



Nebraska History Museum Awards 1% for Art Commission to UrbanRock Design

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image:

Proposal rendering by UrbanRock Design (Jeanine Centuori and Russell Rock)

The Nebraska Arts Council is pleased to announce that Jeanine Centuori and Russell Rock of UrbanRock Design have been selected to create artwork for the Nebraska History Museum as part of Nebraska's 1% for Art program. Of the \$6 million renovation, \$46,000 was set aside specifically for public art.

The 1% for Art committee for the project included artists, art professionals and architects, as well as museum staff, board members and constituents. The committee reviewed approximately 50 applications beginning in November 2014 before commissioning UrbanRock Design.

UrbanRock Design's proposal, *Inside Outside*, will ask museum staff to select important representative artifacts from the museum collection that will be portrayed on pierced metal scrims suspended on the east façade of the building. The twelve panels, each measuring 10 feet high by 5 feet wide, will be grouped in pairs reflecting specific areas of the collection. Voids within the metal create each image, allowing a second shadow image to cast upon the building's brick exterior. At night, the panels will be backlit and appear as an image reversal of their daytime condition.

"Enlivening the exterior of the Nebraska History Museum building, constructed originally as an Elk's Club in 1967, with colourful, shape-shifting depictions of some of the artifacts the museum shares, will spark the curiosity of passers-by," said Michael Smith, Director and CEO of the Nebraska State Historical Society. "The bright panels will offer a cheerful welcome to visitors, presenting a hint on the outside of the many treasures on the inside."

About the Nebraska History Museum Renovation



The Nebraska History Museum is a division of the Nebraska State Historical Society that houses and interprets, through exhibits and public programming, the large collections of material culture pertinent to the history of Nebraska.

In 2013, the Nebraska Legislature appropriated \$6 million for renovation of the museum, to which \$2 million was added by the state's Taskforce for Building Renewal. A call for architectural and engineering services was distributed and a coalition of firms – Sinclair Hille Architects (Lincoln), Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture (Omaha) and Morrissey Engineering (Omaha) – was selected to design and manage the project. The renovation began in November 2014 and is scheduled for completion in February 2016. For more information, contact Lynne Ireland at the Nebraska State Historical Society (402) 471-4758 or lynne.ireland@nebraska.gov.

About Nebraska 1% for Art

Nebraska's 1% for Art law has been in effect since 1978 and has generated more than \$3 million dollars in artwork for Nebraska's state buildings, state colleges and the University of Nebraska system. The number of projects generated each year is dependent on legislative appropriations for new construction in excess of \$500,000 and remodeling or renovation of a public building in excess of \$250,000. Buildings meeting this criteria must be open to public access in order for a project to take effect. An art selection committee is then established for each project to determine the criteria for suitable locations, art forms and artist eligibility. For more information, contact Launa Bacon at the Nebraska Arts Council (402) 595-2122 or launa.bacon@nebraska.gov.

About the Artists

Jeanine Centuori is a LEED-accredited, licensed architect in the states of California and New York. She brings an artful approach to architecture. In addition to being a principal and founding partner of UrbanRock Design, she is director of the Architecture of Civic Engagement Center (ACE) at Woodbury University. Her professional and academic work has been awarded, published and recognized nationally by peers. Centuori's work experience includes an internship with Toshiko Mori and noted Dutch architect Hermann Hertzberger. Centuori has managed many built projects in the office from their inception through completion.

Russell Rock is a practicing artist of 27 years. Most recently, his artwork has been public in nature created in a collaborative manner with Jeanine Centuori. As well as artwork, he has performed as a designer on projects spanning from reconfigured backyards to house additions, houses, housing and art and urban design plans. He received on-the-job training under the tutelage of architect Michael Robinson, former head of the Urban Design Center of Northeast Ohio in urban design, where he worked on several large-scale projects including the Kent Framework Plan and the Ohio and Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Plan. Rock received his Master of Fine Arts in Painting from Wayne State University. He is a principal, partner and co-founder of UrbanRock Design where he leads production and has managed many projects through fabrication and construction. More information can be found at: www.urbanrockdesign.com.

About the Nebraska Arts Council

The Nebraska Arts Council (NAC), a state agency, provides numerous grants, services and special initiatives that help sustain and promote the arts throughout Nebraska. NAC is supported by the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, Nebraska Legislature and National Endowment for the Arts.

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