

CAN CAN WONDERLAND

FORMERLY
BLUE OX
MINI GOLF

CALL FOR ARTISTS

★
THIS THING
WON'T BUILD
ITSELF!

GREETINGS!

Welcome to our call for artists. You may have heard we are building a mini golf course. That's not entirely true. We are building a national treasure. And we need your help.

We are very excited about our new digs; a sprawling 19,000+ sq foot indoor facility, housed in the belly of what was a former St Paul can factory (America's largest) and we are literally roommates with some epic trains. More importantly, we are excited about what we will put in it! We are looking to commission playable art that can **captivate the senses, enliven the spirit**, and provide a **thrill**. It's one thing to make something beautiful. It's entirely another to make something **truly fun**.

TWO PROPOSAL OPTIONS

\$5,000 stipend for each selected design/build proposal

OR

\$1,000 stipend for each selected design only proposal
(our team of artists will build it)

You need not identify as an artist to submit a proposal. We also want engineers, architects, designers, makers, dreamers, students, hackers, etc.

You may submit more than one proposal.

You may work as a team or an individual.

DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2015

PROPOSAL CRITERIA

Selected proposals will be part of an 18 hole indoor mini golf course. Designs will be judged on playability, durability, feasibility, and creativity as defined below:

PLAYABILITY: Holes should be par 3. Each hole should hold the chance at getting a hole-in-one. Getting a hole-in-one is awesome. A group of 4 people should be able to play each hole in 3-4 minutes. We strongly encourage you to go out and play mini-golf so the design has true playability. Building creatively is easy compared to building for fun play! **FUN IS KING!**

DURABILITY: Please keep in mind that the hole must be able to withstand the use of thousands of players of all ages. Include any maintenance requirements. Durability is key – we have a team of fabricators to help advise. Call us and take advantage of their knowledge.

FEASIBILITY: Hole dimensions, materials, and methods are needed. We are available for consultation so you can dream big.

CREATIVITY: Include a detailed design. Our Inspirations section gives you an idea of what we find creative.

Bonus points for proposals that incorporate one or more of the following elements:

KINETICS: Holes that incorporate mechanical, motorized, hydraulic or human powered movement are sexy and awesome.

Continued...

WATER POWER: We'll have a lot of water on our course! Holes that incorporate flowing/standing/shooting water into play make us wet.

ELEVATION: Take height to new heights! Our 20 ft high ceilings are begging to be utilized. We have tons of walls to climb up as well.

TECHNOLOGY: Push mini golf into the 21st century with your knowledge of Arduino, raspberry pi, XBOX Kinect, et al.

ILLUMINATION: Incorporating ingenious lighting schemes can make a huge impact during night play. Great night holes are the most often photographed.

DISTRACTIONS AND AMUSEMENTS: Include small elements to distract and amuse while waiting to play (reducing the desire to hammer on things with putters). Make sure any ramps are sturdy enough to handle the weight of multiple adults or children and that there are safeguards in place to prevent climbing if it isn't an intentional part of the design.

SAFETY: Think about people tripping. Consider a child's mentality and curiosity. Avoid sharp objects and pointy things that stick up, even if it seems obvious that they should not be touched. Glass or unbacked plexiglass should not be used.

ADA ACCESSIBILITY: 9 of holes will be completely ADA accessible. Technical assistance on the guidelines for miniature golf courses is available from the Access Board at (800)-872-2253 (voice), (800)-993-2822 (TTY) or ta@access-board.gov.

SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

Deadline: March 1, 2015

Your proposal should include the following:

- Resume including at least two forms of contact information (phone # and email)
- Three images (70dpi with 1920 pixels max) of relevant past work and brief explanation of each work
- 1 - 3 sketches of your proposed mini golf hole
- Name for the hole
- Brief description of your vision for the hole
- If your hole had a theme song, what would it be?
- If you plan to design/build, include a brief description of your construction/installation plan

All proposals should be submitted to christi@cancanwonderland.com no later than March 1, 2015. We welcome any calls and would love to help dream and trouble-shoot. Email christi@cancanwonderland.com or call 612.871.2545.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Can Can Wonderland will hold three information sessions at our location on 755 NORTH PRIOR AVE, ST PAUL, MN 55104.

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 6:30pm

Saturday, January 24, 2015 at noon

Saturday, February 7, 2015 at noon

TIMELINE

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|----------------------------|--|
| January 20, 2015 @ 6:30pm | Info Session |
| January 24, 2015 @ 12:00pm | Info Session |
| February 7, 2015 @ 12:00pm | Info Session |
| March 1, 2015 | Proposals due |
| March 9, 2015 | Proposals selected |
| March 14, 2015 | Artist Meet & Greet, Contract signing, Half of stipend distributed to Design/Build proposals, Design only proposals paid in full |
| April - August | Monthly studio visits |
| August 18, 2015 | Mini golf holes completed and installed |
| August 25, 2015 | Private opening for friends and family, remaining half of stipends distributed to Design/Build proposals |
| September 1, 2015 | OPEN TO THE PUBLIC |

WHAT IS CAN CAN WONDERLAND?

Can Can Wonderland is a rag tag bunch of artists and makers who have banded together to construct a miniature golf course of such epic grandeur it will take a community and a generation to build. We stand in tingly awe of such venerable institutions as City Museum in St. Louis, great regional courses like Par King, and the visionary scope of Steeplechase Park. It is our intention to capture their electric ether and pump it through the air vents of Can Can.

WHO'S BEHIND CAN CAN?

Can Can Wonderland founders have been around the Twin Cities art scene for some time and are start-up founders and drivers for cultural staples such as The Soap Factory and programs such as The Soap Factory Haunted Basement, Ten Second Film Festival and Walker Art Center's mini golf course.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

Besides the obvious reason that there's not nearly enough awesome mini golf in the world, we're also birthing a strange art beast that can exist outside of the confines of the granting cycle by producing a self-contained economic engine for the arts.



American Can Exterior

RESOURCE & INSPIRATION

[CITY MUSEUM: Sheer spectacle, awe and mayhem to the point of exhaustion.](#)

Video: ["Theme Park Review's CRAZY Visit to St Louis City Museum"](#)

[PAR KING: The Gold Standard for mini golf.](#)

Video: ["Par King is 'Top 10' and 'Most Imaginative' miniature golf in America!"](#)

[STEEPLECHASE PARK: The Coney Island petri dish that created and cultivated a unique model of American amusement.](#)

Video: ["Coney Island: A Documentary with Al Lewis"](#)

[SMASH PUTT: Punk rock mini golf at it's best!](#)

Video: [Smash Putt](#)

Video: [RIDICULOUS MINI GOLF: London pop up inspired by Video games.](#)



Can Can Wonderland is supported by a grant from ArtPlace America, a collaboration of leading national and regional foundations, banks and federal agencies accelerating creative placemaking across the US.



Can Can interior