

## BETTER DAYS 2020 – WOMEN’S HISTORY PROJECT

Request Artist’s Qualifications for the creation of the  
Utah Women’s History Monument



Request for qualifications from artists and/or artist teams interested in creating site specific installation to the first women to vote in this modern nation at Council Hall in Salt Lake City, UT on February 14, 1870.

**DEADLINE FOR MATERIALS: February 28, 2019**

## Better Days 2020

The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of Utah being the first place a woman cast a ballot in the modern nation. It also marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, granting women's suffrage throughout the United States, and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, protecting voting rights of women and men of racial minorities. Better Days 2020 believes that by popularizing our history in creative and communal ways, we open doors to having conversations about the future of Utah women.

By celebrating these historical events in creative and communal ways, we will draw attention to our storied past, be a positive catalyst for conversation and remembrance, and give energy to Utah's women today to be more engaged participants in our corporate and political communities.

Women of Utah worked alongside national leaders like Susan B. Anthony to advocate for women's rights nationwide. And Utah women did this with the support of their community, while women's rights leaders in many other states faced stiff opposition.





## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONUMENT AT COUNCIL HALL

Council Hall was the place where the first woman voted in the modern United States. Her name was Sereph Young, a school teacher, on her way to work. Young was one of 25 women who voted in that municipal election. Two days prior, in that same hall, the territorial

Front: Jane S. Richards, left, Emmeline Wells. Middle: Phoebe Woodruff, Isabelle Horne, Eliza R. Snow, Zina Young, Marinda Hyde. Back: Dr. Ellis R. Shipp, Bathsheba W. Smith, Elizabeth Howard, Dr. Romania Pratt Penrose. (Utah

legislature voted unanimously to extend voting rights to women. Although Wyoming had already agreed to give women the right to vote, Utah held the first official election.

This conceptual monument is intended to mark and memorialize the first woman to vote and the millions of women who have voted in Utah and across the nation since that day. It is hoped this monument will be the marker for Utahans and tourists' increased awareness of this moment in history and the pride in Utah's leadership.

## **COUNCIL HALL**

The Salt Lake City Council Hall is currently home to offices of the Utah Office of Tourism and is located on Capitol Hill in Salt Lake City, Utah. Built in 1864-66, the building is historically important as the Old Salt Lake City Hall from 1866 to 1894. It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1975.

In 1864 ground for this hall was broken on February 8, 1864 under the direction of the architect William H. Folsom, the official architect for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The building was built at First South and 120 East from sandstone delivered from Red Butte Canyon on Utah's first chartered railroad. The well-furnished Greek revival building was completed at a cost of \$70,000. The building was dedicated January 1866 by George Q. Cannon along with other Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints leaders including Brigham Young.

Six rooms on the first floor housed the mayor's office and other city departments. From 1866 until the completion of the Salt Lake City and County Building in 1894, the City Hall was the seat of Salt Lake City Government and meeting place for the Utah Territorial legislature. The Rose Room on the second floor served both as a general courtroom and the legislative floor.

To make way for a federal office building downtown, the old City Hall was relocated to Capitol Hill in 1961. The building exterior was dismantled into 325 sandstone slabs. They were numbered and reassembled around all-new woodwork on the current site on Capitol Hill and renamed "Council Hall."

## **COMMITTEE STATEMENT**

As mentioned, it is the hope of the project this conceptual , non-figurative sculptural installation will mark and memorialize the first woman to vote and the millions of women who

have voted in Utah and across the nation since that day. This monument will become the marker for Utahans and tourists about that moment in history.

It is anticipated the monument will be created in bronze and/or natural stone like granite or marble. It is important the work is site specific in its relationship to and interaction with the historic Council Hall in context, material, and scale.

The Committee has suggested the northwest corner from Council Hall as a potential site (see attached Google satellite image) It is the southeast corner of State Street and 300 North which may become a traffic round-about in the future. The area is approx. 100' x 150' of sod with a flag pole and plaque at 27' from the north sidewalk and 41' from the west sidewalk.

## **BUDGET**

**\$100,000** is available for all related expenses of this Public Art commission(s) including (but not limited to) artist fees, fabrication, insurance, shipping, travel, installation, documentation, etc. Funding for this project is a combination of funds from the Better Days 2020 501(c)(3) non-profit, the Emmeline Circle and other private donors.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

This project is open to professional artists / artist teams. Utah artists are encouraged to apply. Art selection committee members and immediate families, board members, and employees of Better Days 2020, Utah Office of Tourism or Utah Division of Arts & Museums are not eligible for this project.

## **SUBMISSION OPTIONS, INSTRUCTIONS AND REQUIRED MATERIALS**

Interested artists may submit applications via email / file sharing platforms to [info@betterdays2020.org](mailto:info@betterdays2020.org) Please do not include supplemental materials beyond the requirements listed below. All applications must include the following:

- A letter of interest of not more than three pages in pdf format. This letter should include the artist's reasons for interest in this project in particular. In doing so, the artist should also describe how his/her work and/or experience relates to the project.
- Up to six (6) images maximum of previous site-specific public work. All images must be in JPEG format, 1920 pixels maximum on the longest side, 72 dpi, with compression settings resulting in the best image quality under 2MB file size. The image files should be named so that the list sorts in the order of the image listing.
- A pdf document identifying each image to include title, year, medium, dimensions.
- A professional resume in pdf format.

If the work cannot be documented well with still images a movie file (of no more than 3

minutes) may be submitted as documentation of artist's projects. Please note only one media, movie file or images, can be presented to the committee per artist in this preliminary phase.

Better Days 2020 will not be responsible for applications delayed or lost in transit. While all reasonable care will be taken in the handling of materials, neither the Better Days 2020 project nor Art Selection Committee will be liable for late, lost or damaged electronic files. Faxed applications cannot be accepted. The Better Days 2020 Art Selection Committee reserves the right to withhold the award of a commission or re-release the call for entries.

## **DEADLINE:**

**Complete application packages must be RECEIVED on or before February 28, 2019 by 5 p.m. Mountain Time (THIS IS NOT A POSTMARK DEADLINE)**

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

The Selection Committee will review proposals from which a short list of semi-finalists will be selected and invited to develop a proposal. All finalists will receive an honorarium to develop their proposal. The finalist honorarium will be applied toward the commission amount for the artist awarded the commission. Final selection(s) will be made from the semi-finalists.

## **PROJECT SCHEDULE**

February 28, 2019	Deadline for receipt of qualifications
March 7, 2019	Committee reviews applications and notifies finalists
April 2, 2019	Finalist presentations / proposals
January 2020	Art installation

## **ART SELECTION COMMITTEE**

Diane Stewart	Chair, Better Days 2020 Monument Committee
Vicki Varela	State of Utah, Director of Tourism & Global Branding
Laura Allred Hurtado	Global Acquisitions Curator of the Church History Museum
Stephanie Angelides	Utah State Capitol Curator
Jared Steffensen	Artist & Utah Museum of Contemporary Art
Allyson Gamble	Executive Director, Utah State Capitol Preservation Board
Whitney Tassie of Fine Arts	Senior Curator Modern & Contemporary Art, Utah Museum
Jim Glenn	Acquisitions Manager, Utah Division of Arts & Museums

If you have any questions about this or other projects information is available at: [www.betterdays2020.org](http://www.betterdays2020.org)

Images courtesy of: Utah Historical Society, Utah State Capitol, Utah State office of Tourism, and Google maps

*Image by Matt Morgan. Council Hall -Courtesy Utah Office of Tourism*

