

MEATPACKING DISTRICT

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Meatpacking District Management Association Request for Proposal: “The Supper Brief”

Issued February 2, 2022

THE SUPPER BRIEF

The pandemic has changed how we gather. For almost two years, New Yorkers have dined alone, in pods and with partners, through Zoom squares, and in vaccinated groups. We have eaten inside and out, outside inside, on streets and sidewalks and plazas, on neighbor’s balconies or fire escapes, rooftops and in parks. Food brings people together, and there’s nothing quite like supper. And while the idea of dinner may conjure a dining room table to one person, a kitchen countertop to another, or cushion on the floor at the edge of a coffee table, there’s a common thread: it’s a place to gather, to find comfort, to enjoy company, and to relax.

With COVID’s grasp on the city adjusting daily, the Meatpacking District is planning for a spring awakening, with gathering at the forefront.

What does the public’s dinner table look like? What is the future of dining? How do we gather?

REQUEST

The Meatpacking District Management Association invites artists to realize the “Supper Brief” and provide proposals for public art that will live in Chelsea Triangle for the month of May. At its core, the piece should be functional and provide elements of place making that are inspired by the idea of a dinner table.

LOCATION

[Chelsea Triangle](#) is a public plaza on Ninth Avenue between 14th and 15th Streets and is heavily used. The Meatpacking District had over 8 million visitors in 2021 and is home to Chelsea Market, The Whitney Museum, Soho House and the Gansevoort Hotel, Pastis, RH Rooftop, and some of the finest shopping in town.

Chelsea Triangle is in the heart of the district and is bordered by the Ninth Ave slip lane, which is an Open Street.

DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

Artists should have experience in making durable, interactive, large scale art. The piece should be able to withstand mother nature’s elements as well as be able to be cleaned and repaired.

Interactive elements are not required but strongly encouraged. An online interface, in addition to the piece of art, is also something to consider.

The artist (and their team) will be responsible for designing, building, installing, and breaking down the sculpture.

In addition to the BID's review, the awardee will also be subject to review by the NYC DOT [Arterventions](#) program, which considers artist merit, site suitability, capacity, and artwork durability. The artist will be responsible for hiring a NYS licensed engineer to prepare a signed and sealed technical report of the work in advance of production.

MAINTENANCE

Materials and durability are of critical importance. The piece will live outside 24/7 and is will be "used" by the public constantly.

A maintenance plan, including how to address damage, graffiti, and provide regular inspections are required.

TIMELINE

- RFP issued: February 3, 2022
- Notice of Interest by: February 18, 2022
- Submissions Due: February 28, 2022
- Interviews: March 2 – 9, 2022 (note that a submission does not automatically grant an interview)
- Decision announced by: March 14, 2022

PROPOSALS

To be considered, applicants must submit the Expression of Interest form, which can be filled out [here](#).

Proposals shall be submitted via email based on the timeline above to:

Julia Bailey
Program + Event Coordinator
Meatpacking District Management Association
julia@meatpacking-district.com

The proposal must include an artist's statement and reaction to the brief, renderings/sketches of the sculpture, materials list, examples of the material use, plan for installation and maintenance, budget, examples of other work, and a list of references.

BUDGET

A fee of \$40,000 is available for this project, inclusive of design, build, execution, maintenance, and breakdown.

NO LEGAL OBLIGATION

The issuance of this RFP and the submission of a Proposal by any Respondent or acceptance of such Proposal by the MDMA does not obligate the MDMA in any manner. Legal obligations of the MDMA will only arise on the execution of a formal contract by the MDMA and the selected firm.