

# **TOI PŌNEKE PUBLIC ART WORK REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Toi Pōneke Arts Centre is inviting artists and designers to submit a design for a public artwork on the East building at 61 Abel Smith Street, pictured below left. An artist's fee of \$5,000 is available to support one proposal from an arts/design practitioner that fulfils the criteria outlined in this brief.



Toi Pōneke East Building

West Building

## **TOI PŌNEKE - BACKGROUND**

In July 2005, Toi Pōneke Arts Centre was established on Abel Smith Street in Wellington's Te Aro precinct. Linked by a glass overbridge, Toi Pōneke occupies two architecturally different buildings. The centre provides working and rehearsal space for creatives.

Facilities include 30 artist studios, a gallery, meeting and rehearsal spaces, music studios, a project room, a photography dark room, and office space for arts organisations and creative businesses.

Toi Pōneke is proud to have supported many creative projects over the past 13 years, and we wish to celebrate this through the commissioning of a public art work.

## **BRIEF**

The artwork will reflect the creativity within, and raise public awareness of Toi Pōneke.

The selected work will be printed on vinyl adhesive and affixed to the street facing (north façade) horizontal concrete beams that separate the floors of the East building.

The design will need to be submitted as a vector file and will be designed to occupy a total length of 3 x 12,160 mm (length) x 700mm (wide). The design could be laser cut vinyl adhered to one beam or staggered across the three beams; or designed to be printed on continuous banner-like vinyl across one or part of each beam.

View of East Building, front-facing



View of East Building, Cuba Street corner



View of East Building, main entrance corner



We are looking for a high quality artwork that will help to give Toi Pōneke visibility from Cuba and Abel Smith Streets. The buildings are fairly nondescript and don't hint at the activity within. We want to acknowledge this activity and extend it to the public.

## CRITERIA

Proposed artwork will

- respond to the site including the architecture of each building and existing signage, colours, texture, etc.
- consider local Māori whakapapa and history
- reflect the activity within to give Toi Pōneke a clear creative identity and act as an interface between residents at Toi Pōneke and the public
- be a visible link from the Cuba - Abel Smith Street intersection.

For more information and guidance about outcomes and criteria for public art in the city, please refer to Wellington City Council's Public Art Policy: <http://bit.ly/2kl6TFW>

Note that this is a temporary project – the artwork is expected to be in place for no less than two years and no more than five.

## ELIGIBILITY

Proposals can be submitted by an individual or a collaboration of art and/or design practitioners.

Artists/designers will

- be local – based in Wellington
- be sympathetic to the creative culture at Toi Pōneke Arts Centre
- consider designing an artwork that includes input from mana whenua and that fosters awareness, understanding and knowledge of local Māori whakapapa and history.

## BUDGET

Wellington City Council will cover all costs associated with this project including an artist's fee of \$5,000.

## PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Please submit your proposal no later than **Wednesday 7 March, 5.00pm**. Please include:

- A) As a vector file (e.g. Adobe Illustrator)
  - scale artwork
  
- B) As a PDF file:
  - a photoshopped image depicting the artwork on the building
  - written statement (no more than 500 words) explaining the concept and central ideas behind your design (refer to the criteria outlined above)
  - CVs/artist biographies for each artist/designer involved
  - artistic support material, for e.g. images of previous work and links to any published material.

Email your proposal to Toi Pōneke Public Programmer: [jane.yonge@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:jane.yonge@wcc.govt.nz)

The artwork will be installed and completed by Wednesday 21 March in time for Cuba Dupa on the weekend of 24 and 25 March. Note that Council will be working with the large format print company, Corada Signage, to print your design on adhesive vinyl and install it on the building.