# **INCLUSIVE PUBLIC ART**

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

We believe that art can open the door to conversation. The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation's 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. We hope that this effort will catalyze community conversations that can result in a shared, and fuller, understanding of our common history — and common bonds — as North Carolinians.

During the Foundation's recent, yearlong listening and learning tour, it was evident that legacies of racism and segregation were pervasive in many communities we visited, but are not discussed often in public unless there is a major issue involving race. Combined with the historic and recent controversies regarding public art, monuments and race, the Foundation wanted

to explore how art could serve as a starting place for people to engage in important — even difficult and courageous — conversations about their community's past, present and future.

## **Inclusive Public Art Deadlines**

Letters of intent must be submitted by October 8, 2018 at NOON.

Semi-finalists will be selected in November 2018.

Finalists will be selected in May 2019. (See reverse for more details)

This initiative aims to include historically marginalized people in the decision-making processes about art in public places and is intended to spark healthy dialogue. The community engagement aspect of these grants will be just as important as the art installations themselves, and the Foundation is looking for communities that will authentically engage a cross-section of their communities in telling, discussing and perhaps even producing the story(ies) depicted in the art.



#### **Inclusive Public Art Criteria**

ZSR will invest in up to 10 sites across North Carolina with awards of as much as \$50,000 each. Resources will be available for both community engagement activities and the art installations, and the 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 has not been or 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.

Projects must be permanent visual artwork, not performance-based, and visible from public streets and pedestrian walkways, free of any admission fee. ZSR encourages communities to engage artists of color and women artists. Applicants must be 501(c)(3) organizations, colleges/universities, religious entities or governmental units.



## **How to Apply**

ZSR has opened its call for communities or locations to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). **The deadline to submit an LOI is October 8, 2018.** In November 2018, semi-finalists will receive an invitation to apply with a deadline in the spring of 2019.

### **Questions?**

Contact ZSR's Inclusive Public Art Project Coordinator Brenda Miller Holmes at **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.

