



Request for Proposals

Alloy Pittsburgh 2018

Location: Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark, Swissvale, Pennsylvania

Request for Artist Proposals

Entry Deadline: February 11th, 2018

ABOUT:

Alloy Pittsburgh is a unique visual and performing arts initiative developed for the Carrie Blast Furnaces National Historic Landmark and administered by Rivers of Steel. Through Alloy Pittsburgh, Rivers of Steel seeks to examine the history, current condition and possible future of the Carrie Furnaces without permanently transforming the characteristics of the site, while offering regional artists a unique exhibition opportunity and career-building experience. Alloy Pittsburgh will bring visual and performing artists to the Carrie Furnaces site in Rankin and Swissvale, PA, and provide them with funding, publicity and support to develop temporary site-based artworks. The completed artworks will be presented in an exhibition held on site from August 25th to September 30th, 2018.

Rivers of Steel is excited to partner with five local institutions for Alloy Pittsburgh 2018. This year's partners include Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, Center for African American Poetry and Poetics, IUP's Kipp Gallery, Pittsburgh Glass Center and Radiant Hall Studios. As part of this partnership each institution has been asked to select one regional artist for participation in the project. Four additional artists will be selected from the public call and invited to join this prestigious group for Alloy Pittsburgh 2018.

ELIGIBILITY:

Alloy Pittsburgh is open to regional Pittsburgh artists and collaborative groups. Artists must live in one of the following southwestern Pennsylvania counties: Allegheny, Indiana, Butler, Westmoreland, Armstrong, Beaver, Lawrence, Washington, Fayette and Greene. Projects eligible for Alloy Pittsburgh may vary from traditional to non-traditional artistic mediums, including but not limited to new media, performance, sculpture, drawing, painting, photography and video. All works must be conceived specifically for the Carrie Furnaces site and must exist in some form throughout the full duration of the exhibition.

Selected artists are required to attend the on-site research laboratory scheduled for May 14th – 18th, from 10:00am - 3:00pm each day.

TIMELINE:

Interested artists are encouraged to apply before the February 11th deadline. Selected artists will be notified by March 1st, 2018. May 14-18 all artists will join Alloy Pittsburgh directors on-site for a mandatory research laboratory. During this time artists will be provided with onsite access and time to explore the logistics of integrating their work into the Carrie Furnaces site. Additional programming during the research period will assist the artist in establishing reciprocal relationships with the communities surrounding the Carrie Furnaces and introduce them to former workers, community stakeholders and scholars who will contextualize the site within the larger exploration of place-based

identity. Lectures, presentations and discussions by local arts professionals will also play an important role in supporting the artist's research activities during the weeks leading up to the opening reception.

Following the research labs, artists will return to their studios and complete work on their individual projects. From August 13 – 24, 2018 Alloy Pittsburgh directors will oversee installation of the projects at the Carrie Furnaces site. On Saturday, August 25th 2018 Alloy Pittsburgh will open to the public with a reception held onsite at the Carrie Furnaces from 1-5pm. Please note, this reception will be a ticketed event with proceeds benefiting Rivers of Steel and Alloy Pittsburgh. The artwork will remain on display for 4 weeks with additional public events and tour opportunities occurring throughout this time period. Each artist will be asked to give a brief discussion of their installations during one of the scheduled tours in September. Upon the conclusion of the project the site will be returned to its present condition.

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 8th, 2018	Public request for proposals
February 11th, 2018	Deadline for public to submit proposals
March 1st, 2018	Notification of artists selected from RFP.
May 14th - 18th, 2018	Research residency at Carrie Furnaces. (Mandatory for all artists)
June 1st – Aug 18th, 2018	Public programming period
Aug 13th – 24th, 2018	Install period for artists at Carrie Furnaces.
Aug 25th – Sept 30th, 2018	Exhibition period.
October 1 - 7th, 2018	De-install period for artists at Carrie Furnaces.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

A jury of arts professionals and project advisors will review all proposals and select artists for participation. Selected project proposals will receive a \$1000.00 stipend for the creation of the project. Although site specificity is key, artists must be flexible in their site preference, as availability is dependent upon a number of feasibility issues that must be determined by the Rivers of Steel.

All artists must be available to install their artworks during the install period listed above. Artists are likewise required to be present for de-installation of the artwork also listed above. All artists will receive recognition in the Alloy Pittsburgh brochure and Rivers of Steel website. Any costs above those allocated for the artist stipends will be the responsibility of the artist.

SUBMISSION MATERIALS:

Interested artists should submit a project proposal including the following materials compiled into one PDF packet no larger than 10mgb. These PDF packets should be emailed to alloypittsburgh@gmail.com by the deadline stated above. Please state "Alloy 2018 (your last name)" in the subject line of your email.

- Preliminary project proposal (no more than 2 pages)
- 10 images of previous work or url links for video submissions
- Current CV
- Artist Statement

All proposals should clearly demonstrate a non-permanent impact on the Carrie Furnace site.

Questions can be directed to alloypittsburgh@gmail.com. There are currently no tours being offered at the site but additional information on the Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark can be found at <http://www.riversofsteel.com/> and info on previous Alloy Pittsburgh projects can be found at <http://www.rosarts.org/>.

PROJECT TEAM:

Sean Derry, Co-founder and Sculpture Area Head at IUP

Chris McGinnis, Co-founder and Director of Rivers of Steel Arts.

Ron Baraff, Director of Historic Resources and Facilities

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