

Will Rogers World Airport

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Will Rogers World Airport Commissions Statue for New Terminal

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Oklahoma City Airport Trust yesterday approved a “Call to Artists” for the design and construction of a bronze statue of the airport’s namesake, Will Rogers. The statue will be featured in the Garden Plaza, part of the \$110 million terminal expansion/renovation project currently underway.

The project goes just a bit further than just the commissioning of the statue. Enhancing the environment surrounding the statue - the pedestal, reflecting pool and seating wall – are also included.

“We wanted the entire statue setting to be a creative expression of this remarkable Oklahoman,” says airport director Luther Trent. “This may very well be a collaborative effort between several artists.”

The Garden Plaza was conceived as a visually appealing area for passengers and airport visitors to enjoy as they pass between the terminal and the commercial curb and parking garages. It also provides an opportunity to give visitors a “first impression” of the City and the Airport, aesthetically, historically and culturally.

The sculpture will be life-sized and created in bronze. It may reflect any time period in Will’s life but must capture the character and charm of his personality. The surrounding environment

should be a continuation of the “sense” of Will Rogers.

A selection jury has been appointed to evaluate all entries, make recommendations for final selections, review the maquettes (a small model of the planned sculpture) and make final recommendation for award of the contract.

“This is a terrific opportunity to honor America’s most beloved humorist and philosopher,” says Oklahoma City Airport Trust Chairman, Carl Shortt, Jr. “It is also a way for the Trust to show its commitment to public art in the Oklahoma City community.”

Artists interested in responding to the call can contact:

Thomas P. Hurley, City Clerk/Airport Trust Secretary
200 North Walker Avenue, Second Floor
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
Telephone (405) 297-2391
Fax (405) 297-3121

The artist must submit any questions, comments or inquiries regarding this Call To Artists in writing no later than 9:00 a.m., November 14, 2001. The deadline to submit entries is December 19, 2001.