

OPEN CALL FOR NIGHT LIGHTS PROPOSALS

SINGAPORE NIGHT FESTIVAL 2018

BRIEF TO ARTISTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Open Call invites Singaporean and Permanent Resident¹ artists to submit a concept for the installation of public light artworks within the Bras Basah.Bugis area as part of Night Lights 2018. Night Lights has been a key programming component of the annual Singapore Night Festival (SNF) since 2010.

The proposed artwork should draw inspiration from the creative direction SNF 2018 as well as transform the urban spaces within the Bras Basah.Bugis area. The proposed artwork should also take into consideration questions of scale and be sufficiently weatherproof, as the installations may potentially be exposed to wet weather over 9 nights. The installation should also be able to withstand continuous exposure to direct sunlight.

Design proposals received will be assessed by a panel of judges and the winning designs will be announced at SNF in August 2018, with a reimbursement amount of SGD\$15,000 for each selected proposal.

To further encourage student initiatives and contribute to the expanding local creative ecosystem, there is a new Student category for works submitted by artists between 12 and 17 years old, with a reimbursement amount of SGD\$7,500 for each selected proposal.

The panel of judges reserves the right to conclude the Open Call with no award should there not be any suitable proposals received.

The winning designs will be installed by 15 August 2018, in time for the SNF media preview.

¹ International firms/individuals interested in participating in this Open Call may form a collaboration with a Singaporean or Permanent Resident firm(s)/individual(s) to submit a proposal.

BACKGROUND

About Singapore Night Festival

The Singapore Night Festival (SNF) is a key component of the National Heritage Board (NHB)'s strategy to encourage public access to the museums and promote public-private-people partnerships as a national showcase for a thriving arts, heritage and museum ecosystem. The festival, which will take place from 17 – 25 August 2018, will feature performances and artworks interspersed throughout the vibrant Bras Basah.Bugis area, Singapore's vibrant arts and heritage district.

Please refer to Annex A for a map of the Bras Basah.Bugis boundaries.

Since 2008, SNF has provided a national and inclusive platform for Singaporeans to celebrate the value of culture, heritage and the arts in building greater understanding of and pride in being Singaporean. In particular, the Festival aims to engage with young Singaporeans and their families, and ultimately unite Singaporeans through collective memory and experiences.

SNF has also been gaining international attention over the years, and provides opportunities for Singaporean talents to work with international artists for greater cross-cultural exchanges and exposure.

Since 2010, Night Lights has been one of the SNF's key programming components, featuring a dazzling line-up of creative and engaging light installations. This Open Call for Night Lights aims to seek out artworks beyond the existing pool of artists and arts institutions. The selected installations will also allow festivalgoers to experience a showcase of light installations that interact with and transform the Bras Basah.Bugis area.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The proposed artwork should showcase creativity and be relatable to both the general local public and international visitors.

THE PROPOSAL

The 2018 edition of the Singapore Night Festival aims to reinvent itself as a festival that defies traditional boundaries and disciplines, to bring together a diverse range of practitioners from various fields of specialisation. SNF will look to introduce cross-disciplinary elements blending design, engineering, art and technology.

The festival is centred firmly as a precinct festival for the activation of the BBB Arts and Heritage district, and the creative process should be informed by aspects of culture and art as encapsulated by the unique characteristics of BBB, as well as suitable representation of local and world cultures.

The artist should conceptualise an artwork that encapsulates this direction, while keeping in mind how the proposed artwork fits into the overall vision of enhancing Singapore's nightlife.

There are no preconceived ideas regarding the scale or medium for the proposed light artwork, however, artists should take note of the public spaces, landscaping and structures at the proposed site in order to develop concepts that are both artistically inspired and site-specific. The usage of all locations is subject to approval by the National Heritage Board and other stakeholders within the precinct.

It is important for the artistic concepts to go beyond standard interpretation and an instructive approach. Depending on the design of the artwork, artists might like to consider designing features to provide sensory, tactile, auditory or visual interactivity options for the festivalgoers.

The following considerations should also be taken into account:

- Increasing public access to art and promoting understanding and awareness of the visual arts in the public realm;
- Visibility and public pedestrian access;
- Expressing the vision, positioning, values, diversity and character of the Singapore Night Festival;
- Public safety, including occasions when large crowds are likely to gather; and

- Enriching the visitor's experience of the location.

MATERIALS

As the artwork will be located in an outdoor public space within the precinct, artists must take note of the following key considerations:

- **Selection of materials** should address issues regarding maintenance, corrosion, public safety and vandalism;
- **Durability** – the light artwork should be able to withstand outdoor weather conditions for the duration of the festival;
- **Low maintenance** – the artwork should require minimal maintenance for the duration of the festival.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The artist must take the following risks into consideration when developing the concepts:

- Public safety in relation to location, engineering, use of materials, visual distraction to main traffic, etc.;
- Disruption to traffic, pedestrians, businesses during construction;
- Security during installation and after completion of installation;
- Realistic budget;
- Political sensitivity;
- Cross-cultural processes; and
- Environmental concerns and sound levels.

BUDGET

The shortlisted artist(s) will also be required to submit a budget that does not exceed **SGD\$15,000**.

For the new Student category for artists between 12 and 17 years old, the shortlisted student artist(s) will be required to submit a budget that does not exceed **SGD\$7,500**.

The quotation should be all-inclusive, with full artist/professional fees and all other associated costs including design, production, permits, licences, site preparation, installation and de-installation.

The budget allocated to the selected artwork will be determined at the final selection stage, taking all factors (i.e. size, material specifications, etc.) into consideration. An audited financial report will be requested when the project is concluded.

PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Shortlisted artists will be invited for a panel interview. The production and installation of the artwork is scheduled to be completed by **15 AUGUST 2018**.

Submissions will be evaluated by representatives from NHB.

Timeline

	Dec- 17	Jan- 17	Feb- 17	Mar- 17	Apr- 17	May- 17	Jun- 17	July- 17	Aug- 17
Duration of Open Call Invitation	1 Dec – 28 Feb								

Submission Deadline for Concept Proposal			28 Feb						
Notification of Short-listed Candidates			12 – 16 Mar						
Panel Interview of Short-listed Candidates			19 – 23 Mar						
Notification of Open Call Results				26 – 30 Mar					
Finalising Commissioning Agreement					Between April and May				
Fabrication of Artwork						Between April and August			
Installation of Artwork									13 – 14 Aug
SNF Media Preview									15 Aug (tentative)
Exhibition Dates									17 – 25 Aug
De-installation of Installation									26 Aug

CONCEPT SUBMISSION

Submission Deadline:

28 February 2018, 1pm

The following should be included as part of the Entry Proposal:

- Title of Work and Concept Statement – proposal must clearly describe the artwork, its relevance to the proposed site; include motif and intent of artwork; how it intends to engage the public;
- Design images – illustrations can be presented in 3D digital renderings/photographs and/or sketches;
- Technical specifications – including proposed medium/colours to be used and proposed dimensions (H x W x D);
- Illustrate the functions of the system (if it is interactive) and how the artwork will be lit;
- An indicative methodological statement for fabrication and installation;
- Proposed budget for commission;
- A current CV – including samples of recent work as digital files (i.e. jpeg, mpeg, pdf) that are relevant to this submission.

Each artist may submit up to 3 concept designs in total.

Submission Format:

- Entry Proposal to be presented in a PC-compatible PowerPoint file (for viewing on Version 97–2002 & 2005). If file size is too large to attach to email, please provide the download link in your submission.
- The Entry Proposal should be confined to a maximum of 6 slides. The CV may be included as an Annex.
- Entry Proposals must be submitted in both a printed hard copy and electronic copy.

PROPOSAL SELECTION PROCESS

The proposed artwork will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Artist’s ability to relate to and integrate the theme/direction and site (artistically and aesthetically);
- Quality of work shown through past works;
- Ability to stimulate creative public engagement/social interaction;
- Feasibility of the proposal; and
- Level of innovation and creativity in the concept or material used.

SCOPE OF WORK FOR SELECTED ARTISTS

Refinement and Development of Proposals

The artist(s) will be allowed a period of four months to develop their proposed artwork. This will include consulting with NHB for matters pertaining to the physical site and well as progress updates.

This process is essential in ensuring smooth project management and timely delivery of the final artwork. The selected artist(s) may be required to present their refined proposals to NHB for approval, before commencing production.

Fabrication and Installation

Upon approval, the selected artist(s) will work with their respective service providers for fabrication, transportation, installation and application for necessary licenses and certifications.

In order to meet the costs of developing the artwork, artists are free to seek sponsorships from a third party to create the installation.

CONTRACT

A commissioning agreement will be drafted and issued by NHB to the selected artist(s) for agreement prior to appointment. If there are no suitable artworks for the festival, the panel has the right to conclude the Open Call with no award.

The selected artist shall own the rights to the work, however SNF may represent the work for 1 year from the conclusion of the festival, and requests from third parties for the works to be represented shall be subject to suitable acknowledgements to SNF.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Please complete and send the submission cover page and supporting documents by 1PM on 28 February 2018 to:

kezia_toh@nhb.gov.sg

and sent postmarked to:

National Museum of Singapore
93 Stamford Road,
Singapore 178897

2. For ease of storage and fairness, submitted materials should adhere to:
 1. One A4 size file with completed submission cover page provided, images, additional text and information about the work proposed.
 2. Complete Artist CV.
 3. Anticipated artwork production budget in Singapore Dollars.

The open call brief may be downloaded from the BBB website.

Submission Cover Page

1. Artwork Information and Specifications

Title of Artwork:			
Date of Artwork:			
Description of Artwork: (attach a separate sheet if required)			
Medium / Materials:			
Dimension of works (cm):	Height:	Length:	Width:
Weight (kg):			

2. Artist Information

Full Name of Artist (as in passport):			
Date / Place of Birth:			
NRIC No:			
Address:			
Tel (Mobile):		Home:	
Email:			

Annex A: Map of the boundaries of the Bras Basah.Bugis area



The soft copy of this map can also be downloaded from the website: <https://www.ura.gov.sg/nyaa-ura/brasbasahbugis.htm>