WING LUKE MUSEUM

Call for Design Team – Design and Artist Professionals
Request for Qualifications

HISTORIC CANTON ALLEY PROJECT
A design and art project for the historic Canton Alley
in the Chinatown-International District

Deadline: Friday, June 30, 2023, 4:00pm PDT

PROJECT SUMMARY
The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (WLM), in partnership with the Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority (SCIDpda) and neighborhood stakeholders, is seeking professional design teams, comprised of design and artist professionals, to submit their Statement of Qualifications for the opportunity to craft a Master Design and Art Plan for historic Canton Alley, located in Seattle’s historic Chinatown-International District (CID). The goal of this design is to extend activation of Canton Alley south from King Street to Lane Street, and then branching off to the east and west, between 8th and 7th Avenues. In particular, we desire to: highlight the Alley’s historic and cultural significance, address ingrained environmental justice issues, increase aesthetic appeal, and promote greater usability for pedestrians and bicycles.

Aligned with a community-led process, the selected design team will provide the following services:

- schematic design drawings, including public art integration
- initial concepts for approximately 3 art installations
- research and recommendations of sustainable elements/materials and
- conceptual level cost estimates for future project implementation.

The Master Design and Art Plan must comply with Seattle Department of Transportation’s street improvement process and standards.

Through generous support from the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation and the Seattle Office of Sustainability and the Environment, the maximum budget to support these services by the selected design team is $40,000.
BACKGROUND
Canton Alley holds great historic and cultural significance to Seattle’s CID neighborhood. Canton Alley is one of two remaining named alleys in historic Chinatown and served as a place of belonging and home for pioneer Chinese American families. The Alley also encapsulates stories of family separation, raising up the next generation in the context of exclusion laws, breaking through the singularly, widely-held perception that the Chinese community was comprised only of sojourners, a temporary bachelor society with no roots in America. A place of community gathering, Canton Alley is adjacent to the Chong Wa Benevolent Association playground and lot, as well as the Wing Luke Museum, and home to the Sun May Company, Chinatown’s oldest antique and gift shop.

Since the early 1900s, the Alley has served as pedestrian, bicycle and motor vehicle pathway, as well as hub of commercial activity and residential use. In the 1980s, with the introduction of new waste management protocols that brought more waste into the right-of-way, the Alley fell into disrepair. Its deterioration and usability were further compounded by vacancies in the commercial storefronts along the Alley, as well as the residential units above (several historic landmark hotels fell subject to high vacancy rates, thus reducing foot traffic into and out of the Alley). In 2012, community stakeholders launched the Chinatown Historic Alley Project (https://chinatownhistoricalalleypartnership.wordpress.com/about/); their multi-year work resulted in waste removal, re-pavement, and art installations at the northern part of the Alley near King Street.

This current project builds on years of community investment in the northern part of Canton Alley, furthering priorities to improve our infrastructure, enhance public spaces, and create joyful places to walk, gather and celebrate. Desired long-term benefits include expanded cultural and heritage space, preserved outdoor spaces, and greater neighborhood connectivity, helping to connect the Wing Luke Museum, Chong Wa, Donnie Chin International Children’s Park, Library and Community Center.

Additionally, in Fall 2021, the Wing Luke Museum purchased the Eng Family Homestead, adjacent to the Alley, directly from its original owners in order to preserve neighborhood heritage, interpret the Home’s significant stories, restore a healthy neighborhood environment, educate and engage the broader public, and further activate the CID. The historic property, one of the last remaining and most intact single-family homes in the CID, owned by the Suen King Eng family for 80+ years, represents a pioneering Chinese American family’s modest house with a basement bean sprout business, constructed in the wake of the Chinese Exclusion Act and housing discrimination in Seattle. The stories of the Eng Family Homestead and Canton Alley represent perseverance, resilience and innovation in the face of exclusion and marginalization.
PROJECT SITE
Canton Alley (between 7th and 8th Ave. S.) is located in the heart of the Chinatown-International District. The length of the project will include 1.5 block segments of the Alley from mid-block S. King St. to S. Weller St. to S. Lane St., with connections ½ block east and west towards 8th and 7th Ave. S.

SCOPE OF WORK & BUDGET
The project has $40,000 for the design team consultant’s services, including robust community engagement. This is intended to cover all aspects required for a Master Design and Art Plan, including but not limited to:

- site survey, initial pavement survey, lighting level analysis, permit analysis
- schematic design and drawings, with integrated art plan and initial concepts for approximately 3 public art installations
- research and recommendations for materials, and
- conceptual cost estimates of project construction.

A geotech study of the Alley was conducted with the 2012-2013 project (see link). The project has an additional $17,000 to support related subconsultant costs.

We would like to learn from other Alley examples. Some were surveyed in the earlier project that we can draw from. Here’s a link to one blog post with an example: https://chinatownhistoricalalleypartnership.wordpress.com/2013/03/07/the-brooklyn-of-beijing-traditional-alleys-re-developed-with-hip-in-mind/.

ELIGIBILITY, SELECTION PROCESS & SELECTION CRITERIA
The consultant will be selected through a combination of interview and qualifications review, which will be led by a selection panel of neighborhood stakeholders. The selection panel will select finalists for site visit and interview. A single site visit on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 11:00am PDT will be provided for all finalists. Subsequent individual interviews will be scheduled on Monday, July 31, 2023, times to be determined. The selection panel will then recommend a final design team to the project Community Advisory Committee for final selection. The selection panel and project Community Advisory Committee reserve the right to not select any design team, if they so choose.

Applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Design and artistic excellence
- Experience with engaging community in design process
- Familiarity with alleys, public right-of-ways and related codes
- Familiar with Seattle Department of Transportation’s street improvement process and standards

Since public art is viewed as an integrated part of the experience, the selected design team should include a Lead Artist or propose how the artist expertise will be integrated into the team.
HOW TO APPLY
Consultants are invited to submit their Statement of Qualifications at their own cost. WLM and SCIDpda assume no obligation of any kind for expenses incurred by any respondent to this solicitation.

The Statement of Qualifications must include all of the following for consideration:

• One (1) page statement of interest (500 words or less), including why this opportunity is of interest, a summary of your familiarity with Seattle codes and street improvement processes and standards, and relevant skills brought to this project
• Digital work samples – applicants may submit up to twelve (12) images that clearly show past projects and work experience. Files should be prepared as .jpg files only on a CD or emailed. Files should be labeled “01CantonAlleyProject_last name, 02CantonAlleyProject_last name”, etc. Total size of emailed files must be less than 10MB.
• Annotated image list – this list of images must include the budget, location, client or commissioning agency, title, year, media, and a brief description (50 words or less) of the applicant’s role in the project
• Resume of each key team member – listing comparable projects and any other relevant experience, two pages maximum for each team member
• Project descriptions for two recent representative projects. For each of the projects, provide references (names, phone numbers), as-built drawings (one set of each), photographs, construction costs, and brief description of the role(s) which the key staff provided for each project. Identify how your design team involved the community in the project process.

Please mark clearly on your Letter of Interest and the email subject line “Canton Alley Project” for your submission’s consideration.

DEADLINE
Required materials must be received no later than 4:00pm PDT on Friday, June 30, 2023. Applications must be received by the deadline, no postmarks. We will not review incomplete or late submissions.

SUBMISSION ADDRESS
Please send submissions by email to: Cassie Chinn, cchinn@wingluke.org.

If you have any questions regarding your submittal, please contact Cassie Chinn at cchinn@wingluke.org.

WLM and SCIDpda encourage disadvantaged, minority, and women design professionals to respond. Persons with disabilities may request this information be prepared and supplied in alternate forms by calling (206) 623-5124 ext. 131.
**TIMELINE**

Application Deadline: Friday, June 30, 2023 at 4:00pm PDT

Notify selection of finalists: Friday, July 14, 2023

Site visit for finalists: Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 11:00am PDT

Interview of finalists: Monday, July 31, 2023, times tbd

Contract start date: Estimated to be August 2023

Completion of Master Design and Art Plan: August 2024

**ABOUT THE LEAD ORGANIZATIONS**

WLM is the only pan-Asian Pacific American museum in the nation, the first Smithsonian Institution affiliate in the Pacific Northwest, and an Affiliated Area of the National Park Service. Our mission is to connect everyone to the dynamic history, cultures and art of Asian Pacific Americans through vivid storytelling and inspiring experiences to advance racial and social equity. WLM is nationally recognized for its community-based exhibition model. For more information on its community-based process, visit its website ([http://www.wingluke.org/](http://www.wingluke.org/); see Community Process under ABOUT).

SCIDpda is a community development organization whose mission is to preserve, promote and develop the Chinatown-International District as a vibrant community and unique ethnic neighborhood. It brings over 35 years of experience in historic building rehabilitation and community engagement in the neighborhood.