

# The AUGUSTA RIOT 1970 Observance

## CALL TO ARTISTS

Date Call Opens: January 21, 2020

Application Deadline: February 20, 2020 at 11am

Award amount: \$1,000 per artist/artist team (3 projects will be selected at \$1,000 each)

**The 1970 Augusta Riot Observance Committee is seeking three (3) artists or artist teams to be part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Year Observance of the riot of May 11-12, 1970.**

May 2020 will mark the 50th anniversary of Augusta's violent civil rights uprising. The Augusta Riot Observance Committee is asking artists for proposals of work that respond to the events. On the afternoon of May 11, 1970, Black Augustans gathered at City Hall to protest a suspected recent act of police brutality that crystalized the severe racism of Augusta. Two days prior, Black leaders faced the evidence of torture on the body of a Black 16-year-old boy, Charles Oatman, who had died while in custody at the City Jail. Out of frustration, some protesters set fire to locally owned businesses in the area now known as the Laney Walker and Bethlehem neighborhoods. The uprising grew in scale and number, but police mobilized, firing rounds throughout the night. By dawn, police had shot in the back and killed six Black men and boys. Many more people were wounded.

A diverse group of volunteers is planning an observance to mark the 50-year anniversary of these events.

**The Augusta Riot Observance committee will commission three works of art that support our mission to educate and heal the community. The commissioned artists will work with the history subcommittee and community healing subcommittee to create art work that will further the mission of the project.**

### Mission Statement

*Inform. Gather. Heal.*

The Augusta May 1970 Riot Observance events strive to cultivate awareness, recovery, and justice for the community through education, conversation and creative experiences.

The commissioned artists may use any creative medium, including but not limited to performance arts, visual arts, audience engagement art, spoken word, culinary arts and literary arts. Artists with a willingness to collaborate and engage with others for this social justice work are preferred. The commissioned artist will become part of the 1970 Augusta Riot Observance Committee and required to work collaboratively with the other members of the Committee. The scope of proposed art works will need to match the available budget; alternatively, artists may raise more funds to augment the budget available.

Anyone experiencing technical difficulties in getting their application in can contact Pax Bobrow at the Greater Augusta Arts Council for assistance at [pax@augustaarts.com](mailto:pax@augustaarts.com) or 706-826-4702. Other methods of contacting Pax will be less likely to reach her.

## ELIGIBILITY

All artists are invited to apply.

## PROVIDED TO THE ARTIST

- ARTIST STIPEND: Each selected artist or artist team will receive a \$1,000 stipend which will cover any and all expenses. Selected artists are welcome to raise further donations to increase the scope of their work.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill out the application form on page three (3) of this call, and attach all required application materials from checklist below.
2. Email or deliver the completed application to the Greater Augusta Arts Council by February 20, 2020 at 10:00 am.
  - a. Physical address: 1301 Greene Street in Augusta (located on the bottom floor of the Sacred Heart Cultural Center)
  - b. Mailing address: PO Box 1776, Augusta, GA 30903 (must be received by deadline)
  - c. Email address: [pax@augustaarts.com](mailto:pax@augustaarts.com)
3. Receive a confirmation email. **\*PLEASE NOTE\* If the artist does NOT receive a confirmation email, they should not consider their submission received.**
4. Announcement of selected artists will be made by March 5, 2020.

## APPLICATION MATERIALS (CHECKLIST)

Artists may submit one or more proposal. You must include all of the following items in your packet. (Use this as a checklist.)

- Completed application (next page in this document)
- Budget showing that the planned art work can be created with the funds provided, or that additional funds have been secured by the artist to cover overage (itemize your expected expenses, total them up)
- Current resume (or similar document) detailing your experience as an artist (for each team member if applying as an artist team)
- Two (no more, no less) examples of previous work (for each team member if applying as an artist team)

## TIMELINE

- Application opens January 21, 2020
- Application submission deadline February 20, 2020 at 11:00am
- Selected artists notified March 5, 2020
- Meet with committee members to plan art work March 5-25, 2020
- Art work to be made public May 1, 2020
- Payment to artist \$500 upon contract signing  
\$500 upon completion as verified by Arts Council

