



Ridgedale Library • 12601 RIDGEDALE DR., MINNETONKA, MN 55305

# Public Art Opportunity

## About Ridgedale Library

Ridgedale Library opened in 1982 and serves Minnetonka and surrounding communities. It is also home to Hennepin County Library administrative headquarters. The library is part of a larger complex that houses district courts and a Hennepin County service center.

When Ridgedale Library reopens in 2018, patrons will find many practical enhancements that will improve their library experience. The interior space of the library has not been updated since 1999, and many of the major building system components, such as the roof, air handlers, chiller plant and electrical systems date from original construction in 1981.

### RENOVATION HIGHLIGHTS

- A more open floor plan with lower shelving and access to natural light and the outdoor environment
- A variety of seating styles and reading areas
- New lighting, new furniture and greater access to technology
- Additional meeting and private study rooms
- Separate and enhanced areas for children and teens
- New gathering spaces including sensory and wellness rooms

“This renovation is designed to ensure we meet the expectations of patrons who expressed their wishes about what they wanted their library to be,” said Hennepin County Library Director Lois Langer Thompson. “The design allows for a modern, more open floor plan with flexible, adaptable spaces that can accommodate groups and individuals while maximizing the outdoor, wooded setting.”

The library will reopen with enhanced spaces based on patron input and recommendations in community meetings.



## Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Hennepin County Library has contracted with Forecast Public Art to facilitate the development of a new public artwork for the newly renovated Ridgedale Library. Artists may submit qualifications to be considered for the public art opportunity described here.

This is a two-phase RFQ process, beginning with the submission of qualifications. A group of finalists will be selected and invited to submit preliminary concepts. Finalists will receive a stipend to prepare concept designs for the library. All finalists will be interviewed and a selection will be made for the final commission. Artists or artist-led teams are sought to respond to the following opportunity.

Hennepin County Library will commission an artist or artist-led team to create a new artwork. It is the goal of Hennepin County to have the art completed and installed prior to the library's grand reopening in summer 2018.

## Public Art Opportunity

READING LOUNGE  
BUDGET: \$30,000

The new Ridgedale Library will feature an original art project created by an artist or artist-led team. The site for the art is a spacious lounge area (shown above) located near a set of large, east-facing picture windows that look out onto a forested wetland area. In addition to the floor-to-ceiling columns, nearly 25 feet tall, there are rounded steel beams adjacent to the window soffits that offer surface areas or potential support for the artwork.

The following mediums will be considered: paint, tile, glass, metals, wood, lightweight relief, lightweight suspended art, etc. The art should be designed to enliven the library and create a welcoming enhancement to the lounge area that celebrates nature; augments, frames or enhances the view; and takes advantage of the abundant natural light in the space.



## Selection Criteria

**Selection of finalists will be based on the following criteria:**

- Quality of letter
- Quality of work samples
- Ability of artist(s) to complete project based on résumé and prior work experience

**Selection of art project proposed by finalists will be based on the following criteria:**

- Project creates a welcoming setting that celebrates and explores the unique histories, cultures and environment of the community
- Project conveys artistic excellence and innovation, and has a broad, timeless appeal
- Project is designed for a publicly visible and accessible area
- Durability of the artwork relative to theft, vandalism and the environment
- Project is considered safe and low-maintenance

**Additional considerations for finalists:**

- The artwork should be welcoming, accessible and appropriate to the site
- Artists may involve community members in the process
- Art should be original and help establish the library as a unique destination
- Artists should take into account the mission of the Hennepin County Library system: "to nourish minds, transform lives and build community together"

## Eligibility

Open to experienced visual artists and artist-led teams residing in Minnesota.

Applicant must provide evidence of producing at least one commissioned public art project with a budget of \$30,000 or more.

Current Hennepin County Library staff, Forecast Public Art staff and members of the Art Selection Committee for the Ridgedale Library One Percent for Art project are ineligible to apply.

## Selection Process Overview

Artists' materials will be pre-screened to ensure all applicants meet eligibility requirements. The Art Selection Committee for the Ridgedale Library One Percent for Art project will review eligible applications and select a group of up to three finalists/finalist teams to submit proposals with preliminary concepts. Finalists/finalist teams will each be paid a stipend of \$500 to prepare a concept design. Finalist proposals should include a graphic depiction of the proposed artwork, schedule (design, fabrication and installation), installation method and budget. Additional requirements will be outlined in instructions to finalists. Finalists will have approximately five weeks to prepare preliminary concepts, and will also be required to attend an interview with the selection committee as part of the proposal evaluation process.

# Schedule

All applicants are encouraged to attend the artist informational meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 10.

September	Call for Artists distributed
<b>October 10</b>	<b>Artist Informational Meeting Ridgedale Library, 6-8 p.m. RSVP to <a href="mailto:jack@forecastpublicart.org">jack@forecastpublicart.org</a></b>
October 12	Deadline for submitting questions, 4 p.m.
October 25	Deadline for applications, 4 p.m.
Mid-November	Art Selection Committee Meeting Two: <i>Selection of Finalists</i>
Late November	Informational meeting for finalists
Early January	Art Selection Committee Meeting Three: <i>Finalist interviews (in-person)</i>
January	Contract with selected artist/team
May	Installation

## Required Submission Materials

### IN DIGITAL FORMAT ONLY:

Please provide the following text in 12-point font, in a single Word document:

- Contact information for lead artist and all team members
- Three references (contact information only) for recently completed projects
- One-page letter describing interest in project and approach to design; please include statement addressing eligibility criteria
- One-page document listing each work sample; please provide a brief description and budget for each
- One-page biographical information or résumé; if you have multiple team members, please keep biographical information for each team member to one paragraph
- Work Samples: Up to 10 digital images of your recent projects (each image file should not exceed 1 MB). Individuals and teams are limited to 10 images maximum. Save all images as standard JPEG and label each with applicant's full name and number in sequence with list of work samples.

### **NOTE: Do not submit a proposal for an artwork at this time.**

Please submit any questions regarding this opportunity by 4 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 12. All applicant questions will be compiled and responses will be made available publicly at [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org) on or before Monday, Oct. 16.

Please submit all RFQ materials via email to: [jack@forecastpublicart.org](mailto:jack@forecastpublicart.org). All materials must be received by 4 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 25. No RFQs will be accepted after this time.

If you need clarification or further information, contact Project Consultant Jack Becker at Forecast Public Art: [jack@forecastpublicart.org](mailto:jack@forecastpublicart.org).

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