

Reed Holwegner

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Project Title: Kansas Capitol Mural: Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.**

**Project Overview:** The State of Kansas invites site-specific proposals from finalists selected by the Capitol Preservation Committee for a commission to create a public mural commemorating *Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.* to be located in the Kansas Capitol in Topeka, Kansas. The Capitol Preservation Committee will select one artist or artistic team to be awarded the commission.

**Proposal Deadline:** Complete responses to this request for proposals must be received by the Capitol Preservation Committee by 5:00 p.m. CT on **December 1, 2012**.

**Eligibility:**

Qualified artists and artistic teams must be residents of the United States.

**Mural:**

1. The mural will demonstrate artistic excellence and be an original work. It will be prominently located in the Kansas State Capitol (built 1866-1903), the grandest and most important public building in Kansas. John Steuart Curry's murals on the second floor, including "Tragic Prelude" (1938-1940), represent some of the finest public art in our country. Each year thousands of Kansas children tour the Capitol and take with them powerful, enduring images of the people and events which shaped their state. Dedication of this mural will coincide with the completion of major projects to restore and preserve the Capitol, greatly increasing public exposure to the mural.

More information about the Kansas State Capitol is available the [Kansas State Historical Society](#).

The East, West and South Wings and an Underground Parking Garage have been preserved, restored, renovated or constructed new over the past 11 years. The North Wing will be completed in September 2012. The interior and infrastructure work includes new lighting, air-conditioning and heating, plumbing, electrical, finishes, windows and furnishings. The exterior masonry has been repaired. The copper dome and copper roof will be replaced and completed in 2013.

2. The mural will memorialize the landmark significance of *Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.* by capturing its antecedents, elements, and effects on Kansas, the United States, and the international community. It will be historically accurate.

The case memorialized by this mural was decided by the U.S. Supreme Court on May 17, 1954, and is cited as: *Oliver Brown et al. v. Board of Education of Topeka et al.* (347 U.S. 483, 74 S.Ct. 686, 98 L.Ed. 873).

More resource information about *Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.* is available through the [Kansas Legislative Research Department](#).

3. The mural will be located in the Kansas Capitol in Topeka, Kansas. It will be painted, then applied to and made integral with the wall at this site. The mural will be a permanent fixture in the

Kansas Capitol, durable, stable, non-deteriorating, low maintenance, and appropriate for the light, temperature, and high volume of pedestrian traffic at this site.

More information about the possible sites for the mural is available through the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

#### **4. Timeline**

This schedule is contingent upon the Capitol Preservation Committee's schedule and upon funding for this project, and may be changed at any time.

May 1, 2012	Deadline for response to the RFQ (received by 5:00 p.m. CT).
August 1, 2012	Finalists notified by this date. Finalists will be asked to visit the site for the mural.
December 1, 2012	Deadline for responses to the RFP (received by 5:00 p.m. CT).
April 1, 2013	Interview of finalists by the Capitol Preservation Committee.
July 1, 2013	Selected artist or artistic team will be notified of award.
August 1, 2013	Anticipated date for execution of contract.
Sept. 2013-Sept. 2014	Art production and completion. Installation of the mural will be coordinated with the artist or artistic team, the mural project manager, and the Statehouse Architect.
October 1, 2014	Dedication of the mural.

#### **Budget**

The funding for this project will be provided by private donations. The project budget and the selected artist's fee are subject to negotiation.

#### **Educational Public Programs**

The artist or artistic team will be required to participate in no more than three educational public programs during or within a year of the completion of the project. These programs will be designed to instruct and to arouse attention and interest in the *Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.* mural through discussions about the artist's or artistic teams' concepts and techniques, and the ideas that shaped the mural's content.

#### **Proposals:**

From the proposals received in response to this request, one artist or artistic team, selected by the Capitol Preservation Committee, will be awarded the commission. The Capitol Preservation Committee reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

1. Finalists will be asked to visit the site for the mural, in the Kansas Capitol in Topeka, Kansas, before the December 1, 2012, deadline for proposals. The Capitol Preservation Committee will coordinate these visits. The committee also will facilitate requests for meetings and interviews with people, and tours of places in Topeka associated with *Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.*

2. Finalists must prepare and submit proposals by 5:00 p.m. CT on December 1, 2012, to:

Mulvane Art Museum  
1700 SW College Avenue  
Washburn University  
Topeka, KS 66621  
ATTN: Capitol Preservation Committee

3. Package all materials in a sealed mailer or mailing box. The finalist's name and address, and the project title: **Kansas Capitol Mural: *Brown v. Board of Education*** should appear clearly on the exterior of the enclosure.
4. Do not staple materials together.
5. All descriptive materials must be computer-typed with one inch margins and 12 point Arial font.
6. Clearly title each page of the proposal with the finalist's name, the date of the proposal, and the project title: **Kansas Capitol Mural: *Brown v. Board of Education***.
7. Include these materials:
  - a. Description of how the mural will memorialize the landmark significance of *Oliver Brown et al., v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.*, and how it will capture the antecedents, elements and effects of *Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.* on Kansas, the United States, and the international community. Not to exceed four typed pages.
  - b. Description of how the mural will be installed; anticipated requirements for fabrication, display, and installation; requirements for protecting the mural's integrity; and any space requirements in addition to the mural's wall. Not to exceed one typed page.
  - c. A site-specific, full color, to scale, rendering or perspective drawing, of the proposed mural. On paper or design board, not to exceed the dimensions of either 40" X 16", or 40" X 20".
  - d. Additional visual materials to illustrate the proposal. Not to exceed three pages.
  - e. Description of the finalist's proposed educational public program, specifying the audience to be reached, the message, and the method of delivering the message. Not to exceed two typed pages.
  - f. Self-addressed mailer or mailing box, with pre-paid postage, to have submitted materials returned after the completion of the selection process. The Capitol Preservation Committee will make every effort to protect submitted materials, but will not be responsible for loss or damage.

**Capitol Preservation Committee:**

The Capitol Preservation Committee has the statutory responsibility to develop plans to place a mural in the Capitol commemorating *Oliver Brown et al. v. the Board of Education of Topeka et al.* (KSA 75-2267 and 75-2268). Members of the Committee include: the Statehouse Architect, the Executive Director of the Kansas State Historical Society, the Executive Director of the Kansas Arts Commission, three members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President of the Senate, one member appointed by the Senate Minority Leader, two members appointed by the Speaker of the House, and one member appointed by the House Minority Leader.

**Inquiries**

All questions regarding this Request for Qualifications are to be directed to the Mulvane Art Museum at 785-670-1124 or [mulvane.info@washburn.edu](mailto:mulvane.info@washburn.edu) .