

# **TRIANGLE SHIRTWAIST FACTORY FIRE MEMORIAL**

## **- REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

The goal of the RFQ is to commission an artist or creative team to design, fabricate and install a permanent memorial to honor the 146 garment workers who died in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire on March 25 1911, losing their lives in the blaze or jumping from the fatal height of the upper floors of the building.

The memorial will serve as a lasting remembrance for lives lost and a recognition of the tragedy's impact on major protective and factory safety legislation. It will also note the fire's influence on the growth of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union which continued to fight for improved conditions for workers in that industry. The remembrance of the fire compels us to contemplate how similar conditions persist today and why.

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire was one of the largest industrial disasters in the history of the city of New York and the worst workplace disaster until September 11, 2001. More information on the fire can be found here:

<http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/trianglefire/>

<http://rememberthetrianglefire.org/resources/>

The focal area and primary site for the memorial will be located at or near 23-29 Washington Place, the site of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory, just east of Washington Square Park. It was formerly the Asch Building but is now New York University's Brown Building. The selected artist or design team will be encouraged to explore other sites once selected as finalists.

### **:: Evaluation Process**

In the first phase of the selection process ("Qualifications Phase"), artists or creative design teams may submit their qualifications to be reviewed by a selection panel. The selection panel seeks to select finalists, each of whom would receive an "honorarium" of \$150, for a 30-minute interview. Each applicant will be provided with a comprehensive briefing package, including background information, and proposal requirements. Finalists will be asked to emphasize the experience and qualifications of the artist/creative team, and cite past projects that demonstrate respect for the subject matter, as well as successful experience with comparable projects.

The Panel will evaluate the initial interviewees and select a maximum of 3 proposers, who will then be requested to submit a more detailed design approach, as well as to demonstrate the price effectiveness of their proposals. Each proposer (i.e., artist or creative team) selected pursuant to the Qualifications Phase will receive an honorarium of \$3,000 to help defray the costs of preparing a proposal. One artist will be awarded the commission.

### **:: Budget**

The total budget for the artwork has been left open-ended as the Remember the Triangle Fire Coalition will use the selected proposal as a fundraising mechanism for the memorial.

## **:: Project Timeline**

Estimated timeline is as follows:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| August 27, 2010:      | RFQ deadline  |
| Mid - September 2010: | Committee meets to select finalists to be interviewed.    |
| October 2010:         | Finalist site visits and interviews scheduled, as needed. |
| Late November:        | Finalist proposal due.                                    |

## **:: How to Apply**

All applicants should submit the following materials on a PC-compatible CD or DVD, clearly labeled with artist's name and contact information.

We cannot accept slides, faxed materials, or emails with attachments. We will not return any submission materials.

### **Letter of interest and references**

A Word file or pdf not to exceed 750 words (no more than approximately three double-spaced typewritten pages.)

The letter of interest should briefly explain the artist's or team's interest in the project; the relationship of the project to the applicant's artistic practice; and relevant past experience, specifically experience with public art commissions. If the applicant has collaborated with government agencies, arts councils, neighborhood organizations, or other relevant organizations and individuals, please describe those working relationships and how they impacted the research and design processes. Describe any experience with fabrication, installation, and conservation/maintenance planning for outdoor artwork or design enhancements. If you are applying as an artist team, please identify the lead artist and indicate if the individuals and/or organizations that comprise the team have previously collaborated in a similar capacity, and if so, the nature of the association.

Please also include contact information for three references.

### **10 digital work samples**

Jpegs of recent related artworks at reasonable resolution (72-300 dpi), dimensions (1920 pixels maximum on the longest side), and file size compression (no larger than 2 mb). Please include only one artwork image per image file, and label files clearly in the following format: "lastname\_01\_title.jpg." A maximum of 2 different angles for each three-dimensional project please.

### **Annotated image list**

A Word file or pdf listing all work samples by two-digit identification number, followed by *artist; title of work depicted; year completed; media; dimensions (height x width x depth);* and if appropriate: *location; collection or recent exhibition history; budget (for public art projects);* and *one line of project contextual information.*

**Resume/CV**

A Word doc. or pdf. If applying as a team, include all team members' resumes within one document. Please include links to relevant websites or additional online materials.

**:: Submission Deadline**

Submissions must be **received** by: Friday, August 27, 2010.  
(not a postmark deadline)

Remember the Triangle Fire Coalition  
c/o Neighborhood Preservation Center  
232 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10003

Any questions please email: [info@rememberthetrianglefire.org](mailto:info@rememberthetrianglefire.org).

**:: Application Check List**

- ✓ Letter of interest
- ✓ Three references (contact information)
- ✓ Work sample
- ✓ Annotated image list
- ✓ Resume/CV