Request for Qualifications

Award Design and Production for the
2026 Indiana Governor's Arts Awards
DUE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026 AT 11:59 PM EDT
Published: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Section 1 – Background

1.1 Request for Qualifications

The Indiana Arts Commission ("IAC" or "Commission") solicits Statements of Qualification for the Award Design and Production of the 2026 Indiana Governor's Arts Awards (the "Project"). A submittal of a Statement of Qualification does not guarantee that the Artist or Creative Team will be contracted to perform any services but only serves as a notice to the Indiana Arts Commission ("IAC" or "Commission") that the Artist or Creative Team desires to be considered.

1.2 Indiana Governor's Arts Awards

To recognize outstanding achievement and contributions to arts and creativity in Indiana, the Office of the Governor Mike Braun with the Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) present the **Governor's Arts Awards**, the highest honor the state gives in the arts.

These awards honor those who support, build, or amplify arts and creativity in Indiana, creating strong Indiana communities where people choose to live, work, and create. Potential recipients include individuals (artists, leaders, advocates, philanthropists, educators, elected officials); organizations and businesses (nonprofit or for profit); tourism entities; towns or cities; schools; or libraries from rural or metro areas of Indiana.

The IAC coordinates the presentation of the Governor's Arts Awards. The Commission solicits nominations for award recipients and coordinates the selection process and commissions an Indiana artist to create custom works of art to serve as the awards.

Section 2 – Request for Qualifications

2.1 Scope of Services

The Indiana Arts Commission is seeking Statements of Qualifications from Artists or Creative Teams for the Award Design and Production Services for the 2026 Governor's Arts Award. The Indiana Arts Commission and the Office of the Governor retain exclusive and sole discretion for making the selection.

2.2 Specifics

Seven (7) awards will be created. No restrictions on content, medium, or style, but each piece must reflect the purpose of the Governor's Arts Awards to recognize outstanding achievement and contributions to arts and creativity in Indiana. The seven awards do not have to match in style or content, but each award will need to include the following text either on the artwork or on a base:

2026 GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARD

2.3 Deliverables

1. Seven (7) completed awards are to be delivered or couriered on or before Friday, February 5, 2027 to:

Indiana Arts Commission
100 N Senate Ave. N505
Indianapolis, IN 46204

2. High-Resolution Digital Images files of each completed award to be sent electronically to:

Connie Brahm
Marketing & Communications Director
cbrahm@iac.in.gov

Section 3 – Procurement Process

3.1 Selection Process and Criteria

A selection committee comprised of representatives from the Office of the Governor and the Indiana Arts Commission will review and evaluate submissions based on the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence;
- Appropriateness and quality of artist's medium, style, and previous work as they relate to the goals of the Governor's Arts Awards;
- Experience with projects of a similar scale and scope;
- Ability to work within the specified project timeline; and
- Appropriateness of the budget

3.2 Project Budget

The total allowable budget for the Project is not to exceed **Seven Thousand Dollars ($7,000.00)** and is inclusive of all costs associated with Artist or Creative Team involvement with the project, including but not limited, to research, professional consultations, materials, fabrication, design, shipping, insurance, photography, and documentation of the Project.

3.3 Eligibility

This opportunity is open to artists currently residing in Indiana and 18 years old or older. Artists must go through a mandatory clearance check to ensure they are in good standing with the State of Indiana.

3.4 Questions

Questions regarding this RFQ, if any, or additional questions related to the Governor's Arts Awards must be submitted to Connie Brahm, Marketing and Communications Director, at cbrahm@iac.in.gov.

3.5 Schedule

The Indiana Arts Commission reserves the right to adjust schedule.

Date	Event
Tuesday, September 22, 2026	Request for Qualifications Issued
Friday, October 30, 2026	**RESPONSES DUE VIA EMAIL AT 11:59 PM EDT**
November 18, 2026	Selection Notification
November – February 2026	Awards Fabrication Period
Friday, February 5, 2026	**DEADLINE FOR DELIVERABLES VIA MAIL OR COURIER TO IAC BY 4:30 PM EDT**

Section 4 – RESPONSES

4.1 RFQ Responses

Interested Artists or Creative Team must submit their proposals via the submission email to cbrahm@iac.in.gov to be considered for this Request for Qualifications.

The proposal shall include the following:

- **Letter of Interest & Artist Statement:** Provide a letter of interest and an artist statement including availability to participate within the provided timeline and relevant details that make the Artist or Creative Team a good candidate for the project.
- **Work Samples:** Share up to 10 images of original, complete artworks which demonstrate qualifications for the project. Include the title, medium, dimensions, project budget, year completed, and a description.
- **Additional Information:** Links or websites that provide examples of previous experience are welcome but not required.
- **Total Proposed Budget:** Detail proposed expenses, including a brief expense description and the numeric dollar amount associated with each expense.

Note: Artists are welcome to submit ideas for the awards but are not required to submit mockups or designs as a part of the request for qualifications.

4.2 Deadline for Submittal of Responses

Friday, October 30, 2026 at 11:59 PM EDT – Pursuant to Section 4.1, Artists or Creative Team must submit their proposals via email to cbrahm@iac.in.gov.

Proposals that are: submitted via other channels of communication; late; incomplete, and/or ineligible **will not be accepted.**

4.3 Notifications and Proposals

Notifications will be issued no later than November 18, 2026. Selected artist(s) will be required to attend a virtual meeting to discuss the development of a final proposal for award design. The final design must be approved by the selection committee.

4.4 Contact Person and Communications

Interested Artists or Creative Teams are encouraged to review all published materials and contact Connie Brahm, Marketing and Communications Director, at cbrahm@iac.in.gov with any questions.