

Request for Qualifications Percent for Art / Eastern Oregon University / Field House La Grande, Oregon

Through the Art in Public Places Program, managed by the Oregon Arts Commission, Eastern Oregon University seeks to commission exterior artwork(s) for a new building on campus to be called the Field House. Artists are invited to submit their qualifications for consideration. The RFQ solicitation and selection process is to be inclusive, encouraging a diverse selection of artists to apply, including people of color; women; and LGBTQ+ artists.

<u>Eligibility</u>: Open to artists residing in the states of **Oregon, Washington and Idaho** <u>Deadline</u> to Apply: **May 17, 2021 at 5 p.m.**

<u>Budget</u>: **\$71,000**. Budget is inclusive of design fees, fabrication, permitting, insurance, shipping, travel, installation, documentation and any other project costs.

Eastern Oregon University

Eastern Oregon University (EOU) was founded in 1929 as a teacher's college and today serves as a center for education, culture, and scholarship in Oregon's rural areas. In 2018, the Oregon Legislature officially designated EOU as "Oregon's Rural University."



EOU Campus view looking northeast.

The EOU campus is situated in the Grande Ronde Valley between the Eagle Cap Wilderness and the Blue Mountains.

The Elkhorn Range of the Blue Mountains provides a majestic backdrop for campus life and is a prime destination for hiking, photography, and outdoor recreation in all seasons.

Field House

The new Field House building will provide intercollegiate practice and competition space for EOU's Track & Field program as well as other EOU athletic programs, classroom and lab space for the Health and Human Performance (HHP) degree program, and space for EOU's Outdoor Adventure Program (OAP). When complete, the building will include a 200-meter track allowing

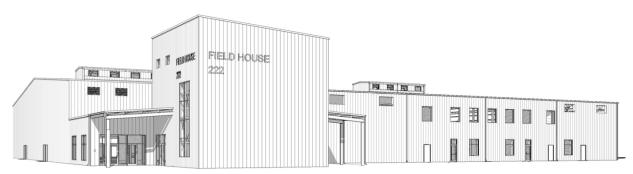
for intercollegiate and high school track meets in the winter, rock-climbing facilities, an OAP equipment rental shop, and the HHP's Movement Education Center. The distinct, yet complementary spaces, will host local and regional athletic events and camps, support community wellness activities, and provide outdoor recreational and educational experiences to EOU students and the community

Potential Art Locations

For the new Field House, function has been prioritized over aesthetic appearance in an effort to work within the project budget. The building will have an industrial feel, with limited architectural detail.

The Art Selection Committee has chosen two exterior locations as best options for site-specific artworks to enliven the area and create a visual landmark. More info about locations can be found in the Appendix. Shortlisted artists will attend a presentation where they will learn more details about the building and site opportunities.

The Field House building façade will be made from metal insulated wall panels that cannot be penetrated for artwork installation; thus, the building façade has been excluded from the list of art location options.



Building rendering: view of north (to the left) and west facing sides.

Artwork Considerations

- The surrounding scenic lands are integral to campus life, as the daily backdrop and as outdoor adventure destinations.
- Mountain views from inside building looking to the north are to be preserved.
- Building activities will draw a diverse general public, including athletes from other states and area community members.
- Freestanding artwork types that could work particularly well: kinetic, participatory, people-powered, 3D sculptural.
- This project has a fairly short timeline (see page 4). Because it is bond-funded, the "installation by" date is not adjustable. Because of the cold winter climate in La Grande, any footing installation will need to occur before the ground freezes in fall.
- Artwork should be durable and require minimal maintenance.

Identified Themes and Goals

- Integrate environmental beauty and Field House activities
- Express movement in an outdoor environment
- Draw attention to Field House from a distance

Selection Criteria

The Art Selection Committee will consider the following criteria when selecting the artist/team:

- Artistic and technical quality of past work
- Appropriateness of scale, material, durability and style of past work
- Artist's professional experience as indicated by resume and cover letter
- Demonstrated ability to complete projects on time and within budget

Selection Process

Phase 1 - A Selection Committee appointed for this project will review RFQ applications and select a shortlist of finalists for an interview process.

Phase 2 - Three shortlisted finalists will receive an artist fee of \$175 per artist/artist team to attend a virtual interview with the Selection Committee to discuss their past projects and artistic approach. One artist/team will be selected and contracted to create artwork based on the discussion, their past work and artwork development process.

Application Materials

Please follow the file naming protocol requested below. Be sure to include artist's name and contact info on each PDF submitted.

Letter. As a PDF file named with "artist's last name, first initial, letter" (doejletter.pdf). Please provide a short letter describing your interest in this project and how your artwork and art-making process would be a good fit for it.

Resume. As a PDF file named with "artist's last name, first initial, resume" (doejresume.pdf). Two pages maximum. For teams, include resumes of each team member. Please include your complete contact info: street address, phone number, email.

Images. As JPG files named as follows: "artist's last name, first initial, number that corresponds to the image information on the image list" (doej01.jpg). Up to ten images of your past work. File size: minimum 1200 pixels on the longest side and maximum 5 MB.

Image List. As a PDF file named with "artist's last name, first initial, list" (doejlist.pdf). Provide image file number (01,02, 03...), project title, location, date completed, media, dimensions, cost/budget, commissioning agency, project partners, and brief description of the project/conceptual information.

How to Submit Materials

Place your application materials in one folder on your computer and upload the folder to following Dropbox File Request link: <u>https://www.dropbox.com/request/84rWmUrANerqRBNcyvOc</u> Click on the File Request link or add the URL to your search engine's search bar. Click on "Add Files" then choose "Folders from Computer" or drag and drop your folder into Dropbox.

Tentative Schedule

RFQ Submittals Due by 5:00 pm	May 17, 2021
Artist Shortlist Selection	Late May, 2021
Artist Interviews / Finalist Selected	Mid-June, 2021
Selected Artist's Project Timeline	
Project Orientation	Late June, 2021
Conceptual Design Presentation	Early August, 2021
Design Development Review	Early September, 2021
Footing Installation by	Late September, 2021
Final Installation by	End of March, 2022

Artist Selection Committee

The EOU Selection Committee consists of seven voting and two non-voting members who include EOU Facilities Staff, Health and Human Performance Program Faculty, a Native American Program/Student Diversity and Inclusion Representative and EOU Art Program Faculty.

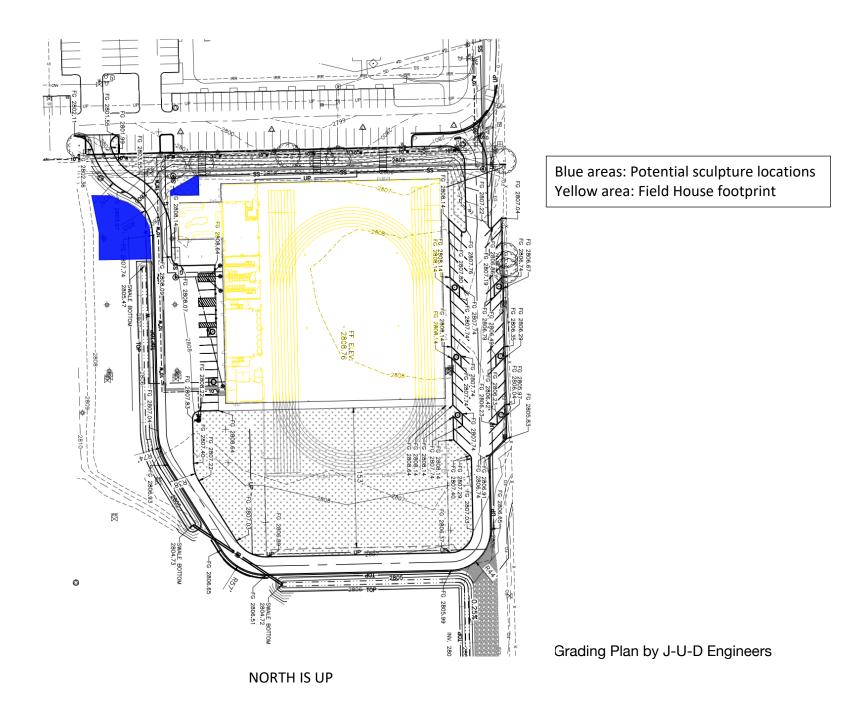
Peg Butler is the Oregon Arts Commission Project Manager and non-voting Selection Committee Chair. Contact Peg with questions at <u>pegbutlerart@gmail.com</u>.

Oregon's Art in Public Places Program

Oregon was one of the first states in the nation to pass Percent for Art legislation, placing works of art in public spaces throughout the state. The state art collection now includes more than 2,500 artworks: drawings, paintings, mixed media, photography, original prints, sculpture, ceramics, glass, mosaics, murals, textiles, and both site-specific and structurally integrated art installations. More than 1,000 artists have been involved with Percent for Art since its inception, and more than \$6 million has been paid directly to artists.

For information about Oregon Arts Commission's Art in Public Places Program visit <u>https://www.oregonartscommission.org/programs/art-public-places</u>

APPENDIX: SITE AND BUILDING INFORMATION

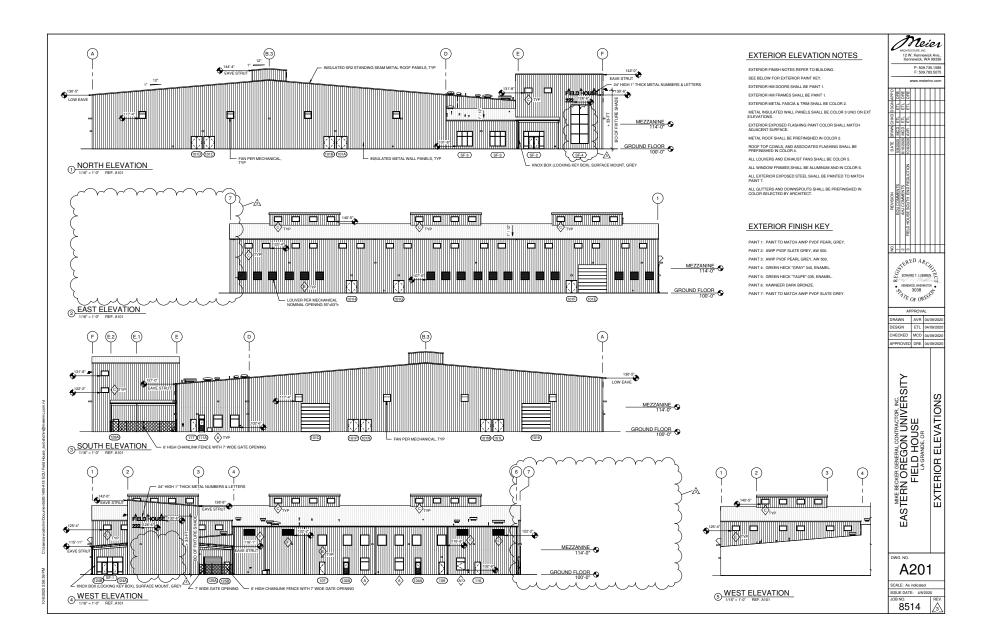


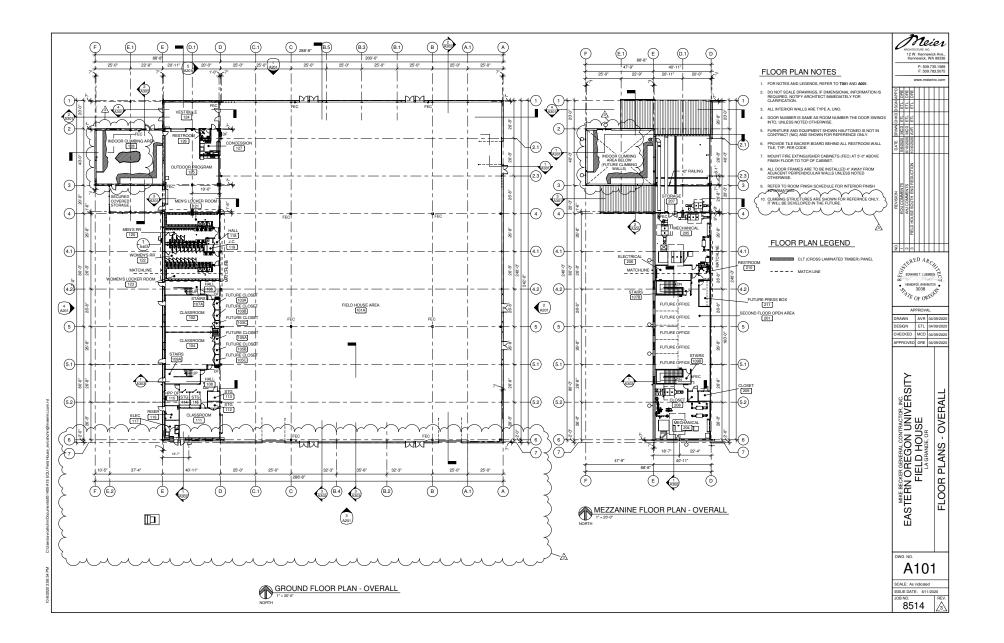


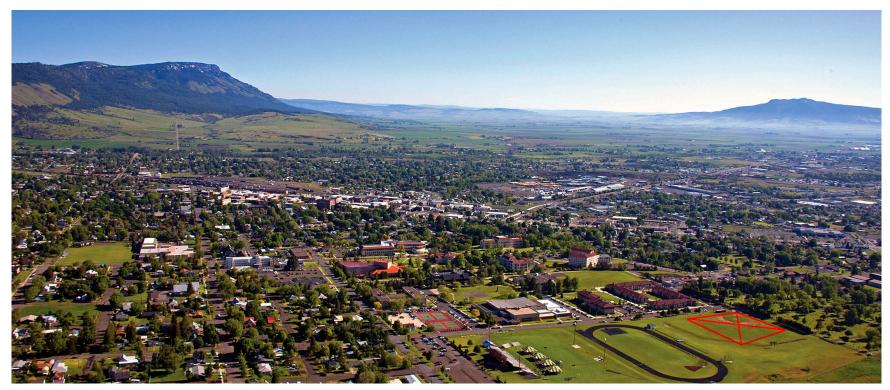
This is and older rendering of the Field House design showing the north (to the left) and west facing building sides. Unfortunately, updated renderings are not available. This image is included here to give a sense of the building design aesthetic. The selected artist/team will have access to the most current construction drawings and other building and site info, as available.

Notes:

- In the updated design, the tower window is now on the north side. There will be no window on the west side of the tower. See revised building elevations on the next page.
- The Field House building façade will be made from metal insulated wall panels that cannot be penetrated for artwork installation; thus, the building façade has been excluded from the list of art location options.
- Yellow lines: Approximate locations where art could be installed.
- Red line: the area with the red line is not available as a sculpture location because it is actually quite sloped and is an underground utility corridor.







Aerial view looking northeast including the EOU track and the approximate location of the future Field House noted in red.