

Women Won't Forget

Artists and Engineers

Proposal Call Out

Women Won't Forget is a grassroots collective dedicated to remembering the lives of women murdered by men, and to working for change to end all forms of violence against women. We formed in 1989 following the murder of 14 women at L'École Polytechnique in Montreal and have continued our work ever since. For more information, please visit our website at: www.womenwontforget.org.

Every December 6th we organize a vigil at the memorial site on Philosopher's Walk at the University of Toronto (see map on website). Each year we create a large display which includes a marker for each woman who has been murdered in Ontario. This past year, all of the markers and other equipment were lost. As a result, we have decided to reach out to the artistic and engineering communities in order to find a new way to remember these women and to draw the community together on December 6th. If you or your group are concerned about the violence perpetrated against women in Ontario and around the world; if you would like to be part of the change involved in creating a world without misogyny and violence; and if you have a flair for artistically captivating and structurally sound designs, please consider contributing your ideas to our proposal call out.

Please see our website for more images of our December 6th Memorial Display.

Some things to take into account when creating a design:

1) Visual Impact

The previous display spanned a huge area of the hillside behind Varsity Arena. It was riveting for attendees and for anyone passing by on the walkway. The new design does not need to be that large but it does need to arrest people's attention and make a statement. The display needs to incorporate the hundreds upon hundreds of names of the murdered women we are honouring. You do not need to include the names in your design, we will do that, but you will need to include space for the names we already have, as well as noting how future names will be inserted into the display. We wish we didn't need to leave space for more names, but sadly, every year we need to add about 30 to 40 names.

2) Weather proof – Wind, Rain, Snow and Mud proof

The weather on December 6th is very unpredictable. The display needs to stand throughout the afternoon and evening, whatever the weather. It needs to be built to withstand pouring rain and strong winds. It needs to be able to be erected whether the ground is frozen solid or slick with mud.

3) Space

The display needs to be able to fit into the space available. If you are thinking of creating something very large, we suggest you take a look at multiple pictures of our previous display and visit the site (Avenue Rd. & Bloor) to get a better idea of the space, including the lay of the land as it involves a hillside, as well as a walkway that needs to be kept clear throughout the vigil.

4) Ease of Transportation

The display needs to be able to fit into a van or a car as we would not have access to a larger vehicle. It needs to be able to be loaded and unloaded from the vehicle by two people (neither of whom will likely be an Olympic weightlifter).

5) Ease of set up and take down

We are a small group of community members so, once the display is at the vigil site, it needs to be able to be set up, and later taken down, by a few people in as short a space of time as possible. It does not need to be an extremely fast set up, just think of something that could be erected by 3 or 4 people within a timeframe that is no more than five hours.

6) Cost – Budget

As we are a small grassroots group, we receive no funding except for donations from individuals, and occasionally groups, in the community. Therefore, the cost to create the display should take into account our limited budget.

7) Deadline

We are asking that all submissions be received by **June 30th, 2017**. Please include with your submission an estimate of the costs for materials to create the display.

8) Honorarium

We will present the chosen designer(s) with an honorarium of \$250 as well as acknowledgement on our 2017 program along with a link to the artist/engineer's website.

Please send all submissions to: womenwontforget@gmail.com

Please put **Vigil Display Proposal** in the subject line of your email. Thank you to everyone who responds.