

Public Art: Call for Entries

The Nittany Lion Inn Lobby Artwork Project The Pennsylvania State University

PURPOSE

A national competition is being held to purchase or commission a framed painting or bas-relief for the hotel lobby located on the first floor of the Nittany Lion Inn at Penn State University.

The selection and funding for this artwork will meet the highest professional standards, and a purchase fee of **\$10,000** will be available, which must include delivery to the Inn.

ELIGIBILITY

This competition is open to all interested artists. Each artist may submit only one entry.

PROJECT MEDIA AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Nittany Lion Inn painting or artwork will be highly visible as hotel guests and the public walk through the area. More than 400,000 visitors pass through the lobby each year. The painting should make a strong artistic statement as well as reflect the history and/or character of Penn State dating back to the opening of the Inn in 1931 to the present.

A photograph and architectural drawing of the designated wall space is attached. The size of the artwork will be limited by space designated for the painting. The maximum painting size (including frame) is 6' wide X 4' tall. Proposals should include precise finish dimensions. Wall and ceiling construction in the lobby consists of drywall and metal stud frame. Architectural configurations of the building cannot be altered to accommodate the painting.

PROPOSAL CONTENT/FORMAT

Do not submit actual artwork at this time. Please provide one set of ten to twelve (10-12) color slides or power point on CD of recent work in plastic slide sheets labeled with artist's name, title of work, medium and size. Slides will be shown one at a time and should be numbered in order of desired presentation in the lower left corner of each slide with a red pen to ensure proper viewing.

Include an information packet of (3) stapled copies of the following:

- **The attached one-page entry sheet** as the cover to your submission
- **A resume** for artist, of not more than two double-sided pages, demonstrating relevant or pertinent experience as an artist who has produced public art projects, has work included in public collections, exhibitions, and publications, and has professional training and commission experience
- **A brief description of your approach to this project** (ideas may include depicting Penn State's diversity and culture, Penn State as a multi-campus university, Penn State's community outreach, and Penn State's contributions to our global society)
- **A brief written interpretation of your artwork** may also be submitted.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS/ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS

A completed entry packet accompanied by slides or power point presentation on CD must be received no later than January 15, 2009.

Proposals will be evaluated by the Committee to develop a short list of three qualified artists. The Committee will then contact short-listed artists for a telephone interview. Site visits are encouraged but not mandatory.

The selection will be made on the basis of qualifications and demonstrated competence. The highest-rated candidate, after the interview, will be invited to negotiate the final scope of the work. If negotiations with the highest-rated candidate are not successful, the Committee reserves the right to negotiate with the next best candidate. The decision of the Committee is Final.

Penn State University's Nittany Lion Inn Renovation Project Artist Selection Committee reserves the sole right to evaluate and select the successful artist. The selected artist must be willing to collaborate with this Committee and take part in conversations with other staff as requested. The Committee will be comprised of the Director of the Palmer Museum of Art, University Architects, Hospitality Services Interior Design Consultant and the General Manager of Penn State Hospitality Services.

BUDGET

Artists must be prepared to work with an **all-inclusive budget of no more than \$10,000** which must cover all expenses including:

- Design and fabrication of proposal(s) and sketch(s) or model(s) for presentation to the selection Committee.
- All costs, including supplies and materials, necessary for completion and delivery of the painting
- Taxes and Insurance, including Liability and statutory required Worker's Compensation.
- Transportation for the artist and/or painting, including models and proposals.

CALENDAR

- January 15, 2009 Deadline for receipt of entry forms and slides
- February 15, 2009 Committee announces winner
- March 2, 2009 Committee reviews development of preferred concept
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- April 6, 2009 Committee approves final design
- August 28, 2009 Painting Installed
- Month Day, Year Completed Mural project open to the public

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Attached to this call for entries you will find an overview of Penn State's history or you can access this web site at <http://www.psu.edu/ur/about/history.html>. For information on the Nittany Lion Inn please visit this website: <http://www.pennstatehotels.com>. For This *Call for Entries* is also available in downloadable format by saving this PDF document. If you have any questions about the procedures for entering this competition, you may call Jim Purdum at 865-8595 or email jwp4@psu.edu.

OVERVIEW OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

From agricultural college to world-class learning community – the story of The Pennsylvania State University is one of an expanding mission of teaching, research, and public service. But that mission was not so grandly received in 1855, when the Commonwealth chartered the school at the request of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society. The goal was to apply scientific principles to farming, a radical departure from the traditional curriculum grounded in mathematics, rhetoric, and classical languages.

Centre County became the site of the new college in response to a gift of 200 acres from agriculturist and ironmaster James Irvin of Bellefonte. President Evan Pugh drew on the scientific education he had received in Europe to plan a broader curriculum combining classical studies with practical applications. Pugh and similar visionaries in other states won federal support for their ideas in 1862, when Congress passed the Morrill Land-Grant Act. The act enabled states to sell federal land, invest the proceeds, and use the income to support colleges “where the leading object shall be, without excluding scientific and classical students... to teach agriculture and the mechanic arts [engineering]... in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in all the pursuits and professional of life.”

From Atherton's death in 1906 to mid-century, Penn State focused on undergraduate education and extension. Enrollment surpassed 5,000 in 1936, by which time the college had become the Commonwealth's largest source of baccalaureate degrees. Also in the 1930s, the administration of President Ralph Hetzel fashioned a series of branch campuses throughout Pennsylvania for students who, because of Depression-era economics, could not afford to leave home to attend college. The centers offered the first year or two of undergraduate studies and were the predecessors of today's system of 24 Penn State campuses located throughout the Commonwealth (with the University Park campus remaining the administrative hub).

Extension work was primarily agricultural. Penn State pioneered in correspondence courses, disseminating scientific knowledge to farmers eager to find more efficient ways of growing crops and raising livestock. The college also worked with local and federal governments to implement a statewide system of agricultural and home economics agents who advised on issues as diverse as family life, nutrition, and food preservation. By the 1930s, Penn State had also launched outreach programs in the liberal arts, engineering, and the sciences.

Although research – the third element of Penn State's tripartite mission – developed more slowly, Penn State by 1950 had won distinction for investigations in dairy science, building insulation, diesel engines, and other specialized fields. To show that the institution had come of

age, President Milton Eisenhower changed its name in 1953 to The Pennsylvania State University and established a campus post office designed University Park.

Research thrived under Eisenhower's successor, engineer and scientist Dr. Eric Walker, who headed Penn State from 1956 to 1970. "Space race," "brain drain," and other catch phrases reflected intense national concern for education, and public funds were plentiful. The physical plant tripled in value, and hundreds of acres of farm and forest land were added to give the central campus room to grow (land now occupied, for example, by the Blue Golf Course, the Penn State Conference Center Hotel, and the Russell Larson Agricultural Research Center at Rock Springs.) Total enrollment at all locations climbed from 14,000 to 40,000 during the Walker years. The Hershey Medical Center – a college of medicine and teaching hospital – was established in 1967 with a \$50 million gift from the charitable trusts of chocolate magnate Milton S. Hershey.

Penn State has continued to respond to Pennsylvania's changing economic and social needs. In 1989 the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport became an affiliate of the University. In 1997, Penn State and the Dickinson School of Law joined ranks. And Penn State's new World Campus, which "graduated" its first students in 2000, uses the Internet and other new technologies to offer instruction on an "anywhere, anytime" basis.

To help meet the increasing demands placed on it, Penn State has looked to philanthropy for additional resources. President Bryce Jordan in 1984 launched a six-year effort that raised \$352 million in private gifts to the University. This initiative enabled Penn State to attract world-class teachers and researchers, and assist thousands of financially needy and academically talented students. Today's Grand Destiny campaign, which aims to raise \$1 billion over seven years, has a similar aim of strengthening academic programs and broadening the University's service to Commonwealth and beyond.

OVERVIEW OF THE NITTANY LION INN

The Nittany Lion Inn, a landmark on Penn State's campus is both a popular gathering place for Penn State Alumni and a structure of great significance to the University.

Built at a time when our nation was struggling with the devastating impacts of the stock market crash of 1929 and the ensuing Great Depression, The Nittany Lion Inn managed to survive and flourish to become a distinguished hotel and eatery, as well as a symbol of Penn State pride. While construction of such a hotel during a time of tremendous financial upset was quite a gamble, University Trustees had enormous faith in Penn State and its people to make this venture work. As was the case in so many decisions made by Trustees through the history of Penn State, confidence in our University community has been key to our success.

The Inn, celebrating seventy-seven years with a deep connection to Penn State and its people, is considered by many to be a home away from home. Penn State's twelfth President, Eric Walker, designated the Inn as "Pen State's Living Room" because of its comfortable and welcoming environment.

The stately blue and white Dutch colonial-style Inn has been an integral part of the University Park campus for more than seven decades and has come to reflect the social, cultural, and

historical development of Penn State and the surrounding region. As Penn State has grown and changed, so has The Nittany Lion Inn, but its mission has remained to serve and educate.

Now with 223 guest rooms, 13 conference rooms, and a ballroom that can seat 500, the Inn caters to about 100,000 overnight guests a year and is the scene of numerous celebrations, such as weddings, class reunions, and family get-togethers. Students with an interest in the hospitality industry also have tremendous opportunities to obtain hands-on learning experiences at the Inn in a variety of positions. In addition, the Penn State Board of trustees meets at the Inn to conduct University matters and corporate leaders gather there to discuss the business of the day.

Many significant moments have been captured within the Inn's walls, and many prominent people have been guests, including every Pennsylvania governor since 1931 and numerous United State presidents. Other notable guests include actors Dustin Hoffman, Danny Devito; politicians Barry Goldwater and Hubert Humphrey; civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.; former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt; authors Pearl Buck and Robert Frost; and entertainers as the Harlem Globetrotters, Joan Baez, Mr. Rogers, Louie Armstrong, Billy Joel, and Britney Spears.

The Nittany Lion Inn is a haven for travelers, respite for the weary, a training ground for students, a University tradition, and a link to Penn State's past. In fact, in 2000, The Nittany Lion Inn was named a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Throughout the life span of this remarkable hotel, Penn State has faithfully retained the Inn's historic integrity, architecture, and character, recognizing its distinctive place in the University's history and its important role in our mission to serve and educate.

For Penn Staters, The Nittany Lion Inn is an inviting and elegant retreat that has become an irreplaceable part of our University's heritage.

ENTRY FORM: Deadline Month Day, Year

Mail to:

James W. Purdum, CHA
General Manager
Penn State Hospitality Services
200 West Park Avenue
State College, PA 16803-3598

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Medium _____

Estimated Size of Painting _____

Estimated Cost _____

Number of slides submitted _____

Special installation requirements (if any)

