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Looking for the next big idea under the Fort Duquesne Bridge

Riverlife continues the 'tbd' series to enliven a section of Downtown's riverfront trail

PITTSBURGH – Riverlife is seeking qualifications from artists, designers, landscape architects, and other creative professionals to design and implement a temporary public installation under the Fort Duquesne Bridge along the Allegheny River next year. The process is part of Riverlife's ongoing 'to be determined' initiative to make Pittsburgh's riverfronts cleaner, safer and more fun for everyone.

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) posted on Riverlife's website, www.riverlifepgh.org, outlines the process, goals and timeline for interested applicants to submit materials. A jury will select semi-finalists and a winner from the applicants with the goal of installing the project in June of 2018.

Riverlife is a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit organization that promotes, enhances, and activates Pittsburgh's riverfronts. In 2015 Riverlife debuted 'to be determined,' or 'tbd,' a series of public art installations and improvements for a stretch of underutilized riverfront under the Fort Duquesne Bridge. The cavernous space is defined by an overhead bridge, 800-foot wall and large bridge support columns. While well trafficked by families and trail users and highly visible from the North Shore across the river, the space was also prone to graffiti and trash accumulation. The 'tbd' program was intended to highlight the potential of the space as a welcoming, well-cared-for place for people to visit.

Since its inception three summers ago, the 'tbd' series has featured the temporary mural *Adjutant* by Pittsburgh-based artist Kim Beck, painted on the 800-foot wall under the bridge. The series has rotated several summertime pop-up galleries on temporary scaffolding around the bridge support columns, including designs by American Institute of Architects Pittsburgh's Young Architects Studio Competition (2015); art and poetry by the senior class of Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts High School (2016); and photography of Syrian refugees by Maranie Staab (2017). Riverlife's "Take a Seat!" moveable chairs with GPS trackers were also featured in the 'tbd' space this summer.

"One can't help but be inspired by the possibilities of the grand space under this bridge," said Vivien Li, Riverlife president and CEO. "We've enjoyed seeing students, artists and trail users



adopt this space as their own and leave their creative mark here. We can't wait to find the next big idea that will continue to make this space a riverfront destination.”

RFQ applications will be accepted via email until 12:00 PM EST on December 1, 2017. For the full RFQ and submission guidelines, please visit www.riverlifepgh.org.

Initial funding to support the artist selection for Riverlife's outdoor art installation has been made possible by a grant from The Fine Foundation.

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About Riverlife

Riverlife (formerly Riverlife Task Force) is a public-private partnership established in 1999 to guide and advocate for the redevelopment of Pittsburgh's riverfronts. Riverlife works to reconnect Pittsburgh with its rivers by bringing recreation, ecological restoration and economic opportunity back to our waterfronts. www.riverlifepgh.org