



# Art for the Sarasota National Cemetery Assembly Space

## *Project Information for Prospective Artists*

The assembly space of the Sarasota National Cemetery will offer visitors an impactful experience through art that: (1) **recognizes and honors** the contributions to our country of veterans and those connected to their service – such as their families and (2) **inspires patriotism** in viewers now and in the future while helping them to remember the military’s role in preserving our freedom, throughout our history.

<b>PROJECT:</b> Sculpture – East and West Entrances	<b>LOCATION:</b> #6 – East and west side entrances
<b>BUDGET:</b> \$200,000 est Not including poured concrete bases and footings	<b>DIMENSIONS OF SITE:</b>

**ABOUT THIS PROJECT:** The two side entrances will be the access points for the majority of visitors. They are the points of transition from the cemetery to the plaza space. Across the road the cemetery with its multitude of white headstones is seen. There is no fence or hedge to define the border of the cemetery and plaza, and no gate or entrance structure. Once inside, the visitor follows the sidewalk along the front towards the rostrum and access to under-cover seating. Artists are invited to design sculptural elements to formalize and announce the entrances to the plaza. Possibilities include a series of vertical elements, indicators or arches, figures incorporated into other elements that depict soldiers, veterans and/or their families.

Entrance treatments should be similar, in form, but may differ in details. As the entrance and first visual experience for visitors, this art should state the theme of the space; provide a positive, uplifting patriotic message that endorses the ideals for which the veterans have served.

One side of the plaza will be devoted to the theme of honoring and representing military service and the military milieu. This side is envisioned as more formal, touching on themes of courage, challenges and hardships, camaraderie and mutual support, being prepared if called upon, dedication to mission, and representing the multi-layered elements and significance of the military experience. The theme of the military side is envisioned as being expressed through imagery, evocative use of materials and a controlled color scheme.

The second side is dedicated to the connection between the veterans and their families and community. It is envisioned as less formal, more colorful, touching on themes of separation, shared patriotism, soldiers as family members, service from the families’ point of view.

The hardscape entrance using pavers, at each entrance, is included in the #3Sidewalks location information, but can be included in the design concept of the entrances instead. Additional budget would be allocated in this situation.

Art may be in any material or format that will withstand full sun and public access.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** All art must be designed for a life expectancy of 50 years with standard maintenance and minimal conservation during that period. The Assembly Space is designed for daytime use and the cemetery closes at sundown. Artists must take into consideration the Florida climate which includes very strong sun year round, high humidity, high salt content in air, and hurricanes. Grass and plants will be watered with well water that may strike the surfaces of art. Art may not incorporate electronic technology, motors, or water. Imagery may not include scenes of battle, guns pointed towards as if being fired, or other violence that may be disturbing.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Only artists who demonstrate completed work of a similar scope and scale at a high level of professional achievement will qualify for review.

**HOW TO REQUEST CONSIDERATION:** *Provide the following information:*

a) Professional resume (b) 10 – 15 jpg images of past work (c) Image list of jpgs with: dimensions, materials, location of work, commissioning agency if there is one, (c) Statement of artist's process. This may include collaborators, research, or any other information the artist considers relevant.

*Upload all information in jpgs, pdf's or PC-compatible word files to:*

<http://hub.hubcentrix.com/sharefld.php?share=2967&mc=2aa8f8a7aa90c74eb42bfff4f4073a08>

**Upload password:** plazaart

