

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

05/03/06 PM 1:53

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Office of the City Administrator, Cultural Arts & Marketing Division
DATE: January 10, 2006

RE: **REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CORK MARCHESCHI TO CREATE A PUBLIC ART PROJECT AT STUDIO ONE ART CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000)**

SUMMARY

This report and accompanying Resolution seeks authorization for the City Administrator to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement with artist Cork Marcheschi to create a public art project for the grounds of Studio One Art Center. The proposed artwork will enhance the art facility and surrounding neighborhood while complementing the renovated architecture and landscaping.

FISCAL IMPACT

The contract amount is not to exceed \$100,000. The Studio One Art Center public art project is funded from the City of Oakland's percent for art ordinance (Ordinance Number 11066 C.M.S.) and was approved by City Council in the Public Art Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2004 as part of the Measure DD Bond program public art project improvements. The artwork project budget will be drawn from the public art project account for Studio One within Measure DD bond funding (Fund 5320, Organization 92110, Account 53719, Project C244720, Program IN06).

BACKGROUND

Studio One Art Center, located at 365 45th Street in Oakland, offers more than one hundred hands-on quality art classes and monitor-assisted labs, drama, Tai Chi, Feldenkrais and yoga to the Oakland public. Responding to community concern over the physical condition of the building, especially following the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, the City included funding for the rehabilitation of Studio One in Measure DD. The art center will become a "state-of-the-art" facility that retains the building's historic architectural characteristics.

In January 2005 the Public Art Program (Cultural Arts & Marketing Division) released a nationwide Request for Qualifications seeking a qualified artist or team of artists to design, fabricate and install public art elements for Studio One's exterior entrance area. The desired outcome was a public art project that celebrated the creative purpose of Studio One and would be

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integrated into the plaza, performance space and/or lawn areas of the front entrance. In March 2005, 52 applications were received and reviewed by the project selection panel: Voting members Rodger C. Birt, Regina Gilligan, Moses LaSabra and Ama Torrance, all regional arts professionals; non-voting meeting chair Cherie Newell, also the Public Art Advisory Committee co-chair; and other non-voting advisors Harish Shah and Todd Friedlander, Shah Kawasaki Architects; Cathy Garrett, PGAdesign; Patrick Daughton and Betsy Yost, representatives of the Friends of Studio One; and Edith Landrith-Robertson, Oakland Public Works project manager. After a thorough review of all applications, the panel selected four finalists to create proposals for the Studio One public art project.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

The four proposals were delivered by the deadline of May 20, 2005, and were displayed for public viewing and comment in the lobby of the City of Oakland's Dalziel Building at 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza from May 23rd through 26th. Responses from 51 community members were received and were considered by the selection panel at its second meeting (on May 27, 2005), during which the four finalists were interviewed and their proposals reviewed. At the conclusion of round two reviews, the panelists rejected all four proposals as inappropriate for the site. However, the panel recommended finalist Cork Marcheschi (San Francisco) to create a new proposal for public art at Studio One Art Center with input from the community and project stakeholders.

To solicit meaningful participation from community members in the development of a new proposal for the site, Public Art Program staff coordinated two successful open houses/workshops at the Rockridge Branch Library on July 28 and August 11, 2005. In attendance were project stakeholders including the building designers and landscape architects, Temescal neighborhood residents and members of the broader Studio One community. At these meetings, Mr. Marcheschi presented a series of proposed design approaches with multiple variations, and the community then helped distill the concepts into the final design. The selected concept, receiving enthusiastic support from the participating community members, was seen to work well with the formal and symmetrical architecture of Studio One, creating a welcoming feeling, drawing people into the space and added a visual punch both in daylight and after dark.

On September 15, 2005, the selection panel met to review and approve artist Cork Marcheschi's final design. The panel's recommendation was approved by the Public Art Advisory Committee on October 3rd and by the Cultural Affairs Commission on October 24, 2005.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Cork Marcheschi, who lives in San Francisco and received his MFA in Sculpture from the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, works in large-scale public sculpture with an

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emphasis on light. He has exhibited his work internationally and has created public art commissions throughout the United States for over twenty-five years.

For Studio One Art Center, Mr. Marcheschi is proposing a project consisting of six “lightsticks,” i.e., light pylon sculptures, in two rows of three each, flanking the central landscaped ‘front yard’ of the renovated Studio One building. The sculptures will be fabricated from stainless steel plate, dichroic glass laminated to safety glass, interior xenon light sources and controllers. By day, the dichroic glass exterior will refract different colors that vary depending on the position of the viewer to the artwork. By night, the sculptures will be illuminated from inside with gradually changing colors, independent of one another. More detail is available in the Scope of Services, attached here as Exhibit A.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: San Francisco-based artist Cork Marcheschi plans to work with an Oakland-based team of artisans (with whom he frequently collaborates) to fabricate and install this sculpture project. Note also that public artwork integrated into this North Oakland neighborhood will enhance and enrich the visual environment and public use of the Studio One grounds, thereby strengthening the economic value of the community.

Environmental: The artwork will be designed to be compatible with and integrated into the landscape architecture of the Studio One renovation project. The stainless steel and safety glass exteriors of the proposed light sculptures will be very low maintenance and will not adversely impact the natural environment of the site. The six sculptures will be on a single timer and will require minimal electricity to operate in the evenings (equivalent to 800 volts for all six).

Social Equity: The public artwork described in this report will enhance the recreational and aesthetic aspects of the Studio One Art Center and grounds, adding to the quality of life for all residents of Oakland, particularly Studio One students, faculty and staff, and residents of the Temescal district.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

The public art sculptures on the grounds of Studio One Art Center will be accessible and visible to viewers from many vantage points. The artwork will be ADA compliant and will not create a tripping hazard for senior citizen access.

RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

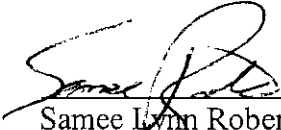
Staff recommends that Council authorize the City Administrator to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement with Cork Marcheschi to design, fabricate and install public art sculptures for Studio One Art Center in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

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ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

That Council approves the resolution authorizing the City Administrator to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement with Cork Marcheschi to design, fabricate and install public art sculptures for Studio One Art Center in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).


Respectfully submitted,



Samee Lynn Roberts, Manager
Cultural Arts & Marketing Division
Office of the City Administrator

Report prepared by:
Steven Huss, Acting Cultural Arts Programs Coordinator

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE:



OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

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Exhibit A
SCOPE OF SERVICES

Description:

The project will consist of six “lightsticks” (light pylon sculptures) for the central exterior entrance area of the rehabilitated Studio One Art Center at 365 45th Street in Oakland. The sculptures will be fabricated from stainless steel plate, dichroic glass laminated to safety glass, interior xenon light sources and controllers. By day, the dichroic glass exterior will refract different colors that vary depending on the position of the viewer to the artwork. By night, the sculptures will be illuminated from inside with gradually changing colors, independent of one another.

Location:

The Artwork will be located between benches along the concrete paths in the landscaped main entrance area of Studio One Art Center at 365 45th Street in Oakland.

Off-Site Elements – Contractor shall:


- Complete all scale drawings and obtain engineering review, if required.
- Purchase materials for sculpture components: ¾” x 1/8” stainless steel mullions, ¾” x ¾” x 1/8” stainless steel angle, 3/16” stainless steel base, ½” stainless steel baseplate, translucent 3/8” acrylic tubing, aluminum cap, halogen lamps, halogen transformers, 14- AWG-5 conductors, dichroic glass panels, light timer.
- Fabricate/assemble pylon sculpture forms from listed materials.
- Drill four 1” diameter holes for ¾” bolts in stainless steel baseplate.
- Prepare all edges, grind smooth, treat with protective coatings as needed.

On-Site Elements – Contractor shall:

- Transport sculptures to site.
- Bolt the six sculptural pylons into the concrete bases provided, in coordination with Public Works Agency Project Delivery Division and Shah Kawasaki Architects (SKA), in two symmetrical and aligned columns of three sculptures each, flanking the public walkways leading to Studio One and perpendicular to the front entrance at 365 41st Street.
- In coordination with PWA Project Delivery Division and SKA, connect power cable(s) to Studio One electrical room and install timer.
- Inspect sculptures for repairs to any damage occurring during transport and installation and touch-up exteriors as needed.

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Approved as to Form and Legality


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CORK MARCHESCHI TO CREATE A PUBLIC ART PROJECT AT STUDIO ONE ART CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000)

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is renovating and rehabilitating Studio One Art Center in Oakland's Temescal neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, in February 1989, the City of Oakland adopted a Public Art Ordinance (no. 11086 C.M.S.) authorizing the allocation of 1.5% of City capital improvement project costs for the commissioning of public artwork; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Public Art Ordinance to provide a means for the City to commission artists to create artwork, which enlivens, enhances, and enriches the visual environment of the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, May 27 and September 15, 2005, an eleven-member selection panel, consisting of regional artists, community members, and project representatives met to select an artist and to approve a public art proposal for the Studio One Art Center, and unanimously recommended funding of a proposal by artist Cork Marcheschi; and

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2005 the Public Art Advisory Committee voted to accept the recommendation of the selection panel, and on October 24, 2005 the Cultural Affairs Commission voted to approve artist Cork Marcheschi's design proposal for the Studio One Art Center Public Art Project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland finds that this contract is professional in nature and will not result in a loss of employment or salary by any person having permanent status in the competitive service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement with Cork Marcheschi in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars from the City's Public Art Project Account for Studio One (Fund 5320, Account 53719, Project C244720) for the design, fabrication and installation of a public art project at the Studio One Art Center; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute any amendments or modifications of said contract within the limitations of the project specifications; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the agreement will be reviewed and approved by the City Attorney and placed on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2006

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BRUNNER, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, BROOKS, REID, CHANG, AND
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California