**INVITATION TO ALL CREATIVE PEOPLE**

**Junction City: Mascot Fiberglass Statue Design Competition**

**Entries Accepted - November 5 to 30, 2021**

A group comprised of Junction City business professionals, community volunteers, and public sector leadership has come together with the goal of creating a fiberglass (or some other high-quality composite material) statue that represents the character, color, history, and future of the community. The effort is operating under the auspices of Junction City Main Street and the Junction City Military Affairs Committee.

The competition is patterned after this past summer’s Junction City Main Street competition to create the new organization’s logo. Of 44 entries, three were selected as finalists and during the month of August, the community voted to select a winning logo from those three entries.

During the month of November artists, designers, and all creative people are invited to design and propose a statue that can then become part of the Junction City landscape. Entries should be readily recognizable as capturing some aspect of Junction City – one example discussed by the committee was creating a “GI Jay” that could capture both the military and high school popular Blue Jay mascot). Those submitting concepts are welcome to consider literal or abstract representations and are asked to provide a short narrative explaining their idea and why it would be a good fit for the community. Artist should be sensitive to the need to submit a design that can effectively be recreated in a mold and could easily be on a city sidewalk and not impede business operation and pedestrian movement.

The committee expects to select two to three final concepts to be voted on by the Junction City community. It is possible the committee could determine no submission fits what is desired and end the competition or re-issue a solicitation. Each artist of the works to be voted on by the public will receive $200, the winning artist will receive one of the statues to keep or paint to be added to the community set of statues. The community vote is expected to occur in December concluding on Monday, December 27.

The winning design will need to be made into a one-foot by one-foot replica for molding preparation, this needs to be completed before January 17th. The committee will review costs associated with building the model and reimburse the artist for reasonable expenses.

The selected design may be cast into multiple fiberglass statues for painting by selected and invited artists. Five to ten statues will stay with Junction City Main Street and be placed at prominent downtown locations. The other statues, either painted or with a base ready for painting, will be available for business and organizations to purchase as a fundraising effort with proceeds directed to a local non-profit.

**Submissions are due by midnight – November 30, 2021, via email to *junctioncitymainstreet@gmail.com***

By submitting an entry, you agree that all submissions selected for community voting become property of Junction City Main Street.

Your entry should be submitted showing the proposed statue in a single color with no design scheme. Each entry should include three separate drawings that show the front, back, and side of the proposed statue with sufficient detail to visualize how the finished statue would look.

Expectations are the statues will be big enough, three to five feet, for residents and visitors to take souvenir photographs or selfies.

Participants can submit up to two entries and with each entry please provide a short paragraph describing the proposal and the logic behind the submitted design.

Entries should capture a significant aspect of Junction City. Ideas could include Junction City and the region’s:

* frontier and cavalry trooper history
* founding at the confluence of two rivers
* strong and patriotic connection to the military and the Big Red One, 1st Infantry Division
* geographic location in the Flint Hills and connection to outdoors and outdoor activities
* Junction City residents are also proud of the high school mascot the Blue Jay
* Population ethnic diversity and the youth
* focus on the future and how things are going to be different going forward.

The planning committee does not want to limit your creative ideas, beyond respect for the people and institutions important to the region. Beyond that caveat, entries can be serious, whimsical, cartoon-like, historically accurate, or abstract.

Examples of fiberglass statues projects are very prevalent on the internet and may help you design your entry.

**Entries should be submitted via email with Mascot Statue on the subject line to** **junctioncitymainstreet@gmail.com****.**

Questions may be directed to the email.

The planning committee reserves the right to adapt the design for voting or molding purposes while maintaining the integrity of the submitted concept and design. Any modifications or changes will be with the approval of the designer.

All works submitted must be the original creation of the entrant. Works must not be plagiarized from existing material or purchased.