



CONFIDENTIAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

*Artwork Creation and Installation in Florida Tech Evans Library,
sponsored by the Florida Tech Alumni Association*

Release Date: October 15, 2021
This RFP is Issued By and
All Questions Should be Directed to:
John Cady, Senior Sourcing Specialist
Florida Tech Procurement Services
321.674.7709 or jcady@fit.edu

RFP Response Submittal Deadline

5:00 p.m. Monday, November 29, 2021

**Proposals submitted and/or copied to any additional office(s)
outside of Procurement Services may be
considered non-compliant and therefore not considered.**

NOTE: THIS PAGE IS TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF YOUR FIRM IS **NOT RESPONDING TO THIS BID**

Due Date to Florida Tech if a NO-BID is November 29, 2021

To assist us in evaluating and improving our solicitation process, we are asking that you complete this form and return it via fax (321.674.7509) or by e-mail to jcady@fit.edu

_____ 1. The terms and conditions of the Invitation to Bid document were restrictive. Our objections are:

_____ 2. We did not feel we could be competitive.

_____ 3. We could not submit a Bid because of the marketing or franchising policies of the company.

_____ 4. We do not furnish the items/services requested in the Invitation to Bid.

_____ 5. Insufficient time to respond.

_____ 6. We could not meet your required delivery/time schedule.

_____ 7. We do not have sufficient staffing at this time.

_____ 8. Please remove our name from this category in the vendor list.

_____ 9. Other:

PRINTED NAME

DATE

SIGNATURE

PHONE

COMPANY NAME

FAX

Procurement Services
150 W. University Blvd, RA Works Bldg., Room 200
Melbourne, Florida 32901-6975
Phone: 321.674.8110 Fax: 321.674.7509

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Bid Submittal:

Proposals as referenced above will be received at the address indicated below until 5:00 p.m. on November 29, 2021 as described herein.

Proposals submitted/copied to any additional office outside of Procurement Services may be considered non-compliant and therefore not considered.

Submittals:

Email Delivery: jcady@fit.edu

Mail Delivery:

Attn: John Cady, Senior Sourcing Specialist
Florida Tech Procurement Services
150 W University Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901

Hand Delivery:

Florida Tech Procurement Services
Work Building #408 – 2nd floor, Room #204
2925 Country Club Rd., Melbourne, FL 32901

Responses to all questions will be sent to all bidders at the same time by the Procurement Services Office to ensure fair and equitable dissemination of information to all.

Questions must be directed via email to:

John Cady
Ph: 321-674-7709
jcady@fit.edu

Introduction:

Florida Institute of Technology (Florida Tech) is a regionally accredited, not-for-profit, private, independent, residential, doctoral-granting, research-intensive, scientific, and technological university. Founded in 1958 as Brevard Engineering College to provide advanced education for professionals working in the space program at what is now Kennedy Space Center, the university today offers more than 200 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs through four academic colleges (Aeronautics, Business, Engineering and Science, Psychology & Liberal Arts). Florida Tech's campus is located on 140 acres in Melbourne, Florida, about five minutes from the Atlantic Ocean. Over 65,000 students have graduated from Florida Tech and our alumni live in all 50 states and in over 80 countries.

Project Overview & Background:

We are seeking a creative artist to partner with the Alumni Affairs and Library administration teams to develop and install a painting/mural/interactive design that honors the selfless act of Julius Montgomery that is central to the University's history, as well as serve as an educational and interactive area for library visitors to understand how civil rights activities in Brevard County, FL unfolded.

Mr. Julius Montgomery was the first African American professional hired at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. At the time Montgomery was hired, racism was deeply prevalent in Central Florida. As was the case with many places of employment around the country, African Americans at Cape Canaveral had only been hired in non-technical positions, such as custodial work. Montgomery held a bachelor's degree from Tuskegee Institute (Tuskegee University) and served in the U.S. Air Force, obtaining his first-class radio license. Mr. Montgomery began his career as a "Range Rat," an electronics technician who repaired malfunctioning ballistic missiles for RCA development lab at Cape Canaveral in 1956.

In 1958, Montgomery signed up for classes at Brevard Engineering College along with many other engineers and technicians who worked at Cape Canaveral Air Force station. Brevard Engineering College was an entirely new learning institution; it was established by senior members of the space program for the purpose of providing continuing education for the professionals working at Cape Canaveral. A permanent location for the campus had not yet been secured, so the program had to use classroom space at a nearby public junior high school.

But when Brevard County's superintendent of schools learned that an African American man (Montgomery) would be in attendance, he threatened to evict the entire college unless Montgomery was denied entry.

Having received an assurance from the college's president, Dr. Jerome P. Keuper, that he would be accepted once the school's position was more secure, Montgomery withdrew his application so the college could open.

It was not until three years later that the school moved into a permanent building. Montgomery was accepted into the program and became the first African American student to integrate Brevard Engineering College, which would later become Florida Tech. Montgomery's sacrifice effectively saved the life of the university.

Montgomery retired from RCA in 1988 after more than thirty years of service. In his later years, he started a general contracting business, and participated in panel discussions put on by the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Montgomery's contributions to Florida Tech are commemorated every year with the Julius Montgomery Pioneer Award for community service, first awarded in 2007. Additionally, the University awarded Montgomery an honorary doctorate in humane letters.

Montgomery passed away at 90 years old on Jan. 22, 2020. As the first African American to be hired at the Cape Canaveral Air Force station to work as a technical professional, Julius Montgomery will forever be remembered as a man who broke barriers for the generations who came after him.

Installation Location:

The space dedicated to this creative installation will be on the third floor of Evans Library located on Florida Tech's Melbourne, FL campus. The Evans Library serves as a hub for student research and learning and provides valuable tools for students to work in a collaborative environment. The third floor of Evans Library houses several group and independent study spaces, IT support services, and a collection of government papers.

At the top of the entry to the floor, a wall measuring 27 feet in length and 8 feet in height. This is the space designated for the installation to allow prominence in viewing and interacting with the exhibit.

Project Scope:

This project will include the conceptualization of Julius Montgomery's pioneering role of racial integration in the history of Florida Tech. The goal is to both honor Mr. Montgomery for his selfless act as well as depict civil rights activities in Brevard County, FL.

Links to additional information about Julius Montgomery:

NASA: <https://www.nasa.gov/moonikin/julius-montgomery>

Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum: <https://airandspace.si.edu/stories/editorial/remembering-julius-montgomery-space-program-pioneer>

NY Times: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/21/us/julius-montgomery-dead.html>

Julius Montgomery's role in Florida Tech's Founding: <https://news.fit.edu/archive/the-secret-history-of-julius-montgomery-a-profile-in-courage/>

From the author of *We Could Not Fail, The First African Americans in the Space Program*:

<https://twitter.com/rlpaulprodn/status/1357793639678824450>

Julius Montgomery Pioneer Awards: <https://www.fit.edu/jmp/about-julius-montgomery/>

Submission Requirements:

Artists may submit one or more proposal packets. The following items should be collated into a pdf document. Each item listed below should be a separate page(s) in the pdf.

1. Artist resume or artist statement
2. Simple sketches, or designs that outline your proposal's ability to honor the role of Julius Montgomery in the University's history and racial integration on our campus. Your design should also include space for the University to complement the artwork with books or other interactive elements to address civil rights activities in Brevard County, FL
3. 4-6 images of completed past work. A short description including the title, medium, cost, dimensions, location and date produced.
4. Three professional references who have experience with the artist's installations, especially university or public art installations.
5. Provide the expected cost to conceptualize and develop the creative design including installation costs.
6. Outline a timeline from acceptance of the proposal to installation completion.

All submittals shall become property of the University and will be retained with this RFP per University records retention guidelines. Compensation will not be granted for submittal(s) and hard copies will not be returned.

Selection:

The Artist will be selected based on the artistic design, craftsmanship, quality of design, how well the design reflects the stated theme of the artwork and quality of past work. Once an artist has been selected, a final design will be required that will include all details for fabrication and installation of the artwork. The Artist will work with a Design Committee that includes Staff, Faculty, Community Members, and other persons selected by the University. The University will retain all rights to the final design.

Professional References

	1	2	3
Name			
Title			
Company			
Phone			
Email			