

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:  
Transformative Art in Reservoir Hill**

The Reservoir Hill Improvement Council (RHIC) and the St. Francis Neighborhood Center announce a Request for Proposals for a permanent, outdoor art installation in the center of our neighborhood.

**Individuals or teams may submit proposals featuring any form of sculpture or installation,** provided the work will be safe and stable outdoors and that it will not be difficult to maintain. We are looking primarily for work that could be completed during the summer and fall of 2012. Installations must not disturb, inconvenience, or interrupt the nearby residents or building occupants.

**Background**

Once the commercial center of Reservoir Hill, residents have reclaimed the vacant lots of the 900 block of Whitelock Street as a community gathering space. It currently boasts a resident-run urban farm, a community garden, a basketball court, and a brand new community-designed playground. More than 250 residents have had a direct role in this transformation.

More is coming in 2012. The German Park Working Group, a team of residents and RHIC staff, in collaboration with Baltimore Housing, will complete the renovation of German Park. 10,000 square feet of concrete that sits between the playground and the basketball court will be torn up in order to create green space, transforming it into a community lawn for picnics, Frisbee, movie nights, and other community gatherings. **The art installation would be a part of this project.**



**Reservoir Hill Improvement Council and St. Francis Neighborhood Center want to find the right artistic partner(s) for the PNC Transformative Art Project in Reservoir Hill.** PNC describes the project this way: “The PNC Transformative Art Project supports communities in their efforts to improve their surroundings with long-term and lasting projects. This program requires neighborhoods to collaborate with arts organizations and/or artists to permanently reinvent community spaces using art. The Transformative Art Project focuses on bringing the arts community and community development together to create dramatic visual impact that will attract visitors to your neighborhood.” For more information on the grant, please go to <http://www.promotionandarts.com/index.cfm?page=bopa-grants&sections=3>

### **Submission Details**

**The proposals must fit into one of the following 3 thematic categories:**

1) “Statue of Responsibility”: The philosopher Viktor Frankel in his book *Man’s Search for Meaning* suggests that just as there is a Statue of Liberty on the East Coast, there should be a “Statue of Responsibility” on the West Coast. We invite designs for this statue not to exceed a total budget of \$20,000, which would include artist pay, materials, and any other supplies/services needed.

2) “Bridges”: This block of Whitelock street is being revived as the central gathering place for the neighborhood, bringing together a diverse group of residents. Bridges are connectors. We invite designs for individual bridges or for a series. Please keep in mind safety measures/precautions when designing bridge(s). Individual bridges should not exceed at total budget of \$3 , 000. A series of bridges should not exceed a total budget of \$20,000, which would include artist pay, materials, and any other supplies/services needed.

3) “Play”: The area designated for this project abuts a new playground and a long-established basketball court. We invite designs that celebrate play (and that enable children to play on or in them) not to exceed a total budget of \$20,000, which would include artist pay, materials, and any other supplies/services needed.

*In addition, other proposals based on the themes of responsibility, community and play will be considered.*

Though there are no size requirements, the lot is about 10,000 square feet and after the artwork is installed, must still contain considerable space for families to picnic and play. The artwork must, however, be significant enough to make it a destination in Baltimore City .

**Proposals must include:**

- Artist biography and resume
- Portfolio of past works
- Illustration and explanation of proposed work.

\*Once again, a strong proposal should have a dramatic visual impact, attract people to the neighborhood, and embody the spirit and character of the Reservoir Hill community\*

**Timeline:**

*February 1, 2012* at 5:00 pm Eastern Time: Deadline for proposal submission.

*February 15, 2012:* Selection by neighborhood residents complete. Grant proposal submitted.

*April 30, 2012:* Notification if grant application has been accepted

*Summer/Fall 2012:* Installation of artwork.

**How to Submit:** Please send proposals to [miriamburg@yahoo.com](mailto:miriamburg@yahoo.com). We will accept PDF and MS Word files, as well as links to online portfolios.

**Questions:** Please contact Miriam Burg at [miriamburg@yahoo.com](mailto:miriamburg@yahoo.com) or Sarah Tarighi Murphy at [sarah.tarighi@stfranciscenter.org](mailto:sarah.tarighi@stfranciscenter.org) .

**More about RHIC and the St. Francis Center**

Reservoir Hill Improvement Council is an umbrella association whose roots date from the late 1970’s. We partner with government agencies, commercial enterprises, non-profit organizations, and public institutions to develop and implement programs and public

policies that further the equitable revitalization of Reservoir Hill and the communities south of Druid Hill Park in northwest Baltimore City . We envision Reservoir Hill as a model of a vibrant urban community with excellent schools, safe streets, abundant green space and outdoor recreation areas, multiple opportunities for residents to interact, housing that meets the needs of growing families and a broad range of incomes, and a revitalization that benefits everyone. For more information go to [www.reservoirhill.net](http://www.reservoirhill.net) St. Francis Neighborhood Center (SFNC) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3), community based organization in the Reservoir Hill area of Baltimore . Since its inception in 1963, the Center has served as a hub for community life for residents to meet, discuss, and to improve the quality of individual and communal life in Reservoir Hill. St. Francis Neighborhood Center is committed to breaking the cycles of poverty through education, inspiring self-esteem, self-improvement, and strengthening connections to the community. SFNC's presence has served as a resource and catalyst for improving the lives of those in Reservoir Hill, and making Baltimore a better place. Our programs create an approach that builds self-sufficiency and empowerment that work to address complex challenges in an effort to break the cycles of urban poverty and structural violence. St. Francis Neighborhood Center strives to give people hope for a better tomorrow by providing them with the tools they need for a better today. For more information on SFNC please visit [www.stfranciscenter.org](http://www.stfranciscenter.org).