

## **NAME OF OPPORTUNITY: Making Connections: A Peekskill Public Art Project**

### **OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW**

The Peekskill Arts Alliance (PAA), with funding from the Peekskill Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), seeks proposals from professional artists or artist collectives interested in creating site-specific art installations as part of the PAA's project "Making Connections." Artwork will be installed at 13 locations in Peekskill, 7 of which are included in this RFP, and may be printed and/or painted on aluminum sign writing panels, walls, or vinyl banners. The 7 sites for which proposals are requested are listed below and on the CAFÉ application site. The timeline for installation of the 7 projects will be staggered, with a "grand opening" of this and other DRI projects to take place in Fall 2023.

Please review all details in this document before making your submission.

**RFP DEADLINE:** Proposals must be submitted online via the link provided by January 15, 2022, 11:59PM, E.S.T. Artists will be notified of their selection as a finalist by February 28, , 2023.

**APPLICATION PORTAL** [https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals\\_unique\\_info.php?ID=11106](https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=11106)

### **BACKGROUND:**

Peekskill's award of \$10,000,000 as part of New York State's Downtown Revitalization Initiative promises to transform the City of Peekskill. In response to this opportunity, the PAA and Business Improvement District (BID) are co-sponsoring a large public art project, known as *Making Connections*. A total of \$137,000 has been allocated to this project from the DRI grant.

*Making Connections* includes a total of 13 proposed locations that will create art corridors, using murals and installations to connect the Peekskill Waterfront to the downtown and serve to engage residents and visitors in a unique cultural and historic experience, increase foot traffic and tourism, and improve the attractiveness of the downtown. Seven (7) of the proposed locations are included in this RFP. *Making Connections* will strengthen Peekskill's identity as an "Arts Community" by providing outdoor visible signs of artworks by local and nationally known professional artists.

The public artworks will:

- Be strategically placed to highlight gateways, local geography and cultural history
- Create art corridors that serve as wayfinding landmarks, or a navigational map
- Provide opportunities for community engagement and participation in creating public art
- Remain sensitive to the architectural integrity of historic areas while celebrating and enhancing our city's identity
- Result in a cohesive and thematically unique display of public art
- Include artwork that is site-specific, designed to best suit its location and appropriate for a public audience of all ages
- Stimulate business activity through art tourism in downtown Peekskill

We are proud of Peekskill’s diversity and intend to engage the community in this project. To that end, a collaborative component to several of the murals not included in this RFP has been integrated into our project. These installations will involve working with several different local community groups. .

These Public Art projects will stimulate opportunities for both professional mural artists and our local community to participate and will encourage input from key stakeholders, developers, and property owners. Visitors will admire the creative public art presentations as natural extensions of what Peekskill is and will be.

**THE SITES**

***Installations at privately owned sites will be subject to approval by the owners. Projects at community-based settings will require cultural sensitivity and coordinating groups of community members. Similarly, projects on municipal property, DOT, and MTA property will require approval of relevant authorities.***

Site	Private or Public	Theme	Artist Fee	Total Budget including Artist Fee, Materials and Installation
Bean Runner Café	Private	Jazz	\$750	\$2,250
Peekskill Coffee House	Private	Historic Image of Peekskill Harbor from Hudson River School	\$1,200	\$2,900
The Central Café	Private	History of the Railroad in Peekskill	\$1,500	\$4,500
Peekskill Police Station	Municipal	TBD	\$1,000	\$4,700
Peekskill Brewery	Private	TBD by Owner	\$1,000	\$2,700
Between Dain’s and the Lincoln Depot Museum	Municipal	Abolitionists	\$1,500	\$7,500
Fern Tree	Private	Underground Railroad	\$3,800	\$10,000

**HOW TO APPLY:**

All submissions must be made electronically, via our online application portal, using the following link: xxxxxx

No submissions via email, mail, or in-person shall be accepted.

Artists interested in being considered for this opportunity must submit the following:

1. A current resume/CV, particularly highlighting relevant experience (required)
2. Artist statement (required)
3. Minimum of 5, up to 10 images of original completed artworks (Work Samples) (required)
4. Work Samples Checklist (required)
5. Letter of interest (required)
6. 3 professional references or reviews of completed artworks

Artists will be asked to identify their preferred opportunity(ies) from among the 7 designated sites. Artists may apply for up to 3 opportunities. Proposals for sites for which themes are listed must relate to those themes. Please include a vision statement in your proposal for each site **If you are proposing new work please include a rendering of what you are proposing. If you are proposing existing work, please include images of that work.**

#### **SELECTION PROCESS & CRITERIA:**

A curatorial committee will review all eligible artist submissions. The committee will include representatives from the Peekskill art community. Finalists' proposals will then be reviewed by a DRI Overview Committee and the private property owners, then will be submitted to the City of Peekskill Common Council for final approval. During the selection process, artists may be asked for additional information to clarify their applications.

Submissions will be evaluated by the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence and originality as evidenced by representations of past work images and other supporting materials.
- Appropriateness of artist's medium, style, and previous experience as they relate to the project goals and setting.
- Experience with projects of a similar scale and scope.
- Ability to participate in the design and implementation of the project as required.

Additional responsibilities of the selected Artists include, but are not limited to:

- The Artist shall be available with reasonable advance notice for a limited number of meetings required to coordinate design and project implementation, ceremonies, press conferences and photo opportunities and the like, as necessary.
- The Artist shall provide a maintenance manual with a description of all materials, processes and products utilized in the Artwork and the required care and upkeep involved, as well as recommended procedures in the event of necessary conservation.
- The Artist shall guarantee the work to be free from faults of materials and workmanship for one year after completion. If the artwork deteriorates within the one-year timeframe, the artist will be responsible for repairing the work at his/her own expense.

#### **TIMELINE & PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Proposals due January 15, 2023 by 11:59PM EST

Finalist notifications on or around February 28, 2023.

Detailed timelines will be provided to artist finalists prior to the review of their proposals by the required government authorities.

**PROJECT CONTACTS:** All questions about this opportunity should be directed to [drimakingconnections@gmail.com](mailto:drimakingconnections@gmail.com)

