

City of Cleveland
Public Art Program

Kovac Recreation Center Renovation,
Public Art Component



CALL FOR ARTISTS
Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

FEBRUARY 2021

The City of Cleveland, through its Public Art Program, is requesting qualifications from artists or designers or teams thereof who may be interested in producing public artwork for the Kovacic Recreation Center, 6250 St. Clair Avenue. The center is currently under renovation.

Rather than submit pre-conceived proposals, the selected artist will work with center and other city staff, neighborhood residents, and other stakeholders to develop innovative, original art that is relevant to Kovacic and the surrounding neighborhood.

The Public Art Program

The Public Art Program requires that certain major capital projects undertaken by the City set aside 1.5% of their project budgets for use toward public art.

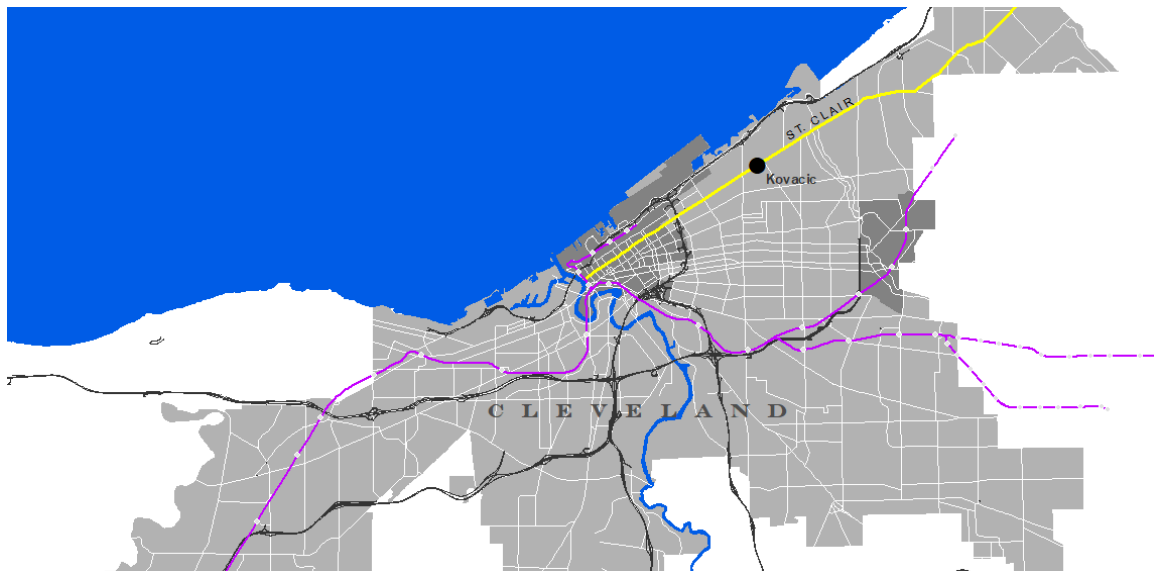
Program requirements are that the artwork be in proximity to the improvements that generated the funding for the artwork.

Eligibility

This competition is open to qualified artists and designers or teams thereof, aged 18 or over and based in Northeast Ohio. Artists with connections to the St. Clair-Superior neighborhood or nearby places on the east side of Cleveland are especially encouraged to apply.

Location of Kovacic Recreation Center

The map below shows the location of the center at 6250 St. Clair.



The aerial view below shows the center's location within its surrounding neighborhood.



The front view of Kovacic Recreation Center is from Google Street View. The photo is from Spring 2019, before renovation work began on the building.



Project information

Kovacic Recreation Center was built in 1919 by the City of Cleveland as the St. Clair Bath House and has been in use for community-oriented purposes ever since. The current renovation will transform the interior of the center into a state-of-the-art recreation facility and open it up for additional community uses.

Artwork can take many forms in the new Kovacic, including, but not limited to sculpture, murals, or suspended works. There could be one major artwork or several smaller ones. No artwork may be attached to the outside of the building, and artworks must be designed to require minimal maintenance.

The artwork must engage and address the building's interior front atrium and lobby space, though the extension of the artistic concept to related interior spaces may be considered.

Renovation plans and additional photos of the renovation work appear after the submission requirements. See pages 4–9. A simulated walkthrough of the atrium area can be downloaded from [this link](#).

Project budget

The budget for this project is \$64,000. The budget is all-inclusive and required to cover all public art-related expenses, including, but not limited to, design or artist fee, engineering, fabrication, and installation. Additionally, there is an allowance in the construction general contract to assist with installation-related infrastructure costs. There are no funds available for travel-related expenses.

Submission requirements

Artists or teams are required to electronically submit a one-page narrative describing their qualifications and explaining why they would be interested in working on this project. Artists should indicate what general vision they have and approaches they would take to this project and make note of how they would involve neighborhood residents, center staff, and others in developing their design.

Please note that artists are NOT being asked to submit proposals at this time.

Additionally, artists are required to submit, in electronic format:

- An up-to-date CV or resume;
- Up to 10 images depicting completed relevant work in JPEG or PNG format (none of the images may contain identifying information), suitable for inclusion in a PPT or PDF presentation; and
- An annotated slide list for the depicted artworks, including location, commissioning agency, materials, and total project budget. Submitters should note what their role was in producing the works depicted.

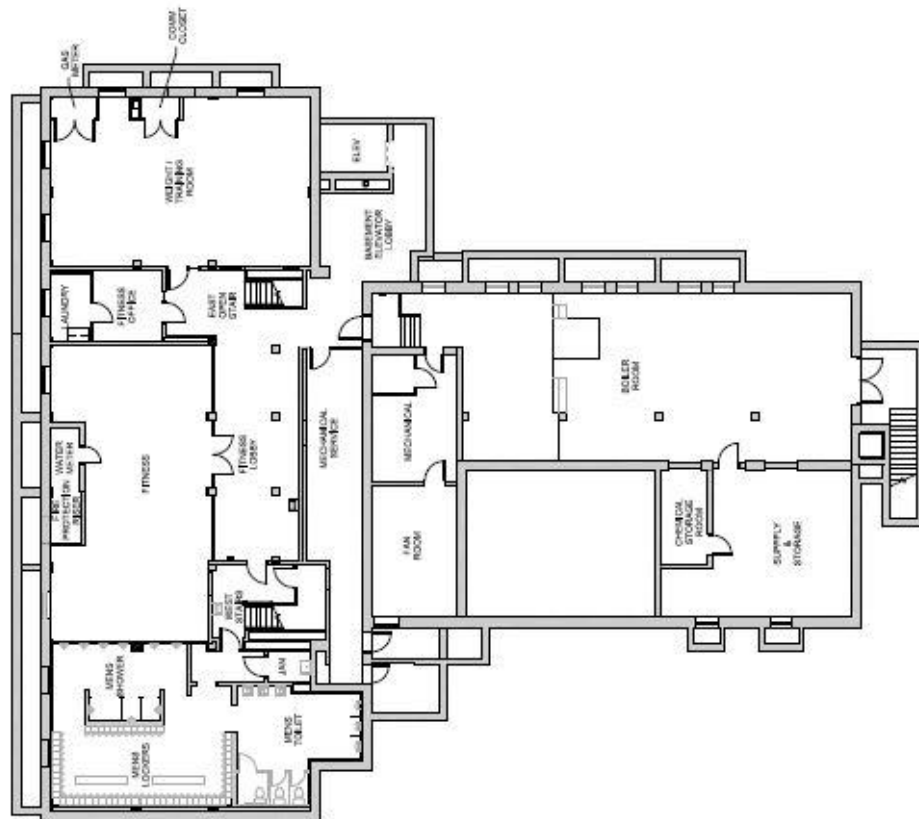
Up to three artists or designers or teams thereof will be invited to interview with the City of Cleveland's Public Art Committee.

Submission deadline

Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Cleveland time, on Monday, March 22, 2021. Entries must be submitted electronically to both Tarra Petras, the city's public art project coordinator, at tpetras@city.cleveland.oh.us and Vince Reddy of LAND studio at vreddy@land-studio.org. LAND studio currently provides administrative services to the Public Art Program.

Direct questions to Tarra or Vince at the e-mail addresses above.

**E.J. KOVACIC RECREATION CENTER
IMPROVEMENTS
City of Cleveland**



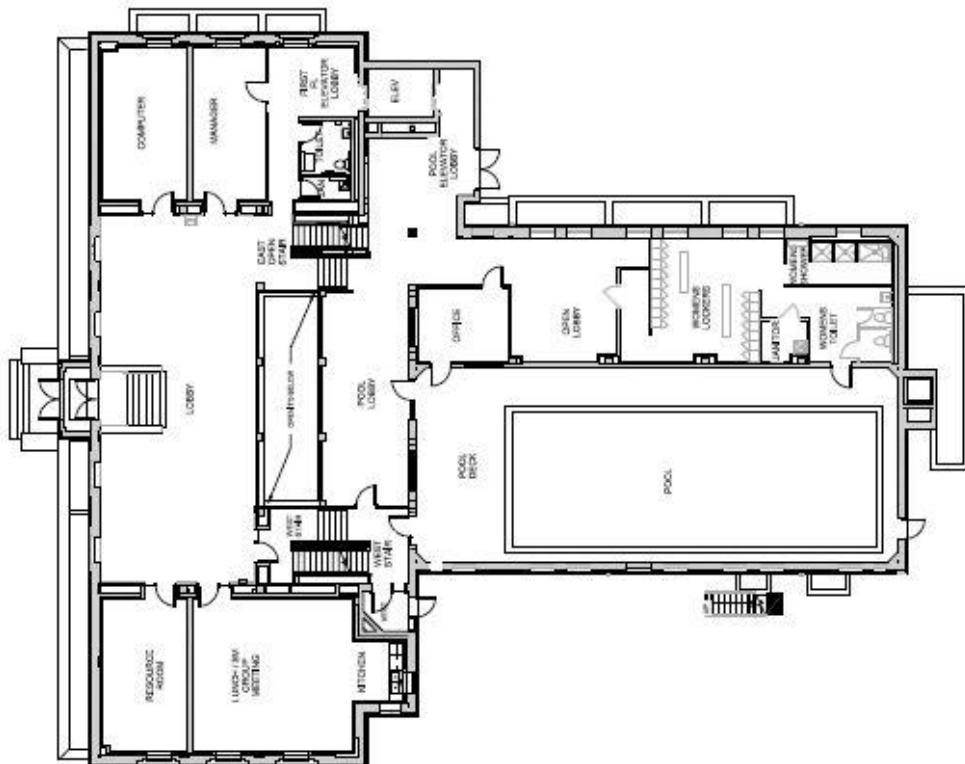
BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"

Renovation plans, continued from previous page

**E.J. KOVACIC RECREATION CENTER
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City of Cleveland
Mayor's Office of Capital Projects
**Division of Architecture
and Site Development**
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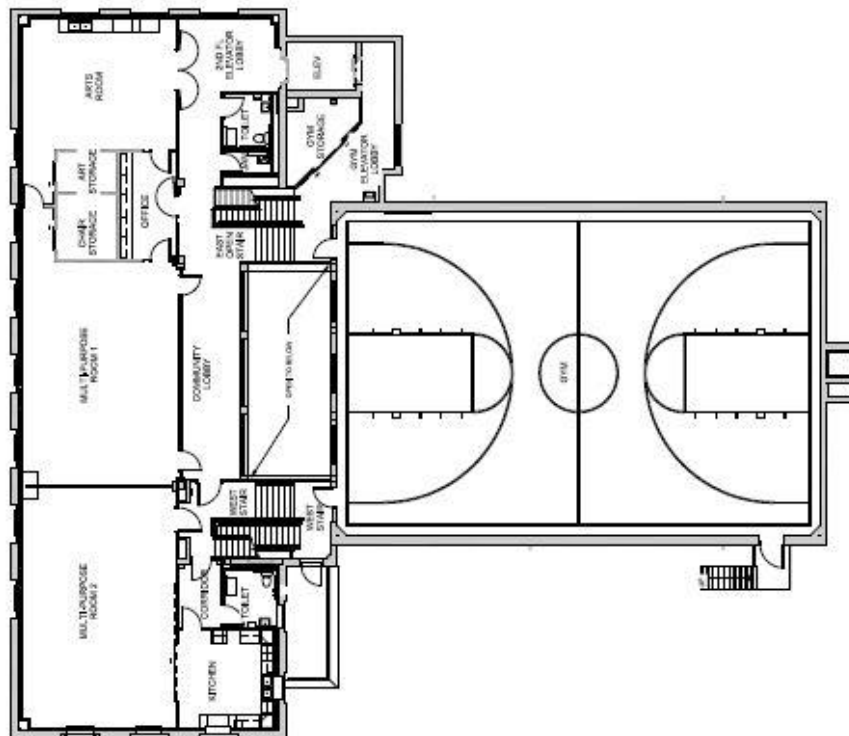
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"

Renovation plans, continued from previous two pages

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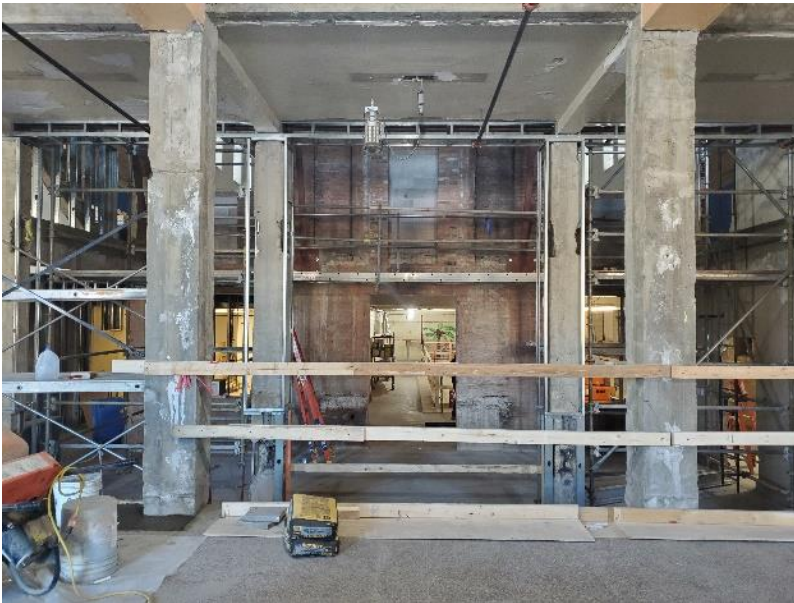


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SECOND FLOOR PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"

Photos of the renovation in progress at Kovacic Recreation Center



The photos above are of the multi-level atrium under construction in the front section of Kovacic Recreation Center. In the top photo, the upper end of the stairs leading from the main entrance is visible.

These photos are from early December 2020.

The ten photos on this and the next page provide a panoramic view, starting from the north (top to bottom, of the main lobby area with the atrium toward the rear.



Continued from previous page.

