

RFP/CALL FOR ARTISTS

Public Art Work inspired by E.L. Doctorow

Call Summary

The **Doctorow Legacy Initiative** Committee is seeking proposals from artists for a work of public art to honor the memory of author E.L. Doctorow. This work of public art, to be located in a public park in New Rochelle, New York (located in Westchester County, about 18 miles from Manhattan) will serve as a permanent memorial to him, and will be complemented by the creation of educational programs in his name and by a Heritage Award for his former home on Broadview Avenue.

Project Description

Selected artist(s) will develop an outdoor public art work (traditional figural statue or non-representational sculpture) commemorating the life and work of author E.L. Doctorow.



Edgar Lawrence "E. L." Doctorow (January 6, 1931 – July 21, 2015) was an American author, editor, and professor, best known internationally for his works of historical fiction. He has been described as one of the most important American novelists of the 20th century. He wrote twelve novels, three volumes of short fiction and a stage drama. They included the award-winning novel *Ragtime* (1975), which was inspired by Doctorow's house on Broadview Avenue in New Rochelle. *Ragtime* was adapted for a 1981 film and became a Tony Award winning Broadway musical in 1988. In 1998 *Ragtime* was named one of the 100 Best Books of the 20th Century. Doctorow was the recipient of numerous writing awards, including the National Book Critics Circle Award for *Ragtime*, National Book Critics Circle Award for *Billy Bathgate*, National Book Critics Circle Award for *The March*, and the American Academy of Arts and

Letters Gold Medal for Fiction. President Barack Obama called him "one of America's greatest novelists."

Goals or Criteria

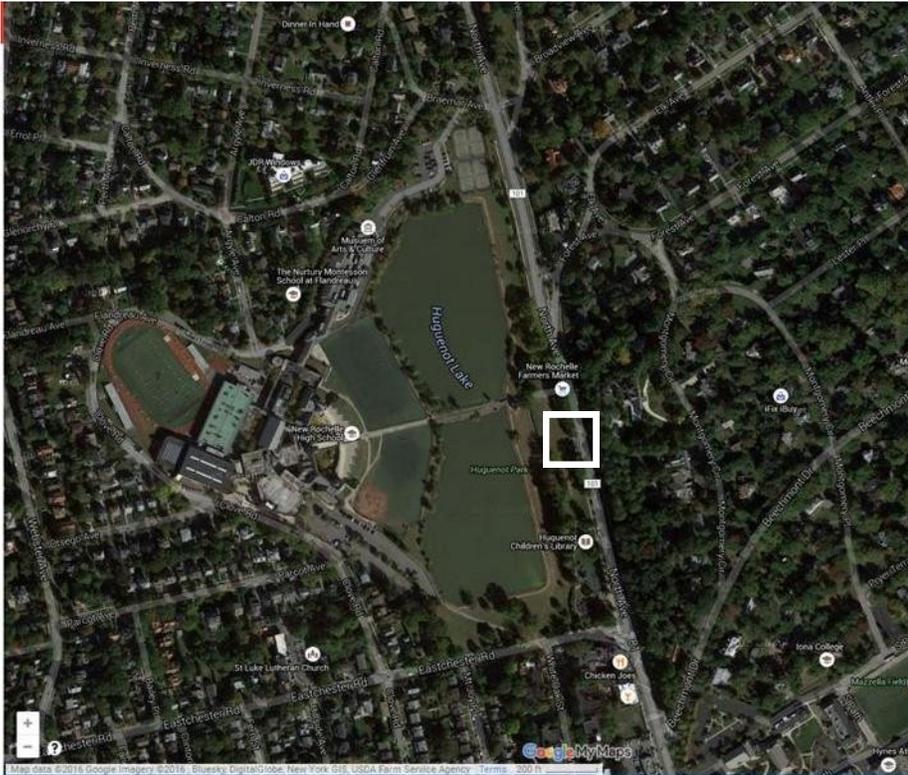
This site-specific work should represent the author, who lived in New Rochelle and used it as the lens through which to view America in his novel *Ragtime*. The work should also be contextualized within the framework of the city of New Rochelle's diversity, heritage, and culture. The design(s) should complement the North Avenue site and the classic architecture of New Rochelle High School, respect New Rochelle's architectural traditions, and enhance the site's identity and use. The goal is to create a sense of place within the community where people can gather to read or reflect.

Eligibility

This call is open to professional artists who have previous experience in the design, fabrication and installation of life-size and monumental-size, original works of art (or a design team that includes a professional artist).

Site/Art Location

The work will be located at Huguenot Park (North Avenue between Eastchester Road and Braemar) in a landscaped area, surrounded with benches where people can gather and read. Huguenot Park has been identified as an ideal site, a flat, grassy area between the Huguenot Children's Library and the walkway to New Rochelle High School; it is located near Broadview Avenue -- where the Doctorow family lived and which served as the inspiration for *Ragtime* -- and in the heart of a park/school in the geographic center of the community. The proposed site measures approximately 15 by 15 feet. The work is to be situated within this area, with benches arranged around perimeter. The dimensions of the finished work should be roughly similar to the nearby Jacob Leisler Monument, which measures 9 x 5 x 3 feet, on a base of 4 feet 30 inches x 4 feet 30 inches.



Overview of proposed area. Work to be located on North Avenue as indicated.



View of site from North Avenue looking south toward New Rochelle High School



Artist's rendering of work sited in landscaped plaza

Design Proposal Fee

Selected semi-finalists will receive up to a \$1,500 fee (per each sculpture selection) following the submission of a more detailed Design Proposal (including itemized budget) and model. This fee is not part of the stipulated budget.

Project Budget

The budget for this project is \$80,000, and is inclusive of all costs of travel, installation, permits, site restoration, insurance, and transportation. The selected artist will receive a \$15,000 stipend in addition to the project budget. NRCA will accept submissions starting May 1, 2016 and ending on June 15, 2016. Work in any medium will be considered but the medium must be weather resistant and designed to last in a permanent outdoor site. Artists will be asked to develop a line itemized budget as part of final proposal submission. If commissioned, the successful artist shall be responsible for the following:

1. Performing all services and furnishing all supplies, material, and equipment as necessary for the design, execution, fabrication, transportation, and installation of the work at the site.
2. Submitting detailed working drawings of the commissioned work and the site in order to permit NRCA and the City of New Rochelle to carry out architectural and engineering design reviews and to certify the compliance of the work with applicable statutes and ordinances.
3. Strictly adhering to and managing the approved project, budget, and schedule, including the submission of regularly scheduled written progress reports.
4. Bearing the entire risk of loss or damage to the work during design, fabrication, packing, shipping, and installation.
5. Providing and maintaining insurance to cover claims for damages for personal injury, bodily injury (including wrongful death), and property damage. The artist shall require all subcontractors to provide and

maintain insurance. A complete list of insurance requirements will be provided to project finalists.

6. The Artist's design(s) should complement the North Avenue site and the classic architecture of New Rochelle High School, New Rochelle's architectural traditions, and enhance the site's identity and use.

Application Deadline

Applications are due **June 15, 2016**. Semi-finalists will be selected and notified in June and asked to submit a more detailed proposal (with budget) and maquette by August 15th. Final decision will be announced in September 2016, with installation of the work to be completed no later than June, 2017.

Submission Address

Please email to info@newrochellearts.org.

Selection Process

The **New Rochelle Council on the Arts (NRCA)**, a 501 3 (c) non-profit organization, is the lead agency for this project. The Doctorow Legacy Initiative committee will serve as the panel of judges to choose the winning proposal; the panel will also include a representative of the Doctorow family, a representative of the City of New Rochelle Parks and Recreation department, and a representative of the Municipal Arts Commission. The proposal review process will be executed in two phases:

Phase 1: All applicants will be reviewed and semi-finalists will be selected

Phase 2: Semi-finalists will be asked to submit a more detailed proposal and scaled maquette.

Selection Criteria

Work in any medium will be considered but the medium must be weather resistant and designed to last in a permanent outdoor site. The selection of the artist will be based on artistic excellence, plus requisite experience in design, fabrication and installation of life-size and monumental-size, original works of art. (Objects that are mass-produced or of standard manufacture are not eligible for consideration.) Other considerations will be clarity of vision, proposal feasibility (does the work meet given site specifications?), ability to execute (based on the artist's existing body of work and experience can the commission be completed on time?), and appropriateness for a public location.

Project Timeline

April 2016: Request for Proposals will be published. All applications should be sent to info@newrochellesrts.org.

June 15, 2016: · Deadline for artists' proposals. Committee will meet to review submissions and select semi-finalists. Selected semi-finalists will be asked to submit a more detailed Design proposal (with itemized budget) and model, for which they will receive up to a \$1,500 fee (per each sculpture selection) following submission.

August 2016: Finalists will submit their detailed design proposals and maquettes for committee's consideration. A winning proposal will be selected.

September 2016: Winner will be announced and timeline created for installation.

March 2017: Fabrication of statue to be completed.

April 2017: Preparation of site. Installation of statue at site.

May/June 2017: Dedication ceremony with VIP reception.

Resources

New Rochelle Public Library E.L. Doctorow Local History Room
<http://nrpl.org/research-and-learning/new-rochelle-history/>

City of New Rochelle official website
<http://www.newrochelleny.com/>

APPLICATION:

All entrants must complete the application form below which can also be downloaded from www.newrochellearts.org. Completed entry form must be sent with your email submission that contains 3 images that illustrate previous works (emailed size approximately 8 x 10 in., 300 dpi jpegs only; no tiffs, pdfs, PowerPoint, etc.), corresponding image list (all jpeg image names should correspond to entry form), single-page project narrative/statement that describes the inspiration for the work, the reason for the choice of materials and the work's propriety for the site, a 2-d rendering of proposal and *résumé* to info@newrochellearts.org. Please send inquiries to info@newrochellearts.org. Submissions will be accepted by email only.

REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

Neither the New Rochelle Council on the Arts nor the City of New Rochelle will be responsible for damage to any packages sent in response to this Call for Artists.

LIABILITY AND INSURANCE:

The New Rochelle Council on the Arts and the City of New Rochelle will not provide insurance for loss or damage to work during design, fabrication, packing, shipping, and installation. NRCA reserves the right to photograph and use accepted work for documentation, on our Web site, for publicity and/or catalogue purposes.

AGREEMENT:

The receipt of any entry is understood to convey agreement by the entrant to all conditions set forth and inferred in this prospectus.



The New Rochelle Council on the Arts' mission is to stimulate and encourage the study and presentation of the performing and fine arts and the public's interest and participation therein; To foster and support arts in the community and to serve as a portal to the arts for New Rochelle residents and community members; To create opportunities for the public to encounter and explore art and increase access to the arts in New Rochelle.



This season's programs are made possible, in part, by ArtsWestchester with funds from Westchester County Government, the City of New Rochelle and the support and participation of NRCA Membership

APPLICATION FORM
Doctorow Legacy Initiative

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **EMAIL** _____

WEBSITE _____

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: Why should you be selected for this commission?

(Please limit to 250 words; additional page may be attached if necessary)

Please attach

1. Your resume or a brief bio
2. Three (3) images that illustrate previous works (emailed size approximately 8 x 10 in., 300 dpi jpegs only; no tiffs, pdfs, PowerPoint, etc.)
3. A corresponding image list that includes the following information:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Number of each digital image (from 1-3)
 - c. Title of work (please indicate whether digital image is a detail)
 - d. Medium
 - e. Dimensions
 - f. Date of work
4. A 2-d rendering of proposal\
5. A project narrative/statement that describes the inspiration for the work, the reason for the choice of materials and the work's propriety for the site.

Send to info@newrochellearts.org. Submissions will be accepted by email only.