

# Call for Artist Proposals

## Three Sisters Park Signage

### Submissions Due October 18, 2021



#### **Project Description & Goals:**

The Sisters of Saint Joseph Neighborhood Network seeks to commission a professional visual artist, or artist team, to design, fabricate, and install a sign for Three Sisters Park (3SP) located in the 400 block of West 19th Street in Erie, PA. When the SSJ Neighborhood Network acquired the property, the 0.4 acre site still held a collapsed building, rusting piles of discarded track, used drug paraphernalia, scrap metal and many tons of illegally dumped refuse. Neighborhood children lacking alternative natural recreational space regularly found their way through derelict fences and extreme plant overgrowth, to the site's interior to play. Since acquiring the property, the SSJNN has transformed the site into Three Sisters Park: a safe and beautiful urban park for the community to enjoy. An identifying sign is one of the few final touches that the park needs.

Directly adjacent to the park site sits west 19th street along which a stretch of historical railroad called the Nickel Plate Road ran from Buffalo, NY to Chicago. The park site, itself, held a locomotive engine boiler repair shop to service the locomotives on their journey. The tracks ran along this portion of west 19th street until they were ultimately removed in 2002. A nod to this history is on display within the park as seen site's history is on display via various structures within the park. [Please click here to review current images of the park.](#)

WHAT'S IN A NAME? The name of the park holds dual meaning for the SSJ Neighborhood Network. The Three Sisters refers both to three of the Sisters of Saint Joseph who founded and have provided constant service to the organization, as well as the Native American companion planting technique of growing the three crops of winter squash, corn, and climbing beans together for optimal yield.

This project is funded through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Program. SSJNN's partners, Highmark Health Insurance, Marquette Savings Bank and Northwest Bank, are able to target their State tax payments to impact local revitalization and community development activities. Find more about this program here: <https://bit.ly/3Ba7qXw>

#### **Project Guidelines:**

- The selected artist(s) will be responsible for the design, fabrication, and installation of the sign.
- In its final form, the sign must include "Three Sisters Park" and clear SSJNN branding.
- The sign will be installed in the designated area of the park as shown in the [provided site images PDF](#).
- The sign may be affixed to the posts or supported by the existing fence structure seen in the images. This is an option, not a requirement, and proposals that include such plans will not necessarily be given preference during the review and selection process.
- The sign may be made of any material, or materials, that will stand up to the elements. Materials should have resistance to warpage, cracking, and premature wear, as they will be subject to the harshest elements of all four seasons, including high heat and extreme cold.
- The sign must be installed in a manner with sufficient anchoring to prevent it from being removed, tipped, broken, or overturned due to wind, snowload, etc...

#### **Budget:**

The budget for the 3SP Sign is up to \$5,000. This sum is inclusive of all costs associated with the project, including artist fees, design, fabrication, installation, transport, travel, and other project related expenses.

#### **Eligibility:**

This request for proposals is open to all artists or artist teams who are at least 18 years of age, with no restriction on geographic location. Artists' qualifications should demonstrate a level of experience and professionalism that is

commensurate with the project scope and budget.

**Timeline:**

**Applications Due:** October 18, 2021  
**Artist(s) Notification:** November 8, 2021  
**Project Completion:** by March 1st, 2022

**Required Application Materials:**

**A Word document or PDF dossier containing the following materials:**

Save with filename “FirstnameLastname\_Sign” for example: “JaneDoe\_Sign”

- Artist Statement (no more than 500 words)
- Artist Biography (no more than 500 words)
- Project Narrative (no more than 1,000 words)
- Project Timeline
- Project Budget
- References (Provide the names, email addresses, and telephone numbers for three professional references.)
- Curriculum Vitae

**Imagery:**

- Images of Proposed Project (4-10 images of proposed work. Images may display sketches, 3D renderings, images of maquettes, etc...**Save as JPEGs only. Use filename(s) “FirstnameLastname\_Sign1” “FirstnameLastname\_Sign2” “FirstnameLastname\_Sign3” etc...**)
- Portfolio featuring Past Work (Provide hyperlink to online portfolio)

**Submission Process:**

You may submit your application materials here [Three Sisters Park Sign Submission Form](#)

**Submission Deadline:**

October 18, 2021

**Site Plan Images & Location Data:**

[Three Sisters Park Site Images \(click here\)](#)

**SSJNN Mission Statement:**

The SSJ Neighborhood Network, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, provides leadership, advocates for local residents, and partners with the broader community to develop opportunities for both personal growth and neighborhood revitalization.

Please direct any questions to Alison Stinely via e-mail at [ASTinely@SSJNN.org](mailto:ASTinely@SSJNN.org)

To learn more about our organization, visit: <https://www.SSJNN.org/>