

Call for proposals for Avondale/EI Centro Mural

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY is a fully accredited public university serving more than 11,000 students in the Chicago area with an affordable, high quality academic experience. Our population is richly diverse in ethnicity, culture, age and language. We are seeking to **commission a mural in celebrating EI Centro, our newest building located in the Avondale neighborhood.** EI Centro is a focal point for the Latino community and provides educational opportunities within a culturally comfortable and easily accessible setting.

EI Centro is one of Northeastern Illinois University's four locations in the Chicago area. Founded in the 1960s, it has evolved into a comprehensive center serving our students and the community. EI Centro offers an array of academic course offerings, recruitment and admission programs, academic support and co-curricular programs for students, and outreach initiatives for the neighboring community.

EI Centro serves the community through instruction and outreach programs. English as a Second Language and computer literacy workshops are offered to the community as well as seminars on education, health, housing and technology.

In collaboration with community-based organizations, EI Centro seeks to improve the lives of Latinos living in the Avondale, Hermosa, Humboldt Park and Logan square communities, and surrounding neighborhoods.

The mural should express the Northeastern Illinois Values that include **Integrity: Excellence: Access to Opportunity: Diversity: Community: Empowerment.** Along with the values of Northeastern, we are seeking a mural that reflects the historic and cultural aspects of the Avondale neighborhood with the inclusion of a working class community, the industrial aspect of the area and the educational influences of EI Centro.

The site is an underpass of two 100ft x 12ft walls. Expectations are for an artist to design and execute a mural at the designated site. The artist will work with and direct community members in the painting of mural. Submissions will be reviewed with the understanding that we may request additional modifications to the design to ensure the values and cultural aspects of the neighborhood are conveyed in the mural.

The projected completion of the mural will be September 2015. A stipend of \$5000.00 will be awarded upon the completion of the project.

The **National Museum of Mexican Art** is collaborating with **Northeastern Illinois University** on this public art project.



PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

(label all documents with your name, address, phone and e-mail)

- Project description:** Provide a detailed description of your proposed project
- Planned detailed budget:** *Please note that you will be required to provide your own travel and living accommodations. Materials required for the mural completion will be provided and shall not exceed \$2500.00 unless otherwise agreed to by the selection committee. Please indicate what technical assistance and materials you will require. and include any assistants in your budgets.*
- Proposed artwork timeline:** Outline a timeline of your work.
- 250 - 300 word artist statement**
- 250 - 300 word statement in about the proposed murals and how it reflects the historic and cultural aspects of the Avondale neighborhood with the inclusion of a working class community, the industrial aspect of the area and the educational influences of El Centro.**
- Submit 5-10 recent works** available to view in PowerPoint or as a PDF. LABEL each image with title, media, dimensions and date of completion.
- Include a copy of your resume.** DO NOT include any additional materials such as exhibition announcements, postcards, reviews, prints of additional work or promotional pieces.

All submissions will be electronic

APPLICATION TIMELINE:

- **Completed entries must be received by June 15th, 2015**
- **The selected entry will be announced June 30th, 2015**

SEND ALL MATERIALS TO:

Mark P. McKernin
m-mckernin@neiu.edu
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 N. St. Louis Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625