

# Magnolia Sculpture Request for Qualification

**Submission Deadline:** March 2, 2026

**Budget:** \$35,000

**Location:** 1000 West Broad St, Athens, GA 30606

**Timeline:** Installation is anticipated to occur in May/June 2027

## Project description

The Magnolia takes its name from the grand, iconic magnolia trees that line Milledge Avenue. When the site was first acquired, there was an immediate and passionate response from the local community calling for the preservation of these trees. We listened. It became clear that these magnolias are not merely landscape elements, but living symbols—deeply woven into the shared memory and identity of the neighborhood.

Our intent is to honor that legacy. We view these trees as longstanding members of the community, and we aspire for The Magnolia to be one as well. Preserving this sense of place and the memories attached to it is central to the project's vision.

With 179 residential units delivered for the 2027–2028 school year, The Magnolia will soon become home to a new generation of residents. Each apartment will contribute to the personal histories, routines, and experiences that define life in Athens. As we reimagine this prominent site along West Broad Street, we seek to embrace the embodied memory of the land while thoughtfully writing its next chapter.

Through this public art opportunity, we invite artists to interpret and express the connection between past and future, permanence and change, memory and growth—creating a sculptural work that meaningfully ties The Magnolia to the surrounding community and the stories that have shaped it.

## Application Requirements

**CV** For artist teams, please submit a CV for each artist

**3 Examples of Relevant Previous Work** Examples should include visual representations of past artwork that demonstrate your qualifications for this project. Each project should have an accompanying summary of the title, location, cost, materials/medium, and date. Artist teams' images should include examples from each team member.

**Professional References:** Each artist should provide at least three (3) current references along with contact information for each reference, who can attest to the candidate's work ethic, skills, and strengths. Artist teams may submit a total of three (3) references collectively.

**Statement of Interest** Briefly describe your experience, your discipline(s), and your qualifications for completing artworks. Artist teams should collectively explain their interest and qualifications.

**Proposal Description** In 500 words or less, please describe your proposed concept or an idea for the sculpture you would like to explore.

Please submit all requirements as a single PDF document to Alice Cookson, [alicejcookson@gmail.com](mailto:alicejcookson@gmail.com)

2-3 finalists will be selected and paid \$250 for schematics

## **Eligibility Criteria**

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and live in the Athens, Georgia area.

Please submit any questions to Alice Cookson at [alicejcookson@gmail.com](mailto:alicejcookson@gmail.com)