

## State of Kansas Capitol Preservation Committee

Request to place artwork, statue, or memorial permanently in the Capitol or on the surrounding grounds

This form is the first step in the process of requesting permission to install a permanent artwork, statue, or memorial in the Capitol or on the surrounding grounds. Please send the completed form to Capitol Preservation Committee, c/o Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka KS 66615.

Submission of a proposal does not guarantee an acceptance of the project. The application will first go before the Capitol Preservation Committee. If the proposal is approved, it will be recommended to the legislature. Legislation must be passed to approve the project. If approved, the sponsor of the project will work with the Department of Administration to complete the necessary preparations. Please understand this process takes some time.

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Commemorative Suffragist Monument Committee

Contact persons: Marlene Merrill, PhD and Janice Walker

Organization: League of Women Voters Kansas and American Association of University Women of Kansas

Address: 225 SW 12<sup>th</sup> Street

City: Topeka State: KS Zip Code: 66612

Merrill Telephone: (785) 393-1373 Walker Telephone: (620) 617-4568

Email: merrillm92@yahoo.com janicew49@hotmail.com

Date submitted: September 24, 2021

Please answer the following questions base on your current planning.

### **Provide a general concept of the artwork, statue, or monument and why you would like to see the artwork on permanent display in or on the grounds of the Capitol**

We want to honor the role that Kansas women have played in the formation of our State. Statewide we have been celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to US Constitution, granting women suffrage. It is our goal to commemorate these Kansas women who had statewide and national impact or importance in achieving women's right to vote.

Our Centennial program in 2020 included a traveling exhibit about these women. The traveling exhibit was so successful that we would like to have a permanent memorial and believe the State Capitol would be the perfect site.

We would like to work cooperatively with the Capitol Preservation Committee in developing a request for proposals, which we hope to send to artists this fall. We have identified historic Kansas women from across the state to inspire artist's creativity. It is our wish that this public art evoke inspiration about our Kansas past, educate people about important Kansas women, and be relevant, e.g. pass on our values to the next generation.

The committee has funding, and our budget includes the cost of the art, installations costs, and an amount for maintenance of the art in the Capitol.

**What is the design of the artwork you are proposing? If you have a specific design, please provide a drawing or a photograph**

We don't have a specific medium or design. We welcome collaboration with the Capitol Preservation Committee on both. A selection panel could include members of the Capitol Preservation Committee and members of the Suffragist Memorial Committee to select a small group of finalists for interviews and to possibly develop proposals.

The criteria used by the panel will include:

- Artistic quality,
- Reflect the diversity of women involved in suffrage,
- Innovation and originality,
- Professional public art experience,
- Sensitivity to the site,
- Intellectual expression,
- Public education.

The selection panel is not required to make selections from these submissions, if, in their opinion, qualifications are not appropriate.

**Who is the artist or designer? If one has not been selected, please, provide a description of how the artist or designer might be selected**

We want a Kansas artist. A Call for Artists and a Request for Qualifications/Proposals will be developed. The Kansas Creative Arts Committee artist lists will initially be used to contact Kansas artists.

**Identify suggested placement of artwork in or on the grounds of the Capitol. Please understand the final placement will be determined by a variety of factors.**

While we prefer an inside placement at the Capitol, we are open to a site either inside or outside. We acknowledge that the Capitol Preservation Committee will make the final determination for placement.

**If you have a project budget, please discuss the funding and the proposed cost. Does your budget include all installation costs?**

Funding for the artwork is a combination of grant funding and donations for our Centennial celebration. We currently have \$30,000 designated for this project. The budget includes the cost of the art, installation costs, and an amount for maintenance of the art in the Capitol.

**Explain your desired timeline for the proposed project keeping in mind the process for placing artwork in and on the grounds of the Capitol**

Timeline is flexible. It is our goal to have a dedication of the art in approximately two years.

**I understand that if my project is approved a copyright agreement and a transfer of ownership to the state of Kansas must be completed before any work is installed in the Capitol or on the grounds**

Sign here \_\_\_\_\_

Marlene Merrill, PhD