

# City of Moorhead

## 2026 CALL FOR PUBLIC ART

Proposals Due: September 4, 2026 by 10:00 AM



### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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The City of Moorhead is issuing a **Call for Public Art** to seek proposals for an inspirational and movable art piece to be located at different locations throughout Moorhead. Interactive elements are desired and encouraged for the piece. Examples of interactive elements include kinetic sculptures, digital installations, and tactile elements. The City invites artists to envision a piece that will engage the community through interactive elements in an innovative way.

The artist may propose an alternative permanent location for a non-movable piece that meets the following criteria:

- Installation location is approved by the property owner; and
- The space would remain open to the public; and
- The location meets the intent of the Call for Art and meets the goals of the 2018 Arts and Culture Framework Plan and 2022 Onward Moorhead! Comprehensive Plan.

A strong proposal will envision an art piece that:

- Has interactive elements that invite public participation; and
- Promotes creativity and youth engagement; and
- Is safe for all members of the public to interact with; and
- Is durable and can be outside during various weather conditions; and
- Entices people to gather.

### SCOPE

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This project will be funded through the City Public Art fund with an anticipated budget of \$12,500.

Projects will be scored as outlined within this Call for Art and their alignment with goals and criteria outlined in this Call, the [2018 Arts and Culture Framework Plan](#), [2020 Downtown Master Plan](#) and [2022 Onward! Moorhead Comprehensive Plan](#).



GOAL 6.1: Enhance Moorhead's Visual appeal through public realm improvements, public art, and cultural

# PROPOSAL & SCORING

Proposals should include a signed Exhibit A and the following items:

1. Name of individual, organization or group and contact information (email, phone and address) and related experiences and expertise of the individual, organization or group, including connection to Moorhead.
2. Project description, including whether the piece is movable and whether it has interactive features. If an alternative permanent location is selected, please provide written approval of the property owner(s) for the use of this land and confirmation that it will remain open to the public.
3. Project outline, including materials, size, techniques, process, community engagement (if applicable), fabrication, and installation. A description of anticipated maintenance requirements of the art piece.
4. Visual representation (exp: sketch or digital rendering) of the art piece, including anticipated size
5. Additional information (max 200 words)
6. Anticipated implementation timeline and estimated budget, including any of the following:

Material Fees:	\$
Administrative Fees:	\$
Labor Fees:	\$
Other Revenues/Funding Sources:	\$
<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Anticipated Start Date</b>	
<b>Anticipated Completion Date</b>	

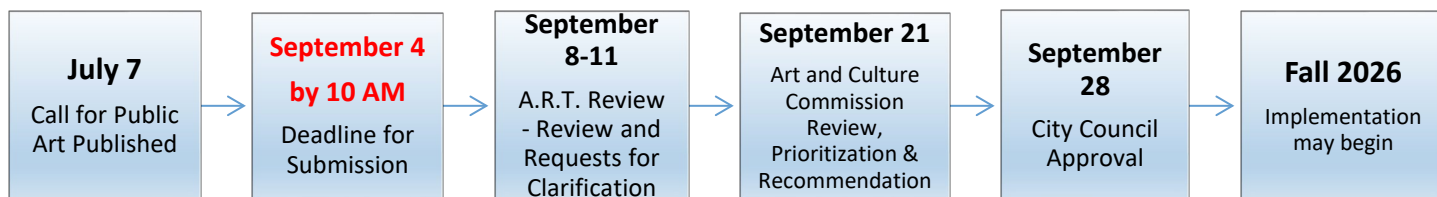
	<b>Proposal Criteria</b>	<b>Scoring Details</b>	<b>Points</b>
1	Artist Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artist information and related experience</li> </ul>	/5
2	Alignment with goals outlined in this Call for Art & City Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is movable or permanent location identified</li> <li>• Includes meaningful interactive elements</li> <li>• Engages youth in creativity and exploration</li> <li>• Aligns with applicable City plans and Public Art Policy</li> <li>• Relevance of the proposed public art to Moorhead, its values, culture and people</li> </ul>	/10
3	Safety, Durability & Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe for all ages</li> <li>• Suited for weather exposure</li> <li>• Maintenance requirements outlined</li> </ul>	/5
2/4	Content Appropriateness & Visual Appeal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complies with policy restrictions</li> <li>• Fully youth-appropriate</li> <li>• Is a size that is movable and accessible to all who interact with it</li> </ul>	/10
6	Feasibility, Budget & Implementation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget provided</li> <li>• Budget is within the \$12,500 anticipated budget</li> <li>• Clear implementation plan</li> </ul>	/5
	Overall Quality of Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considers if proposed public art exemplifies excellence and provides relevance to residents, businesses, students, and visitors.</li> </ul>	/5
		<b>Total</b>	<b>/40</b>

*\*Any proposal that does not meet expectations in any of the criteria noted in the table above may be disqualified from consideration\**

## PROCESS AND TIMELINE

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Project submissions will be reviewed and ranked by the Artist Review Team (A.R.T.). Their recommendation will then be forwarded to the Art and Culture Commission, where they will provide a recommendation to City Council, who will make the final determination. The Moorhead City Council reserves the right to reject all project proposals. The City reserves the right to amend the timeline.



## DEADLINE & SUBMITTAL

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Questions may be submitted to: [art@moorheadmn.gov](mailto:art@moorheadmn.gov)

**Deadline to submit your proposals is by 10:00 AM CST on Friday, September 4, 2026.** Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

A signed Exhibit A must be included with proposal.

Proposals may be submitted by email, mail, or in-person:

- Email: [art@moorheadmn.gov](mailto:art@moorheadmn.gov)
  - Proposals should be submitted in PDF format.
- Mail or in-person: Moorhead City Hall - 403 Center Avenue, Moorhead, MN (Office hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM)

**EXHIBIT A – 2026 Call for Public Art Submittal Form**

✓ **Attach information on items 1-5**

✓ **Complete the budget and timeline on item 6**

✓ **Sign the acknowledgement below and submit this form with your proposal**

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Other Revenues/Funding Sources:	\$
<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Anticipated Start Date</b>	
<b>Anticipated Completion Date</b>	

Upon submission of the public art proposal, Applicant agrees that the proposed public art may receive editing suggestions. Implementation and additional information from artist/creative may be requested as outlined in the Moorhead Public Art Policy to ensure proper credentials and implementation standards. By submitting a proposal and signing/typing this form, Applicant agrees:

- Applicant is the sole author/designer of the art proposal that is submitted for consideration and that the contents of the proposed public art are original and do not infringe upon any copyright or any intellectual rights of others, and that Applicant has the unencumbered right to make this submission.
- Applicant/artist/creative team has the expertise to fully execute the proposed proposal within one year of notice to proceed, or as negotiated.
- If approved for accession, Applicant grants the City of Moorhead the right to perpetually use the public art, including, but not limited to: reproduction, posting, displaying, creation of derivative art, and documenting the public art in any media or in any form, now known or later invented, without limitation for promotional, documentary, celebratory or any other commercial or noncommercial purposes. Applicant hereby waives any and all rights to royalty, fee or other compensation by reason of such use. Applicant will retain copyright of the public art.
- The City of Moorhead will not be responsible or be held liable for any injury or damage to Applicant or any person or property resulting from or occurring during or in any manner arising out of the use or installation of the public art.
- Proposed public art must reflect favorably upon the City of Moorhead. Public art that contains any type of content related to alcoholic beverages; tobacco products; hygiene or health products of a very personal nature; political, religious, moral, or social issues; sexual products/services; direct or overt messages critical of Moorhead; and anything otherwise inappropriate in a public place will not be allowed. The City of Moorhead may, at its sole discretion, refuse to allow consideration, placement or installation of art that it deems to be inappropriate considering the purpose and intent.

I have read and agree with all of the terms and conditions of the contest and hereby absolve the City of Moorhead or its representatives from any claim or loss, either past, present or future, in association with this public art proposal.

DISCLAIMER: The City of Moorhead may discontinue this project at any time and for any reason. Members of the Moorhead Art and Culture Commission, Moorhead City Council and Staff and their immediate families are ineligible to participate in this Call for Art.

**I attest this proposal is true and accurate. Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_