

CALL TO ARTISTS

University of Florida's Art in State Buildings Program

UF-212 NEWELL HALL RENOVATION

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

GAINESVILLE, FL

November 19, 2015

BUDGET: \$45,000 (plus \$5,000 total in honoraria to be split between finalists)

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: February 19, 2016 – 5pm

CRITERIA TO APPLY: Artist must meet at least (2) of the following:

- the artist has completed public commissions similar in budget and scale
- the artist's works are in major public, private, corporate, or museum collections
- the artist has receive awards, grants, or fellowships
- the artist has participated in exhibitions at major museums or galleries within the past five years

SELECTION PROCESS: A formally-appointed selection committee will review examples of artists' past work, resumes, and other required information to arrive at a "shortlist" of finalists. Finalists will then be asked to prepare a detailed and site-specific proposal for public art that can be entirely developed, fabricated, and installed for the given budget (including infrastructure costs, artist's fee, insurance, and other direct & indirect costs).

Proposals that offer artwork related to the redefined purpose of Newell Hall as a Learning Commons (see below) and/or its rich history as the hub of agricultural research will be viewed more favorably.

SITE VISIT: The University of Florida's Art in State Buildings Program strongly encourages chosen finalists to make an in-person visit to see the construction and renovation. In addition to getting an overall sense of location, space, and context, you can ask key project stakeholders (including the design and construction teams) questions regarding infrastructure, feasibilities, coordination & timing issues, etc.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

As one of the nation's most comprehensive research institutions, the University of Florida is in a unique position to pursue the multidisciplinary research and education that 21st century problems demand. With thousands of faculty and hundreds of research labs on its Gainesville campus and throughout the state, UF has the intellectual and physical resources to pursue the big questions in science, particularly about human health. UF is one of only 17 public, land-grant universities – and the only university in Florida – to be a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities, which comprises the 63 leading research universities in the United States and Canada.

NEWELL HALL

Constructed in 1910 as the Agricultural Experiment Station, Newell Hall is the 3rd oldest building on the UF campus; was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979; and is a good example of the interesting form of Collegiate Gothic architecture prevalent in the older part of the UF campus. After being vacated in the mid-1930s due to concerns with structural overloading and deficient electrical wiring, the building was renovated and re-opened...then closed again for major renovations in the early 1940s. It was re-opened and named in honor of noted entomologist Dr. Wilmon E. Newell, a director of the Station and

provost for Agriculture. From that point forward, it served as lab space for agricultural research until it was vacated in 2012.

Newell Hall History PDF: [legacy.arts.ufl.edu/asb/UF212-Newell Hall History.pdf](http://legacy.arts.ufl.edu/asb/UF212-Newell%20Hall%20History.pdf)

NEWELL HALL RENOVATION

While its modest size and thin rectangular shape made Newell Hall a poor fit for certain uses, it was deemed to be perfect for housing a unique student-oriented “Learning Commons,” where students will be able to gather, work alone or in groups, eat, and otherwise learn in the many ways possible outside of the classroom, lab, and more traditional library study spaces.

The Newell Hall Learning Commons will be a centrally-located, 21st century study and collaboration space serving all University of Florida students. To foster a unique and creative learning environment, three underlying themes will pervade all spaces in the Commons:

1. **INNOVATION** – in technology, structure, and thinking
2. **FLEXIBILITY** – variability and configurability, allowing for customization of the space by and for each student or group of students
3. **ACCESSIBILITY** – open, inclusive environment where students feel comfortable in order to stimulate collaboration and communication

These themes will be integrated into space that encourages and supports (4) different aspects or types of learning:

- **COLLABORATIVE**
- **FOCUSING**
- **INTERACTION**
- **REJUVENATION**

The general intent of the project is to entirely renovate Newell Hall (30,332 gross SF); deconstruct the Newell Annex (4,706 gross SF); and construct new space in the footprint of the Annex that connects on multiple levels to Newell Hall (approx. 10,000 gross SF).

Newell Hall, changed in the 1940s to a steel-framed structure on shallow concrete footings and elevated slabs on steel joists, consists of four main floors, a basement beneath roughly half the first floor (remainder is crawl space), and an attic. The Annex is a similarly constructed two-story building with a basement and single above-grade floor. Exterior finishes on both buildings include brick, concrete, and stone (or terra-cotta), and the primary roofs consist of clay tile shingles atop wooden trusses.

The Annex will be deconstructed and replaced with new multi-story space to house new food service space (Au Bon Pain) and – to minimize the amount of space within Newell Hall captured for such use – “core” spaces required for building systems and/or code compliance such as mechanical equipment, restrooms, egress stair, new elevator, etc.

The scope of renovation work includes replacement of the clay tile roof; rehabilitation of exterior masonry, stone, and terra-cotta trim; re-establishment of the original North entry; replacement of windows; introduction of energy efficient central HVAC and building automation systems; upgrades as needed to plumbing, fire protection, electrical, fire alarm, and telecommunications systems; and wholesale interior renovations.

Site work will include utilities infrastructure; redevelopment of the area immediately south of Newell Hall as a new landscaped and hardscaped courtyard; and enhancements to the safety and accessibility of nearby Stadium Road.

The project will be designed and constructed to be sustainable and highly energy efficient, with LEED-NC certification at the Gold or Platinum level.

Both the exterior renovations of Newell Hall and the design of the new Annex were subject to close scrutiny by UF Historic Preservation officials and the State Division of Historical Resources for compliance with the Secretary of Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Treatment of Historic Properties.

ARTWORK SITES

Three areas (two within and one outside) of Newell Hall have been selected as potential locations for site-specific public art.

1. 1ST FLOOR ANNEX – LOBBY FLOOR

New construction that connects the new 4-story Annex with 1st floor café to the Learning Commons. Flooring is to be polished concrete, but provisions could be made to incorporate other materials, provided they are safe and code/ADA-compliant. Proposed art must fit contextually with the architecture and aesthetic of this bustling space (including “branding” graphics) and be durable to withstand heavy foot traffic, rolling carts, etc.

2. ANNEX LOBBY CURTAIN WALLS

Two 3-story expanses of glass curtain wall allow natural light into the north and south ends of the lobby that connects original Newell Hall to the new Annex. The south wall, which includes the main building entrance, is the most public face since the glazing is visible both inside and from the south along Stadium Road. Artists may propose art affixed to the glazing or mullions, but UF is not interested in literally removing and replacing the engineered glazing (glass).

3. SOUTH COURTYARD

The redeveloped area immediately south of Newell Hall is intended to be more than just a landscaped and hardscape plaza. Rather, it’s an extension of the Learning Commons and a place where students can gather, eat, relax, and learn. UF is not interested in water features or any changes to the landscape plan, but is open to the idea of sculptural or decorative elements that enhance the space, provided they fit contextually with the architecture of the building and the UF historic district.

Newell Hall Artwork Sites and Renovation Plans PDF:

legacy.arts.ufl.edu/asb/UF212_ArtworkSites_Renovation_Renderings.pdf

OVERALL PROJECT SCHEDULE

Call To Artists	November 2015
Construction & Demolition Begins	November 2015
Deadline for Artists’ Submittal	February 19, 2016
Selection Committee Shortlist Meeting.....	March 2016
Finalists’ Site Visits	May/June 2016
Finalists’ Proposals Due	July 2016
Selection & Contracting	August/September 2016
Artist’s Development of Plan, Fabrication, etc.	October – December 2016
Installation of Art.....	January/February 2017
Construction Completed.....	February 2017

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ARTISTS

Please include Artist Name and Contact Information, Project Number and Project Title on each of the four Required Materials. Please use *portrait* format for these documents.

Send the four (4) following Required Materials:

1. **STATEMENT.** A one-page Letter of Interest that explains why your artwork is perfect for this project and how your submitted images address the project requirements. This should not be a site-specific proposal.
2. **RESUME.** A brief, current professional resume, emphasizing public art experience, public collections and public commissions.
3. **IMAGES.** Send a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 20 digital images. Images should be in .JPG format with a minimum resolution of approximately 800x600 pixels.

The filename of each image must match the following format:

- Artist's last name
- Corresponding image number from the ID Sheet
- Artwork title (use representative words of a long title)
- If the image is a "detail," please indicate that as well
- Be sure to put a zero in front of the numbers 1 through 9

Example: Harris_08_Sunset_det.jpg

Make sure that your images are sent in the same order as listed on the ID Sheet. The first five artworks presented will receive initial review. Because the initial review is a "blind" review, no identifying information should appear on the images. Do not forget to provide the committee with details/close-ups of large or complex artworks.

Note: We do not accept PowerPoint presentation or digitally watermarked images. An original signature on a work of art is acceptable.

Video: Artwork with sound or motion may be submitted as short MP4 files.

4. **IMAGE ID SHEET.** Include an image identification page(s) that provides, for each submitted image:
 - Thumbnail Image of the Work
 - Image Number
 - Title of Work
 - Medium
 - Dimensions
 - Date of the Work
 - Price of Work or Amount of Commission.

The ID Sheet must be headed with the project name and the artist's name, address, phone number, email address and website, if any. *Please keep this to 4 pages or less.*

SEND YOUR SUBMISSION VIA DROPBOX (or other file-sharing service) TO: pubart@arts.ufl.edu

MAIL HARDCOPY ENTRIES TO:

University of Florida Art in State Buildings Program
UF-212 Newell Hall Renovation Project
PO Box 115803
400 SW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32611

SUBMITTED HARDCOPY ENTRIES WILL NOT BE RETURNED

YOU DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT HARDCOPIES IF YOU HAVE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

QUESTIONS/CONTACT:

Bryan Yeager
UF Art in State Buildings Administrator
(352) 273-3043
pubart@arts.ufl.edu

For more information about the UF-212 Newell Hall Renovation Project, visit the UF Facilities, Planning, and Construction website at www.facilities.ufl.edu/projects/project.php?prj=2041

This project is administered through the Florida's Art in State Building (ASB) program, and will comply with standards set in the Florida Art in State Buildings Handbook
dos.florida-arts.org/documents/asb-handbook/

Please visit the Art in State Buildings contract link to familiarize yourself with the contract contents
www.facilities.ufl.edu/forms/contracts/ASB.pdf

SUBMISSION TIPS

SELECTION COMMITTEES MAY REVIEW HUNDREDS OF ARTIST SUBMISSIONS. PLEASE MAKE THEIR TASK EASIER BY CONSIDERING THESE TIPS.

Carefully read the description for each of the submission items so that you can be sure to include all required information in the appropriate format.

It is important to include the prices of your work and/or the budgets of commissioned projects. If a committee is unable to determine if your artwork or past projects are within their budget, they may bypass you.

Please do not send any additional materials that have not been requested.

Do not format your submitted documents in the "landscape" orientation.

