

*October 2017*

2017 marks my 16<sup>th</sup> year working as a professional artist and educator in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. During this time, I have been fortunate to have had many opportunities to share my talents with my community - through teaching, exhibitions, and public art commissions. I have tried my best to give back to this city that has given me so much. However, at this point in my career I am eager to branch out and collaborate with communities outside of my own, which makes this opportunity in Madison very appealing.

I am particularly interested in the first stated project goal in the Pennsylvania Park RFQ: "You are welcome here". Growing up as an Asian-American in the Midwest has made me innately aware of the importance of this issue and I am already imagining how this generous and inclusive sentiment could manifest in public art.

My creative background is diverse. After an early life in music, university and graduate studies in architecture, professional work in film and video, and now a career as a designer of public spaces and sculpture – I feel well equipped to handle the unique and varied challenges of designing in the public realm. The Pennsylvania Park site presents an array of design problems: Simultaneously engaging park visitors and auto traffic on Johnson Street, designing for an unusually long site, being sensitive to the immediate neighborhood while creating a memorable marker in the larger Madison landscape. Solving a multifaceted creative problem like this requires lateral thinking and empathy for all who encounter the work: from a disabled child to a visiting professional on a business trip. I am up for the challenge!

When it comes to putting art in public, I consider it paramount to be sensitive to *context*. I do not approach public art commissions as a chance to put my mark on the landscape, but rather the opposite – to let the landscape express itself through the work. I rarely begin a project with a preconceived notion of its design. Instead, through a rigorous process of research and in-person investigation, the ideas and designs present themselves to me over time.

I enjoy the challenge of incorporating function and interactivity into my work. When we place architecturally-scaled objects in a public space, we should expect that people will want to do more than just look at them. In fact, I believe we owe it to the viewer to invite them to take part in the *physical* experience of the art. For me, this additional layer of experience is what brings the artwork to life.

As a long-time art educator, I love the idea of engaging local youth and schools in public projects such as this. I can imagine fruitful discovery workshops during the ideation phase, hands-on experiences during installation, and developing stewardship roles that could continue long into the future.

I feel uniquely suited for the complexity of this project. My training as an architect allows me to navigate the challenges of structure, safety and durability. My interest in furniture design narrows my focus to the smallest details of material and texture. My sculptor's eye seeks beauty and truth in form and proportion. Finally, my decade of experience as an art educator allows me to be as comfortable explaining my work to a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader as I am to a concrete contractor.

Thank you for considering me for this exciting opportunity!



Ray Chi

**Education**

- 2001 M.Arch, Master of Architecture  
Southern California Institute of Architecture, Los Angeles, CA
- 1996 B.S.Arch, Bachelor of Science in Architecture  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

**University Teaching**

- 2009 - present Associate Lecturer - University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee  
Sculpture / First Year Programs
- 2006 - 2010 Adjunct Faculty - Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design  
Interior Architecture + Design / Foundations Programs

**Awards / Commissions / Lectures / Programs**

- 2017 Sculptural tables Commission, Fondy Park, Milwaukee  
Public Art Commission, Wilson Center for the Arts, Brookfield, WI
- 2016 Sculptural bench Commission, MLK Jr. Peace Place, Milwaukee  
Lead artist, Collaboratory Teen experience, Milwaukee Art Museum
- 2015 Sculptural Playscape Consultation, Lynden Sculpture Garden  
Guest co-curator, Milwaukee Art Museum - Kohl's Art Generation Lab  
Guest Juror, Scholastic Art Awards, Milwaukee Art Museum
- 2014 Public Art Commission, Milwaukee Public Library East Branch  
Juror, Foundations Juried Show, Milwaukee Inst. of Art and Design
- 2013 Mary L. Nohl Fund, Fellowship for Individual Artists - Established Artist
- 2012 Lead Artist/Educator - ArtXpress Program, Milwaukee Art Museum
- 2010 Guest Lecturer - 'Artists Now' Lecture Series, UW-Milwaukee
- 2008-2010 Guest Lecturer - Art 105 - Art Survey, UW-Milwaukee
- 2008 Lead Artist/Educator - ArtWorks Program, Milwaukee Art Museum  
Artist in Residence - Elm Creative Arts School, Milwaukee, WI
- 2007 Public Art Grant - RiverPulse public art project, Brico Fund, Milwaukee  
Artist in Residence - Artists Working in Education  
Cass Street School, Lincoln School of the Arts, Milwaukee, WI
- 2006 Visual Programs and Projects Grant  
The Mary L. Nohl Fund, Greater Milwaukee Foundation  
Juror - UWM Peck School of the Arts Continuum Project for Public Art
- 2005 'Artist of the Year' - Milwaukee Arts Board, Milwaukee WI
- 2003 Guest Lecturer - Milhaus Art Collective  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL

- 2002 Community Art Grant - Brady Area Fnd. for Art and Ed., Milwaukee  
 Artist's Grant - Gunk Foundation for Public Art, Gardiner, NY  
 Individual Artist Grant - Wisconsin Arts Board, Madison, WI
- 2000 Co-Founder - Milhaus Artist Collective / Co-Founder - ZeroTV.com

### Selected Exhibitions

- 2017 *Sum Total*, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- 2016 *The Wisconsin Triennial*, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art,
- 2014 *The Mary Nohl Fellowship for Individual Artists*  
 INOVA, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- 2013 *Fully Furnished - Explorations in Furniture Design*  
 Union Art Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee  
*Milwaukeeists: 1996-2006*  
 Lawton Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay  
*By Design*, Gallery 224, Port Washington, WI
- 2010 *Art of the Table*, Milwaukee Art Museum  
*Metamorphosis: The Transformation of Everyday Objects*  
 Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, Milwaukee  
*Here and Now*  
 Milwaukee Art Museum / Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design
- 2009 *Fountain of Youth*, Milwaukee Art Museum
- 2008 *Chipstone Dreams*, American Collections gallery, Milwaukee Art Museum  
*RiverPulse Public Art Project*, Brady Street Neighborhood, Milwaukee, WI  
*Seeing Green: Art, Ecology, and Activism*, Woodland Pattern, Milwaukee
- 2007 *Paradise Remixed*, Cream City Collectives, Milwaukee, WI
- 2006 *Calling Forth Certain Experiences*  
 Frederick Layton Gallery, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design
- 2005 *Can You Sit On It?*  
 Frederick Layton Gallery, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design  
*Milwaukee International Film Festival*, Oriental Theater, Milwaukee, WI
- 2004 *Drunk Vs. Stoned*, Gavin Brown's Passerby Gallery, New York, NY  
*What's Up With Milwaukee?*, Ocularis, Brooklyn, NY
- 2004 *Objective Complement*, Zoolook Gallery, New York, NY
- 2003 *Make Your Own Fun* - Milhaus Artist Collective  
 Guild & Greyshkul, New York, NY
- 2002 *Inter-Act*, Open End Gallery, Chicago, IL

**Press**

The Cap Times [Sept 2016]

*'Crawl inside the 2016 Wisconsin Triennial, but don't climb the jungle gym'* by Lindsay Christians

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel [Sept 2016]

*'Wisconsin Triennial showcases artists who cross disciplines'*, by Sara Hauer

Shepherd Express [May 2016]

*The Milwaukee Art Museum's Collaboratory: Off the Cuff with artist Ray Chi*, by Tyler Friedman

M Magazine [June 2015]

*'Viewing Life Unfiltered'*, by Rebecca Konya

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel [Dec. 2004]

*'Big Ideas at Play at Nohl Show'*, by Mary Louise Schumacher

Milwaukee Magazine [Nov. 2013]

*'20 of the Most Creative Milwaukeeans'*, by Debra Brehmer

Express Milwaukee (web) [Nov. 2010]

*'Art of the Table @ MAM'* - by Peggy Sue Dunigan

SNAP Milwaukee: Coherent Cultural Criticism (web) [Apr. 2010]

*'Transforming Functional Objects Into Symbolic Art Works'* - by Claudia Arzeno

Third Coast Digest (web) [Mar. 2010]

*'Ideas for living - Metamorphosis at Villa Terrace'* - by Kat Murrell

WUWM - Lake Effect Radio Hour [Oct. 2008]

*'RiverPulse'* - interview with Ray Chi and Tim Ehlinger

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel [Aug. 2008]

*'Art Under A Microscope'*, by Mary Louise Schumacher

UWM News [Aug. 2008]

*'Bringing the Milwaukee River to Light'*, by Laura L. Hunt

Bay View Compass [Aug. 2008]

*'The Pulse of a River'*, by Jennifer Yauck

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel [Sept. 2005]

*'Sit up, Take Notice'*, by Mary Louise Schumacher

MKE Magazine [Aug. 2005]

*'Sittin' Pretty'*, by Erin Kane

MKE Magazine [June 2005]

*'Variety Show: A Studio visit with Ray Chi'*, by Lindsey Wolkowicz

Chicago Reader [June 2003]

*'Anyone Can Play'*, (Milhaus Artist Collective), by Liz Armstrong

The New York Times [Jan. 2003]

*'Doing Their Own Thing, Making Art Together'* (Milhaus Artist Collective), by Holland Cotter

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel [Feb. 2003]

*'Calm, Cool, Collective'*, (Milhaus Artist Collective), by Mary Louise Schumacher

Art in America [May 2002]

*'Poised to Soar'*, by Susan Snodgrass

The New Art Examiner [Apr. 2002]

*Recommend 'Milhaus at Deluxe Projects'*

The New Art Examiner [June 2001]

*'ZeroTV.com'*, by Nicholas Frank

**City of Madison  
Request for Qualifications  
RFQ No. 8676-0-2017-BP**

**Pennsylvania Park Project  
City of Madison - Public Park Project**

**IMAGE LIST**

**Artist Name:** Ray Chi

**Email Address:** [chiray@gmail.com](mailto:chiray@gmail.com)

Image file #	Artist	Title of work / Client	Budget	Year Completed	Approx. Dimensions	Medium
C_worksample1_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	'Serpent' / Milwaukee Public Library	\$25,000 (total for 3 sculptures)	2014	3' x 30' x 8'	Corten steel, soil and plant material, concrete
C_worksample2_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	'Serpent' (detail) / Milwaukee Public Library	\$25,000 (total for 3 sculptures)	2014	3' x 30' x 8'	Corten steel, soil and plant material, concrete
C_worksample3_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	'Rack' / Milwaukee Public Library	\$25,000 (total for 3 sculptures)	2014	2' x 25' x 3'	Powder coated steel
C_worksample4_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	'Rack' / Milwaukee Public Library	\$25,000 (total for 3 sculptures)	2014	2' x 25' x 3'	Powder coated steel
C_worksample5_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	'Pebbleforms' / Milwaukee Public Library	\$25,000 (total for 3 sculptures)	2015	Dimensions vary: 18" dia. – 40" dia.	Concrete, fiberglass reinforcement, polystyrene
C_worksample6_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	6 tables (overview) / City of Milwaukee, Fondy Park	\$20,000	2017	3' x 3' 3' x 6' 3' x 10' 30" tall	Black locust, powder coated steel, concrete
C_worksample7_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	Table (detail) / City of Milwaukee, Fondy Park	\$20,000	2017	3' x 3' 3' x 6' 3' x 10' 30" tall	Black locust, powder coated steel, concrete
C_worksample8_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	Haitian Art Gallery / Milwaukee Art Museum	\$90,000 (full exhibition budget)	2015	50' x 50' x 10'	Mixed media

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C_worksample9_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	'Untitled Noodle' / Madison Museum of Contemporary Art	\$5000	2016	8' x 8' x 15'	Polyethylene foam, steel, gravel
C_worksample10_RChi.jpg	Ray Chi	'Shifting Perspective' (proposal image) / Wilson Center for the Performing Arts	\$50,000	Install begins spring 2018	72' diameter circle drive (original proposal)	Powder coated aluminum







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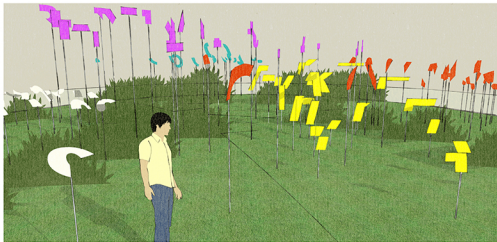
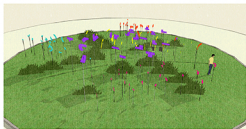














## Form E: References

**RFQ #: 8676-0-2017-BP Pennsylvania Park**

*This form must be returned with your response.*

REFERENCE #1 – CLIENT INFORMATION			
COMPANY NAME City of Milwaukee - HOME GR/OWN Initiative		CONTACT NAME Tim McCollow	
ADDRESS 200 E. Wells St.	CITY Milwaukee	STATE WI	ZIP 53202
TELEPHONE NUMBER 414- 286-3748	FAX NUMBER		
EMAIL Timothy.J.McCollow@milwaukee.gov			
CONTRACT PERIOD January - September, 2017	YEAR COMPLETED 2017	TOTAL COST \$20,000	
DESCRIPTION OF THE PERFORMED WORK Design and fabrication coordination of 6 unique, sculptural and functional tables and benches for permanent installation at Fondy Park in Milwaukee.			

REFERENCE #2 – CLIENT INFORMATION			
COMPANY NAME Milwaukee Art Museum		CONTACT NAME Brigid Globensky	
ADDRESS 700 N. Art Museum Dr.	CITY Milwaukee	STATE WI	ZIP 53202
TELEPHONE NUMBER 414-224-3822	FAX NUMBER		
EMAIL brigid.globensky@mam.org			
CONTRACT PERIOD April - November, 2015	YEAR COMPLETED 2015	TOTAL COST \$90,000	
DESCRIPTION OF THE PERFORMED WORK Conceived, designed and managed installation of physical gallery design for the museum's Haitian collection. Designed digital interactive activities and kiosk enclosures. This project is part of a larger ongoing list of projects I have done for the museum.			

REFERENCE #3 – CLIENT INFORMATION			
COMPANY NAME Milwaukee Public Library - East Branch		CONTACT NAME Paula Kiely	
ADDRESS 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.	CITY Milwaukee	STATE WI	ZIP 53233
TELEPHONE NUMBER 414-286-3020	FAX NUMBER		
EMAIL PKiely@milwaukee.gov			
CONTRACT PERIOD April 2014 - July 2015	YEAR COMPLETED 2015	TOTAL COST \$25,000	
DESCRIPTION OF THE PERFORMED WORK Winner of public art competition. Conceived, designed, fabricated and installed 3 outdoor sculptural/functional interventions at the East Library's new building in Milwaukee.			

COMPANY NAME