



**ArtCENTRAL**  
S P E A R F I S H

## **CALL FOR COMMUNITY ARTISTS**

### **“Connecting Our Community Through LINKING FENCES”**

**PROPOSALS DUE BEFORE 4 P.M. ON MAY 14, 2018 to:**

**THE MATTHEWS OPERA HOUSE & ARTS CENTER  
612 N. Main St.  
Spearfish, SD 57783**

### **Introduction**

ArtCentral is excited to announce the continuation of our community project: “Connecting Our Community Through LINKING FENCES.” In 2017, three artists created large works on City of Spearfish fences, and a dozen more community groups and individuals worked together to create their own fence projects.

Through this project, we are inviting the community to join with us in creating community art projects on the chain link fences throughout Spearfish. We encourage the community to partner with neighbors, friends, organizations, and strangers alike to take part in LINKING FENCES.

The goal of LINKING FENCES is to engage the community in a creative project that not only adds visual interest to our town, but also uses the chain link fences that typically divide us to forge new connections. LINKING FENCES offers an opportunity for everyone to express their creativity and make new connections.

Through this CALL FOR COMMUNITY ARTISTS, ArtCentral is seeking to identify up to three (3) artists to win a cash prize of \$250 for each artist/team of artists for the selected designs for installation in prominent locations in our community.

ArtCentral is a community collaboration to centralize the arts as an integrated asset for inclusivity, economic development, and outreach in Spearfish. ArtCentral was made possible through a 2016 Community Innovation Grant from the Bush Foundation.

### **Call to Community Artists: Public Art Fence Project**

ArtCentral Spearfish invites all artists, creative souls, and designers (or teams) to submit a proposal to design, fabricate, and through collaboration with the local community, install artwork upon public chain-link fences. Themes of the proposed projects should clearly respond to one or more of the following concepts: belonging and inclusion, rural connectedness, cultivating creativity, and arts as a catalyst for social impact in Spearfish.

The ArtCentral committee will select up to three (3) artists (or teams) to implement the proposed

winning design and collaborate with local community members for installation. This project is unique in that it encourages artists to work with members of the community (i.e. young people, seniors, or other groups) to help produce the artwork at the project site.

Selected LINKING FENCES projects will be permanent displays created with durable materials of the artist's choice and intended to be permanent (in place for 3 or more years). Proposed material must be included in the artist's proposal and may include materials such as snap-on plastic discs, plastic strips or durable fabric (like sail cloth or privacy fence weave), or other durable materials that can be used to produce visually expressive and attractive designs. Designs must be a minimum of 15 feet long (maximum 30 feet long), and the height needs to accommodate a range of standard fence heights. Designs may be panel-based. Selected artists will be reimbursed for up to \$500 in pre-approved material costs.

The available fence locations are shown in the attached photographs and are (A) Tennis Court Fence at City Park near Dakota and Canyon Streets; (B) Spearfish Dog Park Fence at State and Grant Streets; (C) Basketball Court Fence at State and Elgin streets; (D) Spearfish Recreation and Aquatics Center Fence. Artists shall visit location of fences and provide a proposal for a project at one of these specific locations. Proposal location will be considered a preference, and final site selection will be made by the selection committee.

Submissions that are determined to be incomplete or proposed projects with inappropriate content will not be displayed. This is at the sole discretion of the Matthews Opera House and Arts Center.

**Community artists are invited to submit a proposal including the following information:**

- Name, address, email address, and phone number. If the submission is by a group, include information for all team members and indicate primary contact.
- Project title, a short statement of interest clearly describing the proposed project, and information on how members of the community will be involved in your installation.
- A short statement on the message or purpose of the proposed piece and how it relates to themes described above.
- A detailed project budget of all expenses for materials for the fence design. Winning proposals will be reimbursed for material costs (at cost) not to exceed \$500. Costs of developing the proposal, labor, or other costs incurred without prior written approval will not be reimbursed.
- A scaled visual/graphic representation of the proposed project, proposed dimensions, and a description of materials. Include proposed full-scale dimensions and any other installation considerations, including preferred fence location.
- Include an anticipated schedule for your community engagement, materials acquisition, and fence installation. All projects are to be installed during June and July 2018.

*Non-winning proposals will not be returned unless specifically requested in the proposal submission.* If you specifically request to have your proposal returned, notification of when non-winning proposals can be picked up will be made by email and must be picked up within 5 days of email notification. The Matthews Opera House and Arts Center is not responsible for any loss or damage to submitted proposals.

## **Schedule Outline:**

April 16, 2018 - Call for Community Artists issued

May 14, 2018 – Proposal Responses due before 4 p.m. to The Matthews Art Gallery

May 18, 2018 – Announce selected community artists and assign fence locations for installation

June & July 2018 – Fence Installations

## **Artist Eligibility:**

All community artists with the ability to design and fabricate a large-scale chain-link fence design are encouraged to respond to this Call to Community Artists. Artists must be older than 18 years of age, or partner with someone who is of age. Preference will be given to artists residing within the Spearfish area (defined by zip codes 57783 and 57799), or teams that include at least one resident of the same area.

***Paid employees and Members of the Board of The Matthews Opera House and Arts Center are not eligible for winning the cash prize.***

## **Selection Process:**

Artists need to submit their written proposal as described above before 4 p.m. on May 14, 2018 to the Matthews Opera House and Arts Center at the address noted above. Proposals may be submitted in person to The Matthews during normal business hours. Incomplete or late submissions may not be considered. Current gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays - Saturdays.

Up to three (3) artists will be selected for their proposed fence design. The selected projects will be awarded a prize of \$250.00, plus reimbursement for materials as described above, with a commitment to complete the installation in June and July 2017.

Selected artists will be required to submit a W-9 as well as sign a contract with the Matthews Opera House and Arts Center for completing the work. Prize money will be awarded after the fence is completed. Material costs, not to exceed proposed budgeted costs, once the contract is in place can be purchased directly by the Matthews Opera House or the selected artists can be reimbursed for direct costs. Costs incurred prior to the contract signing are not eligible.

Notification of selection may be made by email.

## **About ArtCentral:**

ArtCentral Spearfish is focused on creating a community collaboration to centralize the arts as an integrated asset for inclusivity, development, and sustained outreach within the community of Spearfish. ArtCentral's goal is to highlight local artists and arts, bring together leaders and arts supporters, and their community impact through a community-wide art installation.

## **CONTACT**

Questions may be submitted by email to [ArtCentral@matthewsopera.com](mailto:ArtCentral@matthewsopera.com).

LINKING FENCES: Potential Project Locations

A.



Tennis Court Fence at City Park; @  
Dakota and Canyon Streets



Note: Artwork may be proposed for any of the three available sides. One side is occupied by a 2017 project.

B.

Fence at Spearfish Dog Park at State  
and Grant Street



C.



Fence at basketball court at State  
and Elgin Street

Note: Artwork may be proposed for any unoccupied portion of the basketball court fence. One section is occupied by a 2017 project.

D.

Fence at Spearfish Rec and Aquatics Center

Note: Artwork may be proposed for an unoccupied portion of the fence facing the parking lot. Final location will be negotiated based on proposed designs. One section is occupied by a 2017 project.

