

## **Diana Nyad Monument**

### **Request for Proposals**

**March 3, 2014**



The City of Key West, Florida is seeking proposals for a commemorative site-specific monument of marathon swimmer Diana Nyad. The sculpture will commemorate her historic 53 hour swim from Cuba to Key West. The monument will include a bronze statue of Nyad which will be an approximately six feet tall. The sculpture will be displayed outdoors in a highly trafficked area of the Historic City of Key West.

#### **Funding**

The project will be funded primarily by private donations.

#### **Monument Specifications**

1. The monument should be made of bronze and the selected patina and coating must be easily maintained and repaired.
2. The monument should represent Diana Nyad in her full length.
3. The figure of Diana Nyad should be 1.2 times her actual height. She is 5'6" tall.
4. The monument should be designed to allow photo opportunities for tourists and residents to pose with "Diana Nyad."

5. Quotes by Diana Nyad should be incorporated into the project design including, "Find a Way." "You are never too old to chase your dreams." "We should never, ever give up." "It looks like a solitary sport, but it's a team effort." "It was about turning 60, determined to live a bold, fearless life. No regrets. Full commitment. Reaching for the stars, even if failure were the outcome." "We all have dreams. We all suffer heartache. We all need to somehow find the courage, the endurance, to FIND A WAY to our respective individual other shores."
6. The artist may elect to acknowledge the contribution of Diana Nyad's Xtreme Dream Team.
7. The artist may elect to incorporate some of the obstacles she encountered during the historic swim.

### **Requirements for Submission**

1. Only one proposal can be submitted per artist or team.
2. Attach a cover letter.
3. Attach a resume and biography.
4. Attach color photos of previous works.
5. Submit a narrative and description of the proposed Diana Nyad Monument and explain what you are trying to achieve in the design.
6. Attach a design drawing for the Diana Nyad Monument.
7. Provide a timeline for the various stages in the statue creation.
8. Submit an estimate for the project costs including all anticipated sculpture expenses related to the design and construction of the statue including: design of statue and pedestal, base, and other elements, maquette creation, and artist travel to and from Key West, Florida.
9. Provide three references with contact information.
10. Provide any other desired supplemental material.

### **Compensation**

The Diana Nyad Project will not compensate anyone for preparing or presenting a solicitation to this RFP.

### **Submission**

An original proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope with the artist's name and address clearly legible on the outside of the offer. Each proposal must include the original and ten copies of the full proposal. Proposals must be postmarked prior to May 1, 2014. The proposal and related materials will not be returned.

Submit all proposals to:

City of Key West

Attn: Art in Public Places/Nyad Project

P.O. Box 1409

Key West, FL 33041

### **Cancellation of RFP**

If there are no proposals which adequately meet the specifications in this document, the committee reserves the right to reject in whole or in part, all proposals submitted and/or cancel this RFP.

### **Evaluation**

The RFP is an information solicitation and offers received are a matter of public record. The proposals presented may be presented to the press, the public or the other government officials. Once submitted all proposals are the property of the committee. All proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Artistic excellence of the sample work submitted.
2. Proposed approach to the subject.
3. Experience in producing large-scale work.
4. Ability to carry out a nationally significant sculpture commission and do so in a timely manner.
5. Cost of the project.

The Diana Nyad Project Jury will conduct the evaluation in three phases.

Phase 1 – The Jury will review all proposals and select not more than ten semi-finalists. The semi-finalists will be given direction by The Jury based on a review of all submissions. All semi-finalists will receive the same feedback and have 30 days to revise their proposals based on The Jury's feedback.

Phase 2 – Based on the revised proposals The Jury will select not more than five finalists. Each finalist will receive a cash prize of \$1000. All finalists are required to create a maquette of the statue of Diana Nyad which will be the centerpiece of their design.

Phase 3 -All finalists will travel to Key West, Florida (travel expenses will be paid for) with their maquette to be personally interviewed by The Jury. During this interview finalists will present their design concept and answer questions by The Jury. Finalists will leave their maquette in Key West until a decision is reached. Once a decision is reached, all maquettes will be returned to the artist via UPS.

**Disclaimer**

Accuracy of information: Every effort has been made to include accurate information, instructions, and specifications necessary to tender this offer. However, neither the Diana Nyad Project Jury or any of its members, nor the City of Key West, Florida is legally responsible for the accuracy of this information.

**ADA**

Persons with Americans Disabilities Act status may request equitable accommodation by contacting the Diana Nyad Project Chairs. Please request accommodations as early as may be possible to allow time to arrange the facilitation of your needs.

**Contact**

Direct all questions in regard to this RFP to both Michael Shields at [javastudios@gmail.com](mailto:javastudios@gmail.com) and Dr. Lynette Long at [drlynettelong@gmail.com](mailto:drlynettelong@gmail.com).

## The Diana Nyad Project

On the morning of August 31, 2013, Diana Nyad swam from Cuba to Key West Florida, a distance of about 110 miles swimming without a shark cage but protected from jellyfish by a silicone mask, a full bodysuit, gloves and booties. She was accompanied by 35 team members, including navigators, managers, boat crew, weather routers, medical personnel, and shark experts. Nyad was also escorted by two paddlers in a kayaks equipped with an electronic shark shield. To keep Nyad swimming in a straight line, her specially designed, slow-moving catamaran support boat deployed a 10-foot (3.0 m) streamer: a long pole keeps the streamer several yards away from the boat, and the streamer is designed to remain about 5 feet underwater, so that Nyad can swim above it, much like following a lane line in a swimming pool. At night, the white streamer was replaced by a string of red LED lights. At approximately 1:55 pm EDT on September 2, 2013, Nyad reached Smathers beach in Key West, about 53 hours after she began her journey.

This was Diana Nyad's fifth attempt at the historic swim. Previous attempts at the swim were thwarted by a variety of problems.

"So many times I conjured the Florida beach, the palm trees, to get me through the hundreds of long, grueling training swims. Four times, in the previous attempts at the crossing from Cuba to Florida---be it otherworldly Box Jellyfish stings or a screeching Easterly Gulf Stream or roiling eddies spinning our boats' compasses in full circles or sustained sudden summer storms with life-threatening lightning and 45-mph winds---we were forced to abandon the beautiful Dream.... *Diana Nyad*

The City of Key West would like to memorialize this historic swim by creating a monument honoring Diana Nyad which will be placed in a prominent place in the city of Key West. In addition the city will place a plaque at Smathers Beach commemorating her swim.



## DIANA NYAD

Nyad was born in New York City on August 22, 1949, to stockbroker William L. Sneed Jr. and his wife Lucy Winslow Curtis (1925-2007). The Sneeds divorced in 1952, after which Lucy Sneed married Aristotle Z. Nyad, a Greek-Egyptian land developer, who adopted Diana and the family moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where she began swimming seriously in seventh grade. She attended Pine Crest School, swimming under the tutelage of Olympian and Hall of Fame coach Jack Nelson. She won three Florida state high school championships in the backstroke at 100 and 200 yards. She dreamed of swimming in the 1968 Summer Olympics, but in 1966 she spent three months in bed with endocarditis, an infection of the heart, and when she began swimming again she had lost speed.

Nyad graduated from Lake Forest College in Illinois with a degree in English and French. She played tennis for the *Foresters* and resumed swimming, concentrating on distance events. After graduating from college, she trained with Buck Dawson, director of the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Florida, who introduced her to marathon swimming.

Nyad has authored three books, *Other Shores* (Random House: September 1978) about her life and distance swimming, *Basic Training for Women* (Harmony Books: 1981), and in 1999 she wrote a biography of an NFL wide-receiver *Boss of Me: The Keyshawn Johnson Story*. She has also written for *The New York Times*, *Newsweek* magazine, and numerous other publications.

Nyad hosted the public radio program "The Savvy Traveler." She was a long-time weekly contributor to National Public Radio's afternoon news show *All Things Considered*. She was also a regular contributor to the CBS News television show *Sunday Morning*.

Nyad was inducted into the United States National Women's Sports Hall of Fame in 1986. She is also an International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame Honoree (1978) and an ISHOF Al Schoenfield Media Award recipient (2002). She is a Hall of Famer at both her college, Lake Forest College in Illinois and at her high school, Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale.

An independently produced documentary film, *The Other Shore*, was released in early 2013, some months before Nyad's first successful swim from Cuba to Florida.

### Distance Swimming Records

- **1974:** In June 1974, Nyad set a women's record of 8 hours, 11 minutes in the 22-mile (35 km) Bay of Naples race.
- **1975:** At age 26, Nyad made national headlines by swimming 28 miles (45 km) around the island of Manhattan (New York City) in just under 8 hours (7 hours 57 minutes.)
- **1978:** At age 28 she first attempted to swim from Havana, Cuba to Key West, one year after the [Kennedy-era travel restrictions](#) were lifted. Diving into the ocean at 2PM on Sunday August 13 from Ortegosa Beach (50 miles (80 km) west of Havana), she swam inside a 20 × 40-foot (6 × 12

m) steel shark cage for nearly 42 hours, before team doctors removed her during the 7 o'clock hour on the morning of Tuesday August 15 due to strong Westerly winds and 8-foot (2.4 m) swells that were slamming her against the cage and pushing her off-course towards Texas. She had covered about 76 miles (122 km), but not in a straight line.

- **1979:** In what was to be her last "competitive" swim on her 30th birthday (August 21–22, 1979), she set a world record for distance swimming (both men and women) over open water by swimming 102.5 miles (164 km) from North Bimini Island, Bahamas, to Juno Beach, Florida (without the use of protective shark cage). Thanks to favorable winds and a following sea she averaged 3.7 miles per hour (6.0 km/h) and completed the swim in 27 and one-half hours.
- **2013:** At 64 years old, Diana Nyad became the first person to swim without a shark cage from Cuba to the United States. The 103 mile swim took Nyad 53 hours. It was her fifth attempt.

More information about Diana Nyad can be found on her website [www.diananyad.com](http://www.diananyad.com)



Request for Proposal

Diana Nyad Monument

Date: April 1, 2014

Proposals must be post-marked by June 1, 2014

**Please read the attached instructions and comply with all the components of the RFP within the time frame allowed.**

Sculptor First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Person Authorized to Sign Offer \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Person Signing Offer \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Signing \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL COMPLETED PROPOSALS TO:**

City of Key West

Attn: Art in Public Places/Nyad Project

P.O. Box 1409

Key West, FL 33041