

**February 2019 - K'jipuktuk/Halifax, NS**

## **Festival Curator - Requests for expressions of interest**

Nocturne: Art At Night Society (Nocturne) is an annual fall festival that brings art and energy to the streets of Halifax and Dartmouth each October. This free event showcases and celebrates contemporary arts and culture and the vibrancy of Halifax through 100+ installations organized by artists and organizations in locations throughout downtown Halifax and Dartmouth. The Nocturne festival brings 35,000 people to the streets of Halifax and Dartmouth each year. Nocturne is a non-profit organization and has been operating successfully for 11 years; 2019 will be the 12th year of the festival. At the core, Nocturne's mandate is to provide equal opportunities to artists from all over to show their work to new audiences. Nocturne is pleased to announce this call for Curator/Curatorial team to organize Anchor Projects to be presented at Nocturne 2019, scheduled on Saturday, October 19th 2019 between 6pm and 12 midnight with an opening night celebrations on October 17th 2019.

### **The opportunity:**

Curator(s) will develop a vision/theme for this year's festival and will curate the Anchor Project program. Nocturne's Anchor Projects program consists of 5-8 site-specific installations and performance art activations at sites across Halifax and Dartmouth that act as anchoring sites across the festival map. Nocturne highly encourages Curator-selected projects that are site-specific in nature, are conceptually experimental or innovative, further ongoing efforts to be a barrier free festival and introduce new artists to Nocturne's audiences. The selected Curator (or Curatorial team) will work directly with Nocturne and Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) staff to secure the siting of the Anchor Projects.

Budgets for Anchor Projects including Artist fees for Anchor Project artists will be developed by the Curator (and collaborators, where applicable). The Curator will be responsible for the development of a comprehensive Anchor Project proposal to include confirmed artist participants, detailed project descriptions, individual project budgets, project schedules and site confirmations. Funds for the Anchor Projects are administered directly by the HRM at their sole discretion. Nocturne will further support the Curator(s) and Anchor Projects with promotion, marketing, installation assistance, and documentation.

### **Expectations:**

Selected applicants will be expected to participate on the Nocturne Programming Committee including the jury of Beacon Projects (Nocturne is responsible for all artist fees for jury-selected Beacon Projects). Selected applicants are expected to promote the festival through their network, attend artist information sessions, be available to present updates to the Nocturne Board of Directors and staff members, take interviews with local and national media, and host 1-2 public presentations regarding the Curatorial vision leading up to the festival.

## **Partnerships:**

In 2019, we are introducing the idea of community organizations providing further support to the Curated projects. We see this as a natural extension of the larger Nocturne program which highlights the work of local organizations and artists through creative happenings in the city. Partnering organizations will add support, raise the profile and enhance the impact of the festival. Though it is not mandatory that the Curator(s) work with an organization these dedicated partnerships are highly encouraged and will be recognized by Nocturne in our promotion of the festival.

## **Compensation:**

The selected applicant(s) will receive a Curatorial fee of \$10,000 for development of theme, selection of artists, and administration of the Curator-selected Anchor Project program. Should the selected applicant wish to partner with an organization (or collaborator) the allocation of these funds are left to the discretion of the selected applicant and their partners, and should be reflected in the application.

## **Application materials:**

- Brief letter of intent including a Curatorial direction for the festival. This vision can be further fleshed out upon selection, we just want to know the general direction you plan to take the festival. In this letter you can also let us know if you plan to partner with a collaborator or partner organizations, and should include written indication from the named partner reflecting support for the application.
- Biographies of Curator(s) (max 300 words) and CVs (max 3 pages).
- Images/links to completed exhibitions/projects (max 5 total) that convey an impression of your Curatorial approaches, achievements, and interests. Experience in curating large festivals is considered an asset but not required.

## **Submission process:**

Please compile your materials into a single PDF (max file size 20MB) and email the PDF to [director@nocturnehalifax.ca](mailto:director@nocturnehalifax.ca) AND [programming@nocturnehalifax.ca](mailto:programming@nocturnehalifax.ca). Please use subject heading: NOCTURNE CURATOR PROPOSAL 2019 when you submit. A jury comprising Nocturne and HRM members will review all complete proposals received by the submission deadline, and the successful applicant will be notified by April 15, 2019 and the contract will begin immediately.

## **Submission Deadline: Thursday, March 1, 2019**

NOTE: While out of town applicants are encouraged to apply, it is important to note that on-site meetings will be important and Nocturne does not have capacity to grant travel funding at this time. Any general questions may be addressed to either of the above emails in advance of submission deadline.