

REQUEST FOR ARTIST QUALIFICATIONS:

ARTS FOR LEARNING INDIANA'S
third space/Fresh StART PROJECTS at

Frederick Douglass, IPS School 19

George Julian, IPS School 57

James Russell Lowell, IPS School 51

James Whitcomb Riley, IPS School 43

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 2023

ARTIST BUDGET: \$27,000

CONTACT:

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artsforlearningindiana.org/third-space
artsforlearningindiana.org/fresh-start

About Arts for Learning Indiana

Arts for Learning is the premier provider of arts education programs for youth in Indiana. Each year, we partner with schools and community organizations throughout the state to engage approximately 40,000 youth in the arts. With our roster of teaching artists, we offer creative learning experiences to empower youth and transform education. We shape opinions, convene resources, provide programming, and work collaboratively with others to ensure that the arts are a part of every child's life and education. We value the right of every child to have access to the arts and the participatory experiences that unlock minds and expand lives. Our programs are offered in a variety of formats, from whole school performances, classroom workshops, in-depth artist residencies, to large-scale initiatives.

Established in 1961, Arts for Learning is one of more than 30 affiliates of Young Audiences Arts for Learning, the nation's largest arts in education learning network. Founded as an organization designed to present live musical performances, the network has evolved into an organization dedicated to providing unique and engaging learning opportunities through various art forms.

Arts for Learning is also an affiliate of Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, extending our reach to preschool children and providing arts-integrated teaching strategies to early childhood educators.

It is our mission to bring the arts to school communities to champion creative learning, innovate education, and transform lives.

About third space

third space is a project that temporarily disrupts the school environment and the learning experience through large-scale, temporary, transformative installations created by Indiana artists.

For examples of previous third space exhibitions, including short documentary films, please explore the [third space website](#).

We borrow the phrase *third space* from Lauren M. Stevenson and Richard J. Deasy, two experts in the field of arts education and co-authors of *Third Space: When Learning Matters* (2005). Third space refers to the “sets of relationships forged by the arts and the context these relationships create for teaching and learning.” A conceptual rather than a physical space, **third space** describes the way in which meaning comes into being through interaction with a work of art and the interchange of ideas around it. A third space is opened when students draw on their lived experience (a first space) and what they have learned from their teachers (a second space) to create a new understanding around the art and express it – the combination of experience, knowledge, and critical and creative thinking – all in a cohesive manner. These conditions enable students of various learning styles,

personalities, and backgrounds to take a more active role in their own education, and teachers participate in constructing learning with students rather than simply delivering content to them.

For this project, **third space** is designed to temporarily disrupt the school environment and the traditional learning experience through large-scale, transformative installations. The temporary exhibition uses the arts to set the stage for students to engage in authentic and meaningful learning. The artwork not only activates the physical space, but principally, acts as a provocation, stoking students' curiosity and prompting lively class discussions.

In this third space, the students experience their school, as education philosopher Maxine Greene explains, "as if things could be otherwise." In *Releasing the Imagination: Essays on Education, Art, and Social Change* (1995), Greene advocated for positioning students as explorers who use their imaginations to envision new ideas and patterns emerging from the world around them, and gradually align their natural curiosity with their interests. According to her research and that of numerous other scholars, such as Christopher Garrett and Alice Pennisi, students not only thrive in environments that promote student-centered inquiry and expression through the arts; they also retain more information and are more motivated to continue learning. It is particularly important to lower barriers to the arts and bring rich learning experiences to students in our community because, as reported in the 2017 *Kids Count Data Book*, less than half (47 percent) of Indiana students are always engaged in school, and a quarter are rarely or never engaged in school. Even more troubling is that more than one in three Black students and nearly as many Hispanic students are rarely or never engaged in school.

About Fresh StART

Fresh StART is a youth-led, arts-based program to improve areas in and around school communities through art. One primary objective of Fresh StART is to strengthen a community's sense of pride by stabilizing and improving an underused area, within or around the school, through the installation of public art inspired by ideas generated by students at local schools. Through project-based learning and design thinking, students engage in the full creative process to realize a permanent public artwork.

For examples of previous Fresh StArt projects, please explore the [Fresh StART website](#).

About the third space/Fresh StART Hybrid Project

The third space/Fresh StART Hybrid program will combine the principal elements of each to produce one cohesive and comprehensive project. The large-scale, temporary, transformative nature of the third space project will be enhanced and completed through the addition of both in-depth student engagement and a permanent artwork, which will serve as the project's legacy. One artist/team/collective will be selected for each school.

About Participating IPS Schools

Selected artists will have the opportunity for a site visit to meet with their paired school's leadership and staff prior to submitting project proposals to gain a deeper understanding of school culture, mission, and community. For broader school information, please see relevant links below.

Frederick Douglass, IPS School 19

[School Website](#)

[Indiana Dept. of Education: 2020-2021 School Population & Performance Statistics](#)

George Julian, IPS School 57

[School Website](#)

[Indiana Dept. of Education: 2020 – 2021 School Population & Performance Statistics](#)

James Russell Lowell, IPS School 51

[School Website](#)

[Indiana Dept. of Education: 2020-2021 School Population & Performance Statistics](#)

James Whitcomb Riley, IPS School 43

[School Website](#)

[Indiana Dept. of Education: 2020-2021 School Population & Performance Statistics](#)

About the Opportunity

One artist/team/collective will be commissioned for each of the four (4) participating schools. Commissioned artists will create a both large-scale, temporary artwork and a permanent artwork for and in response to their paired school. Artists will also meet with select student group(s) to solicit both inspiration and input prior to submitting proposals. Two proposals for the permanent artwork will be submitted, and the select student group(s) will vote on the final work to be fabricated. Proposals should consider broader school mission, culture, community, history, location, and demographics, as well as student input. No concept or theme is required or limited, though subject matter and content should be appropriate for all audiences.

The large-scale, temporary work will be exhibited within the school for a period of one to two weeks, dependent upon school availability, while the permanent work will remain as a project legacy. For examples of previous third space exhibitions, including short documentary films, please explore the [third space website](#). For examples of previous Fresh StART artworks, please visit the [Fresh StART website](#).

Artist Eligibility

To qualify for this project, artists must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Live in Indiana
- Have documented experience in large-scale artwork creation and installation
- Be willing to adhere to project agreement and demanding timeline
- Artist partners/teams/collectives are eligible

Project Budget

The budget for the third space/Fresh StART Hybrid project is \$27,000. This fee is inclusive of all supplies, materials, technology, labor, transportation, installation, and de-installation of both the large-scale temporary exhibition and permanent artwork.

Artist(s) will retain ownership and copyright of their work. However, photography and videography of the artwork may be used for purposes of both documentation and promotion by Arts for Learning Indiana, Young Audiences, Indianapolis Public Schools, and media.

Project Timeline

The project will follow an aggressive timeline, generally outlined below. Please note that the timeline is subject to change.

November 3rd	Qualifications Materials Due to Arts for Learning Indiana
November 22nd	Artists notified of selection
November 27-December	Artist school site visits
December – January	Artists lead inquiry/information gathering with students
January – February	Project proposals due to Arts for Learning Meeting with Arts for Learning for proposal feedback Revised proposals due to Arts for Learning Student Voting
February – March	Final approval and notification to proceed with fabrication Weekly progress updates with Arts for Learning

March – May	Installation of artworks (weekend prior to exhibition) Exhibitions Note: Exhibition Open House will be held one evening during the exhibition; Date TBD
March – May exhibition)	De-installation of temporary exhibition (weekend following exhibition)

How to Submit Qualifications

Please complete and submit the online “**third space/Fresh StART Hybrid Program: Artist Qualifications Submission Form**” at the link below. All applicant information and links to work samples may be submitted via the form.

[third space/Fresh StART Hybrid: Artist Qualifications Submission Form](#)

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023, AT 11:59 p.m. (EST)

Selection Process

Once artist qualifications are received, representatives from Arts for Learning Indiana and participating IPS schools will review qualifications and interest. Artists will be evaluated on previous work samples, creativity, potential, and capabilities. Artist(s) will be notified of selection on or before November 22, 2023.

At Arts for Learning Indiana, we value Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, and Belonging as essential elements of an ongoing process to move our culture toward justice and solidarity:

Diversity - We define Diversity as the vast range of human experience, pertaining specifically but not exclusively to race, ethnicity, gender identity, socio-economic status, ability, and/ or age.

Equity - We define Equity as a reparative process in which every individual gets what they need to get to where they are going.

Inclusivity - We define Inclusivity as the elevation of all voices within our internal and external decision-making processes; acknowledging our history as a predominantly white institution, in the predominantly white field of non-profit work, Inclusivity means intentional work to develop processes of elevating the voices of populations who have systematically been excluded from institutional power, within the context of our these have been majority black and/or brown communities.

Access - We define Access as both the removing of barriers and the supporting of systems change to ensure that all school communities that we are serving have the resources they need to thrive at the level that they deserve.

Belonging – We define Belonging as a feeling that each one of us is an important part of a group in which we have been included.

Contact

Inquiries are welcome and should be submitted to

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