



Transformation Through Imagination

Our mission is to use all forms of art to express the science and emotions associated with a toxic Superfund site. Through exhibits and performances we will educate and engage the broadest possible community in the healing, redevelopment and remembrance of the Koppers Superfund site.

Superfund Art Project (SAP) envisions citizens and government working together, using art and science to inform our community, healing and transforming the Koppers Superfund site.

The Thomas Center Gallery, Gainesville, Florida announces: A Call to Artists

Region4: Transformation Through Imagination

The Project

Region4: Transformation Through Imagination is an art exhibit being organized by the Superfund Art Project (SAP) and hosted by the Thomas Center Gallery in collaboration with Protect Gainesville Citizens, Inc. (PGC) and the City's Division of Cultural Affairs. The exhibit and related programs will be managed by oconnorartLLC. The exhibition and related programs are funded in part by a grant from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council.

The exhibit, ***Region4: Transformation Through Imagination***, will consist of 30 original art works by contemporary Florida artists that will document the history of the Cabot-Koppers Superfund site, address the artist's interaction with the site and their interpretations of the significance of the site in their own lives and in the life of our community, and explore ideas for re-claiming the site following remediation and for healing the physical and psychological traumas induced by the presence of the Superfund site.

The proposed exhibition addresses four topics of concern: **documentation** (the history of the site and how it got that way), **transformation** (the cleanup process), **restoration** (restoring the site to ecological health and thus restoring the health of the larger community and/or exploring the successful remediation of other Superfund sites) and **commemoration** (a plan for a permanent exhibit/art work

that will serve as a reminder of what happened and how the problem was addressed and rectified). Through the exhibition and related programs the public will **learn** about the long struggle to remediate the site and how important this remediation is to the **health and well-being** of our community.

We seek closure and a positive outcome, not accusation and condemnation. While it is important to look back at a century of neglect and abuse, it is even more important to look ahead toward renewal and improvement.

The exhibition will be on display in the Thomas Center Main Gallery March 2 through April 28, 2012. Following the exhibition at the Thomas Center Gallery, we plan to create digital images of the works in the exhibit and make them available to other Florida communities that have a Superfund site (there are 43 in the state). In this way we hope that Gainesville can serve as a successful model for other communities that are dealing with similar problems.

Copyright: Each artist retains the copyright of their art and all images or text submitted. The Thomas Center Gallery will not use, reprint, or otherwise display images except for the purpose of promotion, announcement and press.

Eligibility for the *Region4* Exhibition

The selection committee (Superfund Art Project Board Chair Kim Popejoy; SAP Board Member Wes Lindberg; SAP Board Member and Visual Arts Coordinator, Thomas Center Galleries, Mallory O'Connor; University Gallery Director, Dept. of Parks, Cultural and Nature Operations Manager, Linda Demetropolis) will consider all styles of artwork including drawing, painting, prints, ceramics, collage, mixed media, digital and manipulated photography, sculpture and installation and video. The committee has invited 15 Gainesville artists to participate in the exhibition. The selection of these "core" artists is based on their past interest in environmental issues as well as their known expertise.

In addition to the 15 invited artists, all artists in the North Central Florida area are also eligible to submit a proposal to the SAP committee for consideration. Fifteen additional artists will be selected to participate in the art exhibition.

Preparation of your proposal

To assist artists in preparing a proposal we have created a "**workbook**" that includes scientific information about the history of the site and the plans for remediation (clean-up). **The workbook is available online** at oconnorartLLC.com and at www.protectgainesville.org.

We also plan to hold a one-day **Artist's Workshop** in early September. The workshop will include a site visit to the Cabot-Koppers Superfund site and a meeting at the Thomas Center where artists will be able to discuss their proposals with scientists familiar with the Superfund site and the

clean-up process. **The exact date and time of the workshop will be listed on the websites.**

Proposals should be should be no more than one page (approximately 250 words) and can include additional pages of visual material—sketches, diagrams, etc. of the proposed work. Digital images and/or CD's will also be accepted.

Proposal deadline: October 15, 2011

Proposals must be postmarked by or hand-delivered to the Thomas Center Gallery by October 15, 2011. Please send hard copy of your proposals and keep a copy for your files.

Evaluation and Selection:

The selection of work for inclusion in the exhibit will be based on artistic excellence, relevance to the goals of the project, effective communication of ideas, and innovative responses to the problems of documentation, transformation, restoration or commemoration of the Cabot-Koppers Superfund site.

There is no entry fee for this exhibition.

Entry Form

Region4: Transformation Through Imagination

Name

Address

Phone

Number

Email

Proposal Title (optional)

Terms and Conditions

All entries are subject to final approval by the SAP Exhibition Committee. Final works that depart substantially from the accepted proposal may be eliminated from the exhibition. All final work must be delivered to the Thomas Center Gallery by the date agreed upon in the Visual Artist Agreement that will be provided by the gallery to each artist selected for the exhibition. All work must be of professional quality and ready for installation unless special installation requirements have been agreed upon in advance. Work must be picked up from the gallery within 6 business days after the close of the exhibition.

I have read the terms and conditions and agree to accept them

Please sign and return this form with your proposal to:

**SAP Selection Committee
C/o Mallory O'Connor, Visual Arts Coordinator
Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs
PO Box 490/Station 30
Gainesville, FL 32602**

Phone # (352) 393-8532