North Carolina State University

**David Thompson Plaza**

**Project Summary**

**10-5-2022**

**Project Description**

North Carolina State University is seeking qualifications from artists/teams to create a sculpture of one iconic player to honor his contributions to the university’s historic athletic achievements.The site for this installation is a campus landscape located at the Northeast corner of Reynolds Coleseum. Due to the close proximity, Coaches’ Corner located at the Northwest corner of Reynolds consisting of hardscape plaza and sculptures installed approximately 10 years ago should be considered for context. The sculpture is intended to capture the spirit of movement, verticallity and flight. The sculpture should also engage the landscape that will be a backdrop to this plaza and consider the Reynolds Coleseum facade. Although the new sculpture is not bound by these existing sculptures, they all must successfully work together in the larger site context. The goal of this new plaza and sculpture is to continue to tell the story of outstanding athletes and celebrate the connection to “place” at Reynolds Coleseum.

David Thompson was, and still remains, the greatest basketball player to ever wear the NC State jersey and perhaps ever to represent the Atlantic Coast Conference. This sculpture will embody the collegiate career of this legend, conveying the innovation, athletic ability, and leadership that he brought to the game. Its location in the place where the Wolfpack faithful cheered him on - Reynolds Coliseum - will ensure that future Wolfpack students and fans will be able to learn his story, share it with others and preserve the moment with photos.

Thompson earned the nickname "Skywalker" because of his incredible vertical leap. The alley-oop pass, now a staple of today's high-flying, above-the-rim game, was "invented" by Thompson and his NC State teammate Monte Towe, and first used as an integral part of the offense by NC State coach Norm Sloan to take advantage of Thompson's leaping ability. Thompson's number 44 remains the lone number retired by the school in men's basketball.

Nearly 50 years after his collegiate career ended, David Thompson is still considered one of the greatest players in ACC and college basketball history. In the 1973-74 season, Thompson led the Wolfpack to a 30-1 record and the school's first NCAA Men's Division I Basketball National Title. Thompson is a three-time consensus first-team All-American, and twice was named Associated Press National Player of the Year in 1974 and 1975. Thompson was also named ACC Player of the Year all three years he competed for NC State. For reference, Thompson and Virginia's Ralph Sampson are the only players in ACC history to win the honor three times.

The installations (objects) must be anchored to prevent removal and the materials should be durable, lasting and vandal resistant. The installation must be universally accessible, and allow for interaction and physical contact by people who visit the site.

# Project Budget & Design Scope

The budget incorporates design for both the site and sculpture. The sculpture will have a budget from $250,000 up to $500,000 awarded in one contract for the David Thompson sculpture. This budget is inclusive of travel, research, design, fabrication, installation, insurance, taxes and any modifications to the site proposed by the artist that are beyond the scope and/or budget of the approved site improvements (see “Project Site” below). Coordination of any site impacts with the university’s consultant(s) for this project site is also part of the scope. The selected artist will confirm the feasibility of completing their project within the estimated project budget during preliminary design.

The project site area is on the Northeast side of Reynolds Coliseum located in the Central Campus Precinct. A separate budget of up to $115,000 will fund the site improvements for the new sculpture. The design of the site improvements will be a separate project that will be developed to a design development level at which time there will be an opportunity for collaboration/ coordination with the selected artist before the site project moves forward to construction drawings and implementation.

# Project Site

The project is located at 2411 Dunn Avenue in the Central Campus Precinct.

**Pre-Submittal Questions**

Please submit questions by **October 18, 2022** **at 5:00 p.m** using the links below.

Submit Questions: [Questions](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScakn5tFOv1pfFKGtWAr4LKamwK6-Mzh3FKMPwdUQWJGxsB8g/viewform)

View University Responses: [Responses](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10Pt6lLmP3JVkdg5AfiKNo2bIzUodyQu43Tpc1_o2hzw/edit#gid=0)

# Project Schedule

# Design during late 2022/ early 2023 with Construction Spring/Summer 2023 and completion by end of 2023.

**Design Process:**

The selected firm will work through the Office of the University Architect along with a selection committee that includes athletics and art representatives. The process will follow normal design procedures and University guidelines.

North Carolina State University reserves the right to refuse any or all submissions, to refuse any finalist, to waive informalities in proposals or procedures, or to withhold the award of commission should it be determined that submissions are not adequate, or for any other reason prior to a written contractual arrangement being reached.

**Critical Selection Factors:**

First and foremost, selection will be based upon demonstrated artistic excellence by artists who have produced visionary and conceptual content and whose project will indeed create an iconic memorial to this legenary player and Wolfpack athletics. In addition, the strength of the submitted sketch proposal, the artist(s) previous experience with similar projects, and the demonstrated ability of the artist to complete similar or related projects will also be considered as critical selection factors. Artists are requested to assure receipt of proposals by 5:00 p.m. on November, 10, 2022.

# Artist Selection Process:

### **Phase I:** Submissions of Qualifications - **Due at 5:00 PM on** **November 10, 2022**.

**Application Guidelines (Incomplete submissions will not be accepted)**

* No hard copy qualifications will be accepted. Provide a single pdf file with all requested information/forms to the Project Manager – Karen Creech [klcreech@ncsu.edu](mailto:klcreech@ncsu.edu)
* Submittals through website <https://www.callforentry.org/> will also be accepted.
* Required submission form (attached)
* A one to two page typewritten letter of interest addressing all of the above selection criteria including a beginning conceptual approach to the project.
* A current résumé (no more than three pages).
* Up to 10 images of representative projects from artist’s body of work. Each file must be named with the artist’s surname and image number to correspond to an image list (e.g. 01 Smith).
* According to image number, also include an annotated list including title, media, dimensions, budget, and descriptive information.
* **Do not send additional supplementary materials.**

**Phase II:** Campus Visit and Interview- invitations to those short listed by selection committee.

The submission of qualifications will be reviewed by a university committee appointed by the Secretary to the Buildings and Property Committee of the Board of Trusteesthat includes NC State Director of Athletics, Athletics Senior Associate AD/Facilities, Senior Associate AD, Gregg Museum staff member, Assoc. Dean & Executive Director Arts NC State, Professor of Art + Design, the David Thompson Plaza site project manager, the University Architect, and the University Landscape Architect.

The committee will invite 2 to 3 artists to visit the campus on **December 16, 2022** to be interviewed and review the site. A stipend of $3,000 inclusive of all travel expenses for one person for this visit will be paid by the university. The artist will then submit a sketch proposal by **January 20, 2023.** Final review and choice of artists/teams will be made no later than **February 3, 2023**.

**Questions/Proposal Submittal**

In order that the selection process be as objective as possible, do not contact members of the Board of Trustees, or any university officials other than the project manager. All questions and project submittals are to be directed to:

Karen Creech

NC State University- Office of University Architect

Box 7519 (2601 Wolf Village Way)

Raleigh, North Carolina 27695

Phone 919-513-0270 Fax 919-515-4253

[klcreech@ncsu.edu](mailto:klcreech@ncsu.edu)

North Carolina State University: **David Thompson Plaza**

Required Submission Form: To be completed by the artist/team

NAME:

Physical Address

Email address

Website: (if applicable)

Telephone number(s)

Dealer (if applicable)

Please indicate if you are currently employed at a university, college of art or similar?

Location and date of most recent (within the past two years) public/institution commission(s)

What do you consider your most significant artwork?