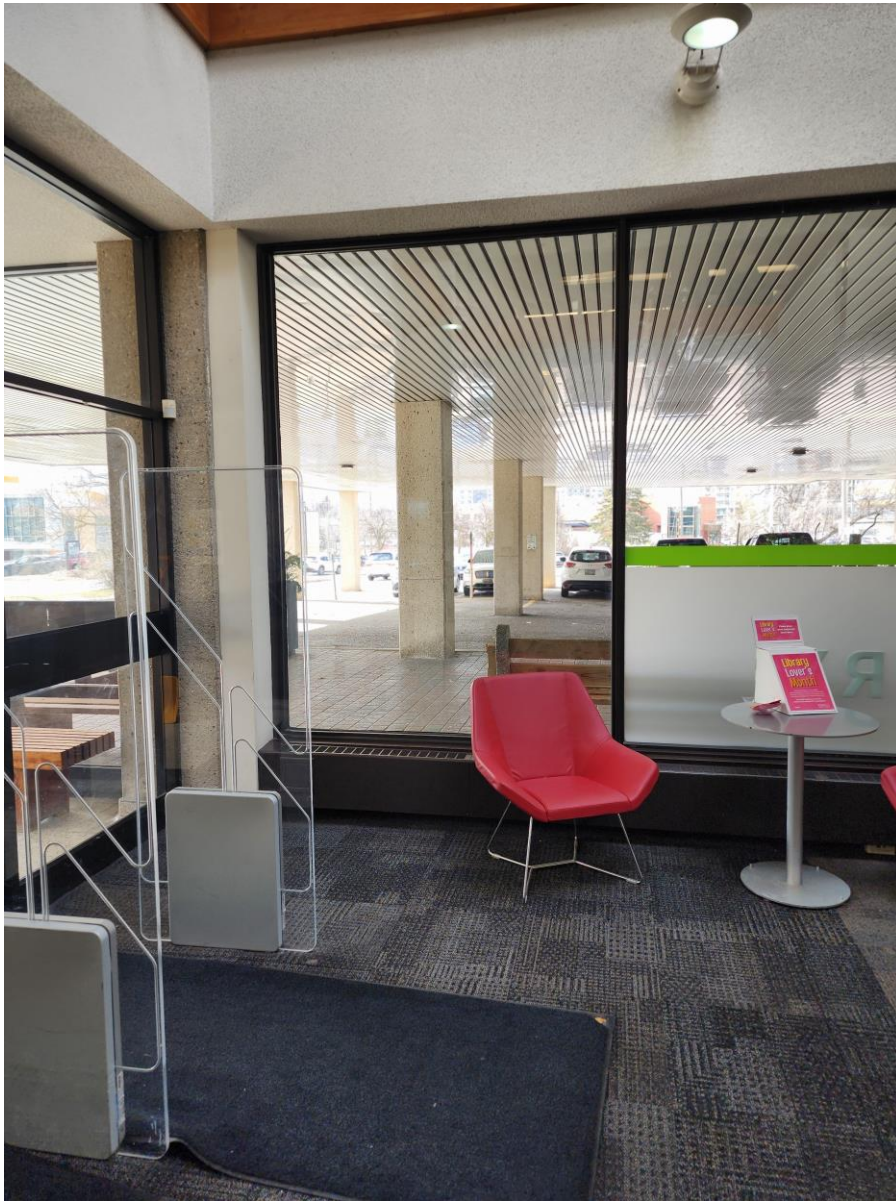
We acknowledge that the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery and Waterloo Public Library are located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The Gallery is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to Six Nations in 1784 that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River; yet, today, the Six Nations reside on less than five per cent of this unceded territory. Indigenous peoples have inhabited this land for thousands of years, and we respectfully share this territory in peace and friendship. We are grateful and we re-affirm our commitment to do the work, to unlearn and relearn, towards a true reconciliation.

Installation Sites

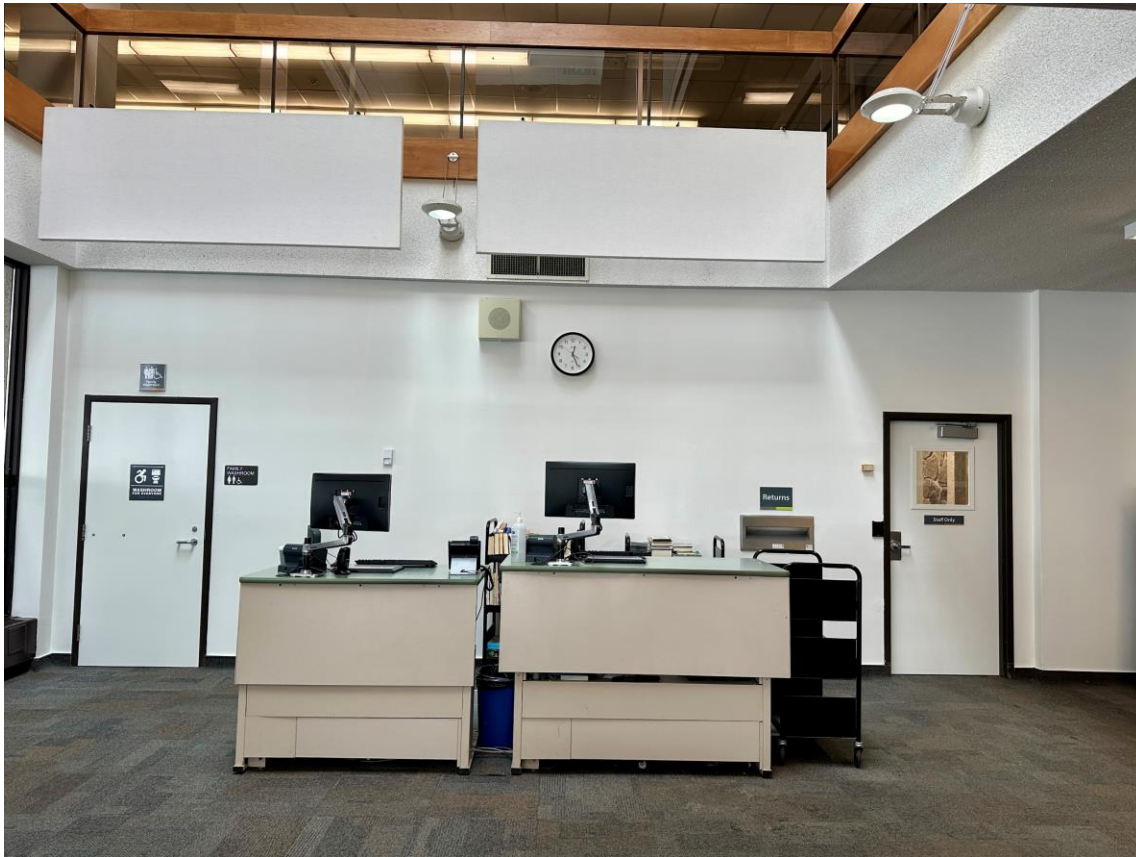
The successful project will be installed in one of three spaces at Waterloo Public Library's Main Library (35 Albert Street). Submissions should include the installation space the artist envisions. Artists may suggest more than one of the options.



Site 1 is visible from both the first and second floor and overlooks the main entrance area. It has natural lighting from an overhead skylight.



Site 2 is this first pane of glass that looks out towards the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery.



Site 3 is the wall directly facing the front door of the first-floor entrance. It receives overhead natural light as well as some natural light from windows to the right. The service point will be moving so this wall will be exposed; however the returns slot will remain.