



News Release

For Immediate Release: April 6, 2018

Durham Invites Public Art Submissions for Neighborhood Park Murals *May 16 Submission Deadline*

DURHAM, N.C. – Local and regional artists are invited to [apply for a new public art project](#) to be displayed at four City of Durham-owned parks.

The City of Durham General Services Department, Durham Parks and Recreation, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and the Durham Cultural Advisory Board's Public Art Committee invite qualified North Carolina artists or artist teams to submit qualifications to design, fabricate, and install mural or ground plane public art at Garrett Road Park, Sherwood Park, Solite Park, and Whipoorwill Park.

These four new locations are an extension of the Neighborhood Park Mural Project pilot initiative launched in spring 2017 at Southern Boundaries Park. At that location, Durham artists Julia Gartrell and Julienne Alexander created a mural on the exterior walls of the park's newly renovated bathroom facility. Gartrell and Alexander held two photo shoots with local residents to obtain silhouettes in action. After the photographs were taken, they projected and painted the images on the facility walls to complete the mural.

Now, this initiative is extending to Garrett Road Park, Sherwood Park, Solite Park, and Whipoorwill Park. Public art at these locations should promote activity, creativity, playfulness, and relevance to the specific park location. The City will give preference to artists/artist teams whose proposals incorporate community engagement. Application materials include: statement of interest, annotated samples of previous work relevant to project, project personnel resume(s), and references. The deadline for submissions is May 16, 2018. North Carolina residents over the age of 18 are eligible to submit to the call for art. Full submission guidelines, project details, and submission portal are [available here](#).

To further help artists connect with future public art opportunities, the City has a [Durham Calls for Artists](#) page on its website, which lists a number of upcoming opportunities. Artists and other stakeholders who would like to be notified of current and future art-related opportunities and news can sign up for alerts through the [Cultural and Public Art mailing list](#).

For more information about the City's Public Art Program, visit the [public art webpage](#). Artists interested in more information about this neighborhood mural park project may also contact Senior Economic Development Coordinator Brian Smith with the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development at (919) 560-4965, ext. 15205 or Brian.Smith@DurhamNC.gov, or Project Manager Jessica Kemp within the City's General Services Department at (919) 560-4197, ext. 21234 or Jessica.Kemp@DurhamNC.gov.

About the City of Durham General Services Department

The [General Services Department](#) builds and maintains City properties to make Durham a great place for people to live, work, and play. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department's core functions include the acquisition and sale of properties, design and management of new

construction and renovation projects, building maintenance, landscaping and urban forestry services, cemeteries management, sustainability and energy management, and supporting the nonprofit [Keep Durham Beautiful](#).

About the City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department

[Durham Parks and Recreation Department](#) provides opportunities for the Durham community to ‘Play More’ by connecting the whole community to wellness, the outdoors, and lifelong learning. To learn more, follow on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#), or call (919) 560-4355.

About the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Guided by the City’s [Strategic Plan](#), the [Office of Economic and Workforce Development](#) helps ensure that Durham has a strong and diverse economy by increasing the city’s tax base through several revitalization initiatives, including new development efforts in the central city area. The department also plans and promotes cultural awareness and events, identifies and recruits target industries as well as assesses and trains Durham residents to fill new jobs.

About the City of Durham Public Art Committee

The [Public Art Committee](#) serves as an advisory body to the Durham City Council and the City Manager, and its functions include assisting the City’s Office of Economic and Workforce Development on matters relating to public art; implementation of the Public Art Policy; and reviewing proposals for public art projects brought to it by the City administration; and making recommendations to the [Cultural Advisory Board](#) regarding project approvals.

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