

# The Ohio State University – Solar System Art Commission

- Open To:** Ohio, National and International Artists and Designers
- Commission Amount:** \$212,130.00 total project cost (\$20,000 artist design fee, remaining for fabrication/installation by a/e partner)
- Invitation Date:** January 18, 2017
- Submission Deadline:** March 15, 2017
- Entry Review:** April 14, 2017

**Project Summary:** The Ohio State University (OSU) seeks to commission an artist to create a conceptual design of a scaled, permanent astronomy display on its main Columbus campus. The design will be fabricated and installed by others. The selected artist will be teamed with an OSU-selected architectural/engineering partner through the duration of the project.

Artists and designers are invited to submit digital images of past work for review by the OSU Arts and Memorials Committee, key faculty, staff, and project donor. From the submissions, a group of semi-finalists will be selected to visit the campus, the intended artwork location(s) and meet with the selection committee, in preparation for creating a site-specific proposal for the Solar System Art Project.

OSU employees and their immediate families are not eligible for this commission. Students enrolled in any degree-granting program also are not eligible to apply.

**Project Background:** A private donor has offered to support this important project on OSU's main campus.

A path along Woodruff Avenue has been tentatively identified as the installation location for the commissioned artwork depicting the solar system. The walking distance between each planet is to be represented in scale.

**Mission of Project:**

\* The purpose of the Solar System Art Commission is to promote curiosity and interest in the physical nature of the solar system and the universe.

**Artistic Goals of the Commissioned Piece:**

- Scaled to be noticeable from nearby bus stops
- Emphasize the distance between planets
- Representation to indicate how fast light moves across the sun (i.e. by comparison to the speed of light)
- Inspire by showing how small the Earth is by comparison to the solar system
- Tactile surface (including Braille)
- Durable and maintenance-friendly design

**Practical Considerations:**

The selected potential site(s) for artwork will be located near a campus entry point, roadways, and between campus buildings. The area also serves as an access point for the University's Schottenstein Center/Value City Arena.

The artwork needs to be durable, easily maintained, and will not include water features.

**Selection Review Process:** Interested artists should submit up to nine (9) images of past work in .JPG format via email to:

Stacy Haerr ([haerr.5@osu.edu](mailto:haerr.5@osu.edu))

In addition to images please submit the following as attached documents:

1. a current resume
2. a one page statement about your work

The Advisory Selection Committee will review submitted materials and will develop a list of semi-finalist artists that will be invited to The Ohio State University for a site visit. More detailed information about the Solar System Art Project and the surrounding classroom buildings will be made available during the site visit. After the site visit, the semi-finalists will create a proposal. Each semi-finalist will be offered a proposal fee in addition to an honorarium for their site-visit. Artist proposals will be judged competitively by the Advisory Selection Committee. Submitted proposals become the property of The Ohio State University.

**Contact Information:** Kathie Cole, Project Manager

[Cole.106@osu.edu](mailto:Cole.106@osu.edu)

(**NOTE:** No phone calls, please. Please direct all questions to Kathie Cole by email no later than March 7, 2017.)