

# INCLUSIVE PUBLIC ART

## An Initiative of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation's Exploratory, Visionary Ideas Strategy

The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation (ZSR) believes that art can open the door to conversation. Our investment in inclusive public art is intended to share stories of diversity, equality, inclusion and equity as they relate to the people and places of North Carolina, especially those whose stories are often untold. After an impactful inaugural IPA cohort of 10 grantees, we know that this effort can catalyze community conversations that result in a shared and fuller understanding of our common history — and common bonds — as North Carolinians.

In January 2022, ZSR and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation — the largest supporter of arts and humanities in the U.S. — announced a \$2 million partnership to expand and continue our Inclusive Public Art initiative across North Carolina. The partnership — which includes \$1 million each from ZSR and the Mellon Foundation — will support commemorative and artist commissions specifically focused on underrepresented narratives and communities.

The Inclusive Public Art initiative seeks to diversify the voices included in the decision-making processes about art in public places and is intended to spark healthy dialogue. **The community engagement aspect of these grants is just as important as the art installations themselves**, and ZSR is looking for communities that will authentically involve a cross-section of people, groups and organizations in telling, discussing and perhaps even producing the story(ies) depicted in the art.

### Inclusive Public Art Deadlines

Letters of intent must be submitted by  
NOON on March 25, 2022.

Semifinalists will be selected in May 2022.

Grantees will be selected in March 2023.

(See reverse for more details)



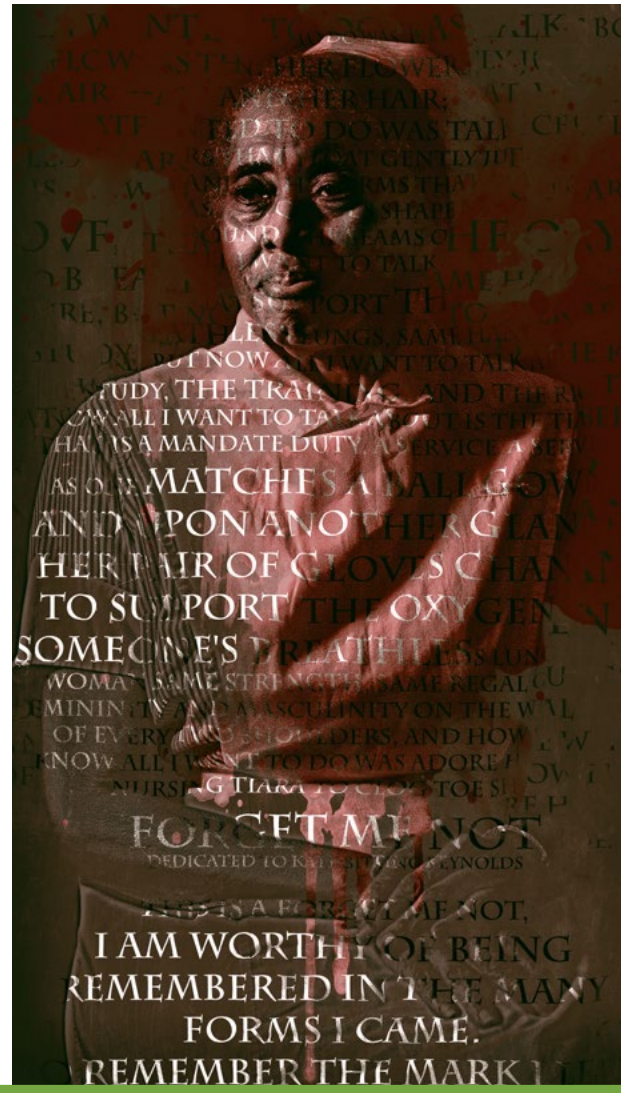
## Inclusive Public Art Criteria

ZSR will invest in multiple sites across North Carolina with anticipated awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$200,000+. Semifinalists will be awarded a \$5,000 planning grant to support crafting their full proposals. ZSR's project coordinator will be available to provide technical assistance.

Projects/installations should express/demonstrate/depict one or more of the following:

- Contributions or achievements of a North Carolina person or group, especially women and people of color, whose story in a particular part of the state is not often told;
- Ways in which the racial and ethnic diversity of our communities makes our communities better; and/or,
- Ways in which cultural differences strengthen our communities.

ZSR is encouraging potential applicants to think boldly about the artistic possibilities for commemorating and memorializing stories that uplift diverse, fuller narratives of who we are as North Carolinians. Projects must be visual art, not performance-based, and visible from public streets and pedestrian walkways, free of any admission fee. ZSR also encourages communities to engage artists of color and women artists. Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) organization, college/university, religious entity or governmental unit.



## How to Apply

ZSR has opened its call for communities to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). **The deadline to submit an LOI is at noon on March 25, 2022.** In May 2022, semifinalists will receive an invitation to apply with a deadline in January 2023.

## Questions?

Contact ZSR's Inclusive Public Art Project Coordinator Brenda Miller Holmes at [brenda@brendamillerholmes.com](mailto:brenda@brendamillerholmes.com).

For more information visit

<https://www.zsr.org/inclusive-public-art>.



**All For NC: Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation's Framework for Grantmaking and Learning** aligns with our mission and core values and includes a *State-Level Systemic Change Strategy*, a *Community-Based Strategy* and an *Exploratory, Visionary Ideas Strategy*. For more information about the *Exploratory, Visionary Ideas Strategy* or our Framework, visit [www.zsr.org](http://www.zsr.org).