

February 1, 2018

50 Liberty LLC
c/o The Fallon Company LLC
One Marina Park Drive, Suite 1400
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

ATTENTION: Myrna Putziger

Boston Planning and Development Agency
One City Hall Plaza, 9th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02201

ATTENTION: Richard McGuinness

RE: Response to RFI for Lease of 50 Liberty Civic/Cultural Space

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned, being duly authorized to represent and act on behalf of Design Museum Boston (the "Respondent"), and having reviewed and fully understood all of the requirements of that certain Request for Interest for Lease of 50 Liberty Civic/Cultural Space ("RFI") and information provided therein, hereby submits the attached Application and supporting materials and applies for the opportunity to lease and activate the 50 Liberty Civic/Cultural Space. Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the RFI.

The Developer, the BPDA and DEP are hereby authorized by the Respondent to conduct any inquiries and investigations to verify the statements, documents, and information submitted in connection with this Application, and to seek clarification from references and other third parties regarding the financial and operating capacity of the Respondent.

If the Developer, the BPDA or the DEP have any questions regarding this Application, please contact the following individual(s):

TIFFANY COGELL

19 Darlington St #305, Boston, MA 02124 | 617-877-0377 | tiffany@design4equity.org

The undersigned confirms and warrants that, except as set forth below, no officer, director, partner, member, manager, or employee of Respondent, nor spouse of any of the foregoing categories of individuals, is:

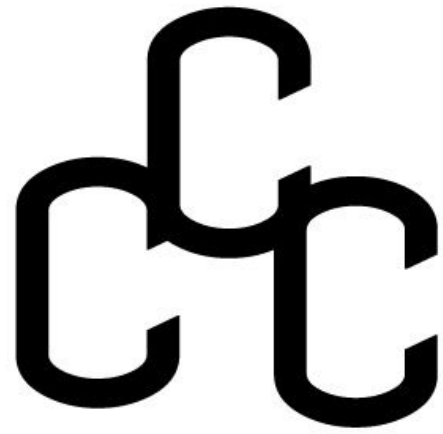
- An elected official of the City of Boston or an employee of the City of Boston, the BPDA, DEP or the Developer; or
- Related to or has any business or family relationship with any elected official of the City of Boston, or any employee of the City of Boston, the BPDA, DEP or the Developer, such that there would be any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict of interest in the evaluation or consideration of this Application by the Developer, the BPDA or DEP.

The undersigned declares that the statements made and the information provided in the duly completed Application are complete, true and correct in all respects.



Name: Tiffany Cogell

Title: Cross Cultural Collective Organizer



CrossCulturalCollective

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE**

A NOTE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

Recognizing the institutional barriers that exist in preventing Black people, POC and marginalized populations from having the ability to navigate complex bureaucracies and processes, Cross Cultural Collective (C³), A Black Arts Collaborative, has organized to reclaim space in the Seaport District, thus rendering the neighborhood more diverse and a truer reflection of the City of Boston and society as a whole. In our desire and effort to foster ujima - collective life of a community, working together and caring for one another via the healing medium of art and wealth-sharing, the Design Museum Boston will partner with Cross Cultural Collective (C³), a Black arts collaborative, by serving as their financial conduit. The Design Museum Boston, will support the Cross Cultural Collective by managing all fiduciary activities of the project and its subcontracts. This project will serve to uplift the voices of Boston's Black community through art, and therefore day-to-day activities and decisions will be made by the Black people who have come together to form the Cross Cultural Collective. Any questions about **financial matters** should be referred to both the Boston Design Museum and the Cross Cultural Collective. Any questions about the **use of the space** should be directed to the leaders of the Cross Cultural Collective.

BOSTON DESIGN MUSEUM CONTACT INFORMATION

DESIGN MUSEUM BOSTON

50 Milk Street, 16 FL
Boston, MA 02109

CONTACT: Sam Aquillano

sam@designmuseumfoundation.org

888.287.0167

designmuseumfoundation.org/boston

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTACT: Tiffany Cogell

tiffanycogell@gmail.com

617.877.0377

CONTACT: Allentza Michel

allemichel@gmail.com

617.819.4783

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **ORGANIZATION MISSION**

C³ is a group of artists, creative, makers, designers, performers, health and wellness practitioners, urban planners, and community organizers that have come together to create a location that celebrates Boston's diversity. C³'s Seaport location will be a space for artistic exposure/expression, welcome all, help residents and visitors alike to embrace their place in the history of Boston's dynamic harbor and Seaport District.

By sharing in ownership of the Seaport, and by providing programming and resources to Black artists in our Boston communities, C³ will steward a safe place where all people can experience the richness of our culture through various forms of art while embracing a waterfront that belongs to all of Boston's citizens.

C³'s culture of collective work and responsibility (or "Ujima"), collaborative entrepreneurship and space creation within Boston's communities of color, will focus particular emphasis on the Boston Black arts community. This emphasis is a key strategy in our intention to address the peculiar social and economic disparities that disproportionately affect Black people in Boston, and give them the opportunity to engage in, and with a part of Boston they don't often have the ability to do. C³'s space will be a home for those people, as well as an opportunity for those interested in Black arts and culture to engage, discuss, reflect and learn from it.

Our goal is to create space for artistic exposure/expression, foster invitation for feeling of and sharing in ownership of the Seaport, providing programming and resources to artists of color and POC in our Boston communities, and steward a safe place where all people can experience the richness of our culture through various forms of art.

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **OUR SPACE**

50 Liberty at Fan Pier will be home to a gallery that will spotlight works of art from various artists. The space will include:

- Gallery space
 - To include rotating exhibits of Black & Brown visual artists
- Multi-use room(s) where classes/workshops, programming could be offered
 - Wellness Room for healing arts, food and nutrition classes, yoga, etc
- Studio space for visual artists
- Recital hall/rehearsal space
 - For music, dance and theatre
 - Home for a resident performing company; rented to other companies/orgs
- Gift shop
 - Selling merchandise, crafts, artwork, music created by local B&B creatives
- Cafe
 - Cafe
- Mobile, interactive space for professional arts
 - Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Engineering

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **HISTORY**

50 Liberty Street, at Fan Pier, in the Seaport District has been designated as a Civic/Cultural space in response to the push back on the lack of diversity and inclusion in this booming part of South Boston.

A recent article that ran in the Globe, written by Andrew Ryan, detailing the non-existent pathway for POC to share in the wealth and ownership of space within the Seaport District was the catalyst for awareness and acceptance of the responsibility to mobilize.

<http://apps.bostonglobe.com/spotlight/boston-racism-image-reality/series/seaport/>

While the BPDA opened a call for RFI's, many POC and organizations run by POC were not aware of the opportunity. A local violist learned about the open RFI, by chance, after reading the Globe article. On January 12th, just a few short weeks ago, she posted an ask within a group forum as to interest and capacity to "go for it".

A group of creatives and makers, artists, designers, performers, health and wellness practitioners, urban planners and community organizers have come together, with the intention of submitting an LOI to answer the RFI by the Friday, February 2, 2018 deadline.

We quickly organized, we dreamed and envisioned a space that would celebrate the diversity of Black and Brown culture, that would provide opportunities for POC all over Boston to have a place for which to feel ownership, to establish purposeful access to the water, and create a home for healing experience through Art.

C3 will create youth programming, mentorships/internships; the physical space will hold galleries, workshops, interactive events, concerts, theatrical performances, and there will be a pop-up café, a gift shop and yoga studio. C3 will generate jobs and growth opportunities. We will create alternative transit options to address the inadequate public transit access to the Seaport

from communities of color. The Collective will facilitate sharing and learning that will foster solidarity amongst all people.

We reached out for support, actively searched for a fiscal conduit, corporate sponsors, funders and donors. We didn't have much time; however, we felt strongly that now is the time - it is our chance, our turn. We committed to the work that was necessary to make C3 apart of a new reality for Boston's marginalized communities at The Seaport.

In our discussions to determine how our Collaborative would operate, we decided upon a cooperative structure, where all people who identify as People of Color and all people who identify as an Artist working in any capacity, on any level of expertise, would be welcomed, embraced, mentored. Additionally, our partners, sponsors, funders and donors would be required to embrace and support our celebration of culture and ownness. All entities must be aligned with our mission.

Thanks to a strong show of support, colleagues, supporters and friends offered expertise and facilitated connections. We are a resourceful and resilient group of creatives. We were fortunate and deeply grateful to have connected with Design Museum Foundation, who will serve as Cross Cultural Collective's fiscal conduit.

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **DESIGN MUSEUM FOUNDATION**

THEIR MISSION is to educate the world on the role of design in our lives and to unite the community in ways that enrich our collective work, make businesses more competitive, and solve real-world problems more creatively. After all, design has the power to make our everyday lives more comfortable, more efficient, more exciting, more rewarding, more... better.

THEY ARE INSPIRED by revolutionary design: the fruitful result of thoughtful problem solving and a willingness to break with tradition. This is why the museum has no permanent address. Design Museum Boston is a decentralized network of physical and virtual exhibits, events, and content experiences. Whether in a gallery, retail environment, public space, or on the web, their programming gives audiences new insights into the design process and the greater social, economic, and environmental contexts that both affect and are affected by design.

THEY BELIEVE *design is for everyone.* They produce public exhibitions, events, and online content to show the who, why, and how behind the things we see and use everyday. They aim to highlight the positive impact good design and innovative thinking can have on literally everything. Their programs and content grow design awareness, increase design understanding, build design engagement, and develop design practice.

THEIR GOAL is to be the most accessible design museum in the world. They **know** you don't need to be a designer to attend an event or exhibition, and their programs are for everyone. Design Museum Foundation takes great care to be inclusive, collaborative, and welcoming to all.

The core values of Design Museum Foundation align with amplify the core values of Cross Cultural Collective, a Black Arts Collaborative.

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **CORE ORGANIZERS**



TIFFANY COGELL is an advocate for Active Transit equity, community organizer, Nutrition Coach and Fitness Equity Advocate. As a social and racial justice advocate, Tiffany is currently designing resident-led consultancy that fosters co-creation in communities of color and organizations for breakthrough solutions to cultivate capabilities, opportunities for growth and sustainability toward Beloved Community metro wide. A mother of four, interior Designer, urban planning advisor, lives in Dorchester Center.



ALLENTZA MICHEL is an urban planner, policy advocate and artist with a background in community organizing and program design and implementation. She has 16 years of diverse experience in the non-profit and public sectors at the local, national and international levels in community development; education; economic and workforce development; organizational development; food security and; programs serving children, youth and families. **POWERFUL PATHWAYS** builds on her interests in assisting public agencies and non-profit organizations design sustainable & equitable development plans and robust inclusive community engagement strategies.

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **SELECTED ARTISTS**

More than 20 Black artists across greater Boston have expressed interest in belonging and contributing to the Cross Cultural Collective. While a significant portion of these artists have had the opportunity to showcase their work in some of Boston's most prestigious museums, they have not had the opportunity to collaborate with artists of similar cultural background in a space that's intentionally designed to promote Black art.



Passionate about contemporary music, **ASHLEIGH GORDON** performs regularly with the Callithumpian Consort, ECCE Ensemble and Boston Modern Orchestra Project, and has performed and recorded with Switzerland's Ensemble Proton and Germany's Ensemble Modern. As an arts programmer, Ashleigh is Artistic Director and violist of Castle of our Skins, a concert and educational series devoted to celebrating Black artistry through music. With Castle of our Skins, she brings thought-provoking concert experiences blending music, spoken word, history and culture to classrooms and concert halls in Boston and beyond. In recognition for her work, she has presented at IDEAS UMass Boston and 180 Degrees Festival in Bulgaria; has been featured in the International Musician Magazine, Boston Globe and The Improper Bostonian; and was awarded the 2016 Charles Walton Diversity Advocate Award

from the American Federation of Musicians. She is a 2015 St. Botolph Emerging Artist Award recipient, graduate of the International Ensemble Modern Academy, New England Conservatory and Baldwin-Wallace University, and can be heard on Mode, Siemens, BMOP/Sound, Navona and Musiques-Suisse chamber music and orchestral recordings.



DANIEL CALLAHAN is a multimedia artist and designer. His work merges various disciplines including but not limited to music, film & video, painting, drawing, collage, animation, photography, and performance to create immersive experiences that seek to reveal that which links us to each other and our world.

His current work centers on his art technique of MassQing; a ritual painting that uses the human face as a canvas to reveal rather than conceal one's essence and/or state of being. MassQing requires a more intimate encounter between artist, subject and viewer, and is derived from the ancient phenomena of body decoration practiced by nearly all indigenous cultures on the planet.



Daniel uses the art and ritual of MassQing as a platform to engage individuals and communities to make cross disciplinary collaborative works on the subjects of identity, communion and change - the three core esthetic concepts the MassQ.

Daniel is a graduate of the UPenn School of Design, where he received the Fine Arts Chair Award for his thesis exhibit and a 3rd-year Graduate Fellow in the MFA in Film Program at Emerson College. His work has been shown in the Museum of Fine Arts, The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and the Institute of Contemporary Art and has been featured in such

publications as Believer Magazine and The Bay State Banner. He is co-founder of the artist collective Fear & Fancy, a recipient of the Donor Circle for the Arts Grant, out of Oakland CA.



L'MERCHIE FRAZIER, a public fiber artist, innovator, poet and holographer, is Director of Education and Interpretation for the Museum of African American History, Boston/Nantucket. For fifteen years she has been engaged in highlighting and curating the Museum's collection/exhibits, in providing place-based education and interdisciplinary history programs, projects and lectures, most recently promoting STEM / STEAM education pedagogy, and in managing the successful Faculty/ Teachers' Institutes and its extension, The Cross Cultural Classroom, a benefit marketed to independent education entities, municipalities and corporations.

She is adjunct faculty for Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts and Bunker Hill Community College, Charlestown, Massachusetts. She has served the artistic community for over twenty years as

an award winning national and international visual and performance artist and poet, with residencies in Brazil, Taiwan, Africa, France, and Cuba. As a lecturer and workshop presenter. Her audiences include youth and adults. She is former Board member of CityLife /Vida Urbana and is on the advisory board of Paige Academy and is a Art Commons Boston AppLab Board Member.

L'Merchie is a member of Women of Color Quilter's Network. She is resident artist of African American Artists in Residence Program (AAMARP) at Northeastern University and at Fairmount Innovation and Southend Technology Center, MIT FabLabs in Boston. Her fiber works serve to document history and memory, and often include innovative technology. These artworks are featured in a series entitled The Quilted Chronicles. Selected works are included in several art publications and in the permanent collections of the Museum of Art and Design, the Smithsonian Institute and the White House.

Frazier was chosen as part of the 3-artist launch group for the City of Boston's AIR artists (Artist-in-Residence). She recently received the New England Foundation for the Arts Creative City individual artist grant and the Northeastern University Law Lab Stable Ground artist residency. L'Merchie serves on the Massachusetts Council on History and Social Studies advisory commission for public schools.



MELISSA ALEXIS is a dance artist and educator, a certified yoga and sustainability teacher, facilitator, choreographer, writer and consultant with no separation among these roles. The threads that hold them all together are the urge to create, the need to serve, and the desire to envision and support a world full of people who do good for the common good.

Melissa has led community engagement and teams of artists, staff, and volunteers at organizations in Boston and New York, including Boston Ballet and 92nd Street YM-YWHA, and has provided solutions as a consultant or specialist at Sarah Lawrence College, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Third Sector New England (TSNE MissionWorks), and more. She has served on faculty at Bard High School Early College (Dance & Social Science) and Sarah Lawrence College (Dance & Dance/Movement Therapy). Her choreographic works have been presented at NU Hotel as part of Brooklyn-based The Creators Collective, Sarah Lawrence College, Tufts University, The Dance Complex, and Green Street Studios. She earned a Master of Fine Arts from Sarah Lawrence College, a Certificate of Sustainability from The Earth Institute at Columbia University, a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Spanish from Amherst College, and a 200-hour yoga certification from JP Centre Yoga.

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: A BLACK SPACE IN THE SEAPORT

The **Cross Cultural Collective (C³)** will serve as a **BLACK** space in the Seaport, and will be a year-round destination for Boston's residents and visitors. We will provide opportunities for Black artists to display their work, perform shows, and engage with communities in a way that other museums have historically excluded them from.

Given that Boston's waterfront is one of its greatest assets in terms of economic benefit and natural beauty, and that Black Bostonians have historically been culturally restricted from accessing this waterfront, whether intentionally or unintentionally, the Cross Cultural Collective will serve as one of, if not *the*, first Black space along the waterfront. This is a unique opportunity to expose people of all backgrounds to cultures and intuitions that they may not normally have access to.

We intend for the space to remain open to the general public, while also being a refuge, and healing space for those who experience the daily trauma of being Black in America. We intend to encourage visitors to embrace the nearby public spaces.

The Cross Cultural Collective is a multi-disciplined collective of artists and designers that provide a space for artistic exposure/expression across cultures, foster innovation to educate the wider community about the arts, providing programming and entrepreneurship opportunities to artists of color, and steward a safe place where all people can experience the richness of our culture through various forms of art.

- Provide a destination that attracts the public regardless of time of year or weather;
- Establish a vibrant and popular year-round destination which enlivens 50 Liberty and Fan Pier;
- Create synergies with Fan Pier Park, the Public Green, Harborwalk, Fan Pier's water transportation terminal, and other water dependent marine activities and uses;
- Continue the growth of the South Boston Waterfront as a major civic and cultural destination;
- Establish a facility and programming to be a neighborhood resource, reflecting the mixed residential and commercial nature of Fan Pier and the entire South Boston Waterfront; and
- Enhance access to and along the water's edge for public recreation and use and enjoyment.

CROSS CULTURAL COLLECTIVE: **A COMMUNITY SPACE**

The South Boston Waterfront is a “new” neighborhood that should welcome and include all people and allow for people of various cultural, racial, and class backgrounds to meet, mingle, and engage. Public spaces like the Harborwalk, the Public Green, and Fan Pier Park have the potential to be the most democratic spaces, and the **Cross Cultural Collective’s (C³)** space will embrace those areas and reflect their public facing nature.

By being a welcoming space for people who often feel unwelcome in other arts spaces, C³ will serve a specific need, but be a year-round location for performances, art exhibitions and sales, rotating artists –in-residence, nutrition classes, yoga, crafts, speaker series’, catered events, and will be available for neighborhood resident and business groups to rent and host their events as well.

Given its proximity to the waterfront, a civic space like C³’s that allows the public, visitors and passers-by engagement with visual, applied and structural art helps creates equity in a neighborhood that is rapidly forming. Black communities can begin to embrace and reclaim Boston’s waterfront in ways that have not happened before, while also contributing to its mix.

A flexible and interactive space, the site will host a gallery; café; a multi-use room for healing arts, nutrition, yoga classes, performances and workshops; office space for related fields of architecture, landscape architecture, and engineering; a gift shop for sales that benefit artists and the space itself.

