



SEATTLE PARKS FOUNDATION



## Call to Artists for Rainier Beach Urban Farm & Wetlands Art

The partners at the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands are seeking an artist who can build two projects outlined below. Proposals should communicate how the projects fulfill the functional requirements, connect the community and the farm, contribute artistry and visual interest, and provide cohesiveness between the different elements. The art will need to be built between December 2014 and March 2015 while a new classroom building is under construction on the site. Priority will be given to art that does not require ongoing maintenance. The total art budget is \$16,000 to \$24,000.

### 1. Wetland Markers Project

Create eight to twelve free-standing metal fabricated markers approximately 8 to 10 feet high. These have two functional purposes: 1) they are required by the City to delineate and protect the wetlands on the site, and 2) they will help visitors find key locations on the site. We would like an artist to design and fabricate these to be artistic, unique and compelling, possibly using elements traditionally found on a farm. They could be located, for example, along the primary paths, and act as 'way finding' elements to orient visitors.

### 2. The Gate

Create new pedestrian gate entrance on the south side of the farm connected to Beer Sheva Park. The gate should welcome the community to the site. It needs to be able to close and lock. We would like the artist to create an artistic, attractive, interesting and functional gate or entranceway that will create an inviting atmosphere for the diverse Rainier Beach community and connect aesthetically to the wetlands markers.

## About the Site

[Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands](#) (RBUFW) is a 7 acre organic farm in the heart of one of the nation's most diverse zip codes. Community members of all ages, volunteer and participate in hands-on educational programs led by Seattle Tilth. People come to this educational community farm to learn how to grow food organically and work to restore the natural wetlands habitat that runs down the middle of the farm, while supplying fresh food for the community. People also learn about nutrition and cooking with fresh foods from the farm. In 2013, RBUFW produced 6,876 pounds of food for the community and served 2,173 meals at the farm.

The farm, previously called the Atlantic City Nursery, is owned by Seattle Parks and Recreation. Seattle Parks and Recreation selected Seattle Tilth and the Friends of RBUFW in 2011 to manage the development and long-term operation of RBUFW as an urban agriculture and wetland preservation and enhancement project. They are working in partnership with the Seattle Parks Foundation to raise funds to improve facilities and build a new classroom building. Cast Architects is designing the building which will be in construction from December 2014 – March 2015.

## Timeline

Thursday, September 24:	Call to Artists is released; proposals reviewed as they are received
Week of October 13:	Proposals reviewed and first selection made
Week of October 20:	Proposals reviewed by panel and narrowed to 2-3
Monday, October Oct. 27:	Top proposal(s) presented to funder who will weigh-in on final selection
Monday, November 3:	Final selection announced

## **Submission Process**

Please create one pdf that includes the following:

1. A description of the proposed artwork and how it fits the requirements above
2. Tell us if/how you are connected to the Rainier Valley area and/or how your art will reflect or welcome the community
3. All relevant information about how the artwork will be installed and the maintenance needs
4. Digital images of relevant samples of your work
5. A budget for the proposal
6. Artist bio and/or resume

Email to [betsey@seattleparksfoundation.org](mailto:betsey@seattleparksfoundation.org). We will review proposals as we receive them.

## **About Friends of the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands**

Friends of Rainier Beach Urban Farm & Wetlands is a committed group of neighborhood residents who created the vision for the project and secured the initial commitment of public funds. They provide community outreach, mobilize community members and lead efforts to secure additional public resources.

## **About Seattle Parks Foundation**

Seattle Parks Foundation connects and supports community leaders to build and sustain a thriving system of parks and public space for all people. We work with private and public sector leaders to integrate public space planning in Seattle and we advocate and raise funds for connected parks and public space throughout the city.

## **About Seattle Tilth**

Seattle Tilth is a nationally recognized educational nonprofit organization that inspires and educates people to build an equitable and sustainable local food system while safeguarding our natural resources. We offer classes and hands-on training in sustainable urban agriculture and environmental stewardship for all ages.

## **Seattle Parks and Recreation**

Seattle Parks and Recreation will work with all citizens to be good stewards of our environment, and to provide safe and welcoming opportunities to play, learn, contemplate, and build community.