



Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Agricultural Experiment Station Jenkins-Waggoner Laboratory New Haven, Connecticut



About the Art in Public Spaces Program
Project Summary
Budget
RFQ Deadline
Eligibility & Selection Process
About the Agriculture Experiment Station
Project Description
Project Timeline

About the Art in Public Spaces Program:

Connecticut's Art in Public Spaces program was established in 1978 and requires 1% of the cost of construction or renovation of publicly accessible state buildings be allocated for the commission or purchase of artwork as part of the building's construction project. The [Connecticut Office of the Arts](#) and the Department of Administrative Services jointly administer the Art in Public Spaces Program. Visit the [Art in Public Spaces](#) program webpage for further information about the program and to view past installations throughout the state.

Project Summary:

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) and the [Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station](#) (CAES) are seeking artists interested in carrying out a public art project that focuses on CAES's extensive collection of historic photographs and artifacts. The project aims to achieve a two-part public art experience, a digital archival and a site-specific installation (interior and/or exterior) that makes CAES history more publicly accessible.

Budget: approximately \$75,000

RFQ Deadline: November 4, 2016

Eligibility & Selection Process:

Artists MUST register a portfolio in the Art in Public Spaces Registry. Submit a new registration or update an existing profile by the deadline indicated above. Review the registry webpage for more information about the registration process. The CAES project is open to both in-state and out-of-state artists with regional artists given priority in the selection process.

The CAES project is administered as a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Therefore, artists interested in this project must first register a portfolio in the [Art in Public Spaces Registry](#). There is no application process. The selection committee will review the portfolios of artists registered in the database and will shortlist a group of artists who will be invited to submit site-specific proposals for the project.

Portfolios of artists already registered in the Art in Public Spaces Registry will automatically be reviewed. The registry is designed as a one-time registration process allowing artists to be considered for multiple projects; therefore, portfolios

should indicate a range of work samples. Updates may be made but COA recommends limiting updates to no more than once a year.

Important Note: Artists are encouraged (but not required) to submit a **Letter of Interest** by email to tamara.dimitri@ct.gov for this particular project. A **Letter of Interest** should not exceed one page in length and should outline your interest and ability to carry out a project that includes an archival component.

About The Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station (CAES):

CAES is the first Agricultural Experiment Station in the United States, founded in 1875. The mission of The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is to develop, advance, and disseminate scientific knowledge, improve agricultural productivity and environmental quality, protect plants, and enhance human health and well-being through research for the benefit of Connecticut residents and the nation. Seeking solutions across a variety of disciplines for the benefit of urban, suburban, and rural communities, Station scientists remain committed to "Putting Science to Work for Society," a motto as relevant today as it was when it was founded in 1875.



In 2016, nearly 50 PhD scientists work for CAES with a focus on plants and environment research, engaging in cross agency partnerships with research supporting the work of other state agencies. In addition, the laboratory provides free services such as soil testing and plant and bug analysis for residents.

The CAES campus in the historic Prospect Hill neighborhood of New Haven includes an auditorium which is used almost daily for events, workshops, and lectures. The agency also operates three research farms and laboratories.

Learn more about CAES by reviewing the [Director's Report](#).

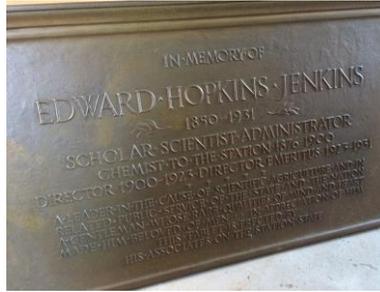


The Jenkins Laboratory, a National Historic Landmark, was originally built in 1932 as a WPA project. It recently underwent renovations and acquired a new addition. Construction was completed in 2015 and the building now goes by the name Jenkins-Waggoner Laboratory.

The new contemporary wing creates a dynamic contrast to the existing structure while celebrating and maintaining the historic appearance of the original laboratory. The existing facility is 17,900 gross square feet (GSF), has three occupied floors plus a penthouse and contains laboratories, offices, insect collections and a library. The two-story 12,000 GSF addition accommodates required program areas and the overall project provides facility upgrades.

Project Description:

The Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station is seeking a work of art that honors the rich history of CAES and taps into the extensive photo and archival collection. The project aims to achieve a permanent public art project while simultaneously carrying out a digital archive component that can be expanded upon by CAES following the completion of the 1% for Art project. The project itself will become a research project and may be of interest to artists who tend to engage interns in research-based projects that include a cross-sector component.



Artists may consider the use of imagery from the archives and the use of text and/or poetry, the project may include combination a combination of photos/images and archival collection to mount a permanent display.

Artists may consider the full array of CAES when developing the underlying structure of their project, or they may choose to focus on the two departments that occupy the Jenkins-Waggoner Laboratory - The Department of Entomology, and The Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology.

As a facility rich in history, knowledge, research, tradition, and innovation, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station values the arts and maintains a collection of artwork and artifacts that speak to the institution’s past. Portraits of former directors are on display throughout the campus, artifacts are preserved, and manuscripts (both former and new publications) are highly regarded. Artists are encouraged to visit the website to learn about the extensive scope of work carried out by the CAES staff and scientists.



Project Timeline *(all dates are subject to change):*

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| RFQ Deadline: | November 4, 2016 |
| Artists shortlisted for Proposal Development by: | Early 2017 |
| Finalist selected by: | Spring 2017 |
| Fully executed contract / project start date: | Summer 2017 |

For ALL questions related to the Art in Public Spaces program and the CT Agricultural Experiment Station opportunity, please contact: Tamara Dimitri, Art in Public Spaces Program Specialist, Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA), tamara.dimitri@ct.gov