

Date: May 30, 2025

This document responses to questions submitted to the urban conservation team at NYBG regarding the Soundscape RFP available [here](#).

USES

Will each soundscape have to change dynamically to sync with video (as in the original idea of a cyclorama), or will it be a static image/environment that the soundscape gives life and ambience to?

Ideally we would like aspects of the soundscape to dynamically sync with video. On a parallel track we are working on still image and video reconstructions based our [Welikia Project](#) data that could be used in a variety of situations (exhibition, web, video, presentation, etc.) The kinds of data include a historical species list for a given block in modern New York City, an ecosystem type, distance and direction to streams or the shore (other sound making features), etc. We are using Unreal Engine and related tools to generate the video, including added elements such as birds flying, trees falling, wind blowing, etc. Ideally the soundscape method can be sync'd up with the image making to produce a compelling and believable soundscape with a minimum of customization. How much per-experience customization might be needed or desired to augment the site-specific soundscape is an issue we look forward to discussing with the soundscape artist/team.

PERSPECTIVE

It occurred to me almost immediately is that there would have been a vast difference in perception of NYC's ancient soundscapes between natives [Indigenous people] and European colonialists. Is this something you would be interested in exploring as part of the exhibit or is the project firmly set in a time period that predates European contact?

We are interested in the sounds of the environment immediately prior to colonization. Think a few hours before Henry Hudson and crew showed up on September 12, 1609.

BUDGET

Is there additional budget set aside from the 20k for the development/design of the sound library, purchase of the licensing, software, database and possible sound equipment needed for the sound scape archiving etc.?

In the request for proposals, a budget of \$20,000 is specified. Is this budget intended only for project expenses such as equipment and travel reimbursement, or is it also intended to be used for honoraria payment?

The response including a budget should address all the required elements to the extent possible within a total budget of \$20,000. Costs can include honoraria for personnel. Subsequent contracts may be

available subject to funding, but this work should be considered self-contained within the funding available.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

When is the submission deadline date/time?

Written proposals are due by 5 pm Eastern Daylight Time on June 6, 2025 by email to urbanconservation@nybg.org

Is there a desired format for the project pitch or is this an open format? Cover letter, CV Project idea, statement, work samples?

No specific format is required. The response is limited to 5 pages (not counting resume / cv). The response should address the bullet points on page 4 of the RFP. Work samples are encouraged.

THANKS

We really appreciate your interest in this RFP. We are looking for a talented individual/team to work closely with the urban conservation team at NYBG to develop something never heard before. Your enthusiasm is much appreciated!

Long live Welikia!