

NEVIN PLAZA ARTIST OUTREACH REQUEST/CALL FOR IMAGES

The Richmond Housing Authority (RHA) is redeveloping a multi-family residential project, Nevin Plaza, at 2400 Nevin Avenue, in Richmond, CA. The current building, which was built in 1986, is 12 stories high and has 142 residential units, as well as the RHA's main office. The building provides affordable housing to seniors and includes several units for seniors with disabilities. RHA has engaged private developer EAH Housing to manage the renovation of the existing building (Phase I), and to build a new residential building on the adjacent site (Phase II). Both projects are being designed by HKIT Architects.

To satisfy its public art obligation to the City of Richmond, EAH Housing has elected to provide publicly accessible art on the site. EAH Housing has engaged SLATE Art Consulting to support them by managing the artist selection, curation, design, and delivery of the public art.

SLATE Art Consulting is seeking images of previous work by artists or artists collectives to review in consideration for public art at the site. Currently we are seeking artists to design exterior murals, metal screens and/or gates, and one piece of interior art.

Mural and metal fabrication will be executed in materials to be determined but will likely include translating two-dimensional art into stainless steel, aluminum, bronze, glass, glass tile, ceramic tile and/or other materials. An approved fabricator would then execute the chosen artwork design in the identified medium(s) for specific locations at the site. Therefore, an artist's prior experience with these materials, or lack thereof, will not be taken into consideration when reviewing images.

Short-listed artists will be invited to respond to a Request for Proposals and will be paid an honorarium for creating site-specific designs for the project. Finalists will be contracted to deliver designs or finished artwork and must be available during the fabrication and installation of the artwork with project management by SLATE.

SITE NARRATIVE

Nevin Plaza is located at 2400 Nevin Avenue, covering half of a city block between 24th and 25th Streets in Richmond's central business district. The site is adjacent to the Richmond Farmer's Market, the Richmond Memorial Auditorium and Convention Center, and the Public Library. The surrounding area is primarily residential with single-family homes.

The Nevin Plaza community provides housing for low-income individuals. Elderly and disabled residents of Richmond and Nevin Plaza are served by the Richmond Housing Authority at Nevin Plaza. The Richmond Senior Center is within one block.

Historically, the broader Richmond community is known for celebrating its important role as a ship-building center during WWII; and Rosie the Riveter, an allegorical figure honoring American women's labor during WWII. The Richmond Art Center and East Bay Center for the Performing Arts are also important cultural hubs. Geographic highlights include Point Isabel Regional Shoreline Park, and the city's proximity to the Bay Trail, among many other natural features. Ookwe Park in downtown Richmond was created to honor the Ohlone tribe's legacy in the area.

Major themes that connect the community include a commitment to diversity, and to hope and compassion. The variety of formal and informal community groups in and around Richmond all contribute to the vibrancy, vitality and equity apparent in daily interactions of the Nevin Plaza community.

The City of Richmond reiterates in their master plan its commitment to investing in residents to build a healthy community and a strong future employment base. The Public Art Program is meant to enrich the quality of life for the City's residents by:

- enlivening and beautifying the City environment.
- creating community pride for City residents.
- encouraging and promoting awareness of the City's rich ethnic, social, and cultural diversity.
- creating a diverse and stimulating cultural environment for citizens of, and visitors to, the City.
- promoting greater economic vitality through the aesthetic enhancement of the City's public spaces, thereby making Richmond a more attractive environment for regional and local businesses.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit up to 20 images of previous work, along with a bio/CV and brief artist statement (500 words or less) describing how your work would address the site narrative or connect with the community in a meaningful way. Images and documents should be emailed to publicart@slateart.net, with NEVIN PLAZA in the subject line.

If your submission materials exceed 20MB, you may deliver a USB thumb drive to SLATE Art, 473 25th St. Oakland, 94612, or provide a link to upload files via Dropbox, Google Drive, or WeTransfer.

Submissions received by January 02, 2022, will be prioritized for Phase I.

SITE LOCATION



EXISTING BUILDING: NEVIN PLAZA RESIDENCES



ADDITIONAL SITE INFORMATION:

<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/nevinplaza>

<https://richmondstandard.com/richmond/2020/07/10/nevin-plaza-poised-for-redevelopment/>