



News Release

For Immediate Release: October 1, 2018

Durham Announces Art Banner Design Contest Winner

Banners to Soon Adorn New Downtown Parking Garage

DURHAM, N.C. – Wondering whose work will soon be on display on the City of Durham’s under-construction [Downtown Mixed-Use Parking Garage](#)?

The City’s Public Art Program has announced that Gabriel Eng-Goetz is the winner of the Durham Art Banner Design Contest held earlier this summer. Eng-Goetz’s winning design, entitled “Leading the Charge,” will be printed on a series of artful banners to adorn the southern façade of this new facility opening in early 2019, which is located at the intersections of Mangum Street, Morgan Street, and Rigsbee Avenue in downtown Durham.

Eng-Goetz, who was born in Durham, is an artist and designer residing in the Bull City. Eng-Goetz practiced art from an early age, and after graduating from Syracuse University, he returned to the Triangle and founded a clothing and lifestyle company, [RUNAWAY](#), as a means of reconnecting with the local creative community.

Earlier this summer, this public art opportunity was open to all talented and creative people living or working in the Research Triangle area. Applicants were asked to develop and submit a design proposal for eight artful banners to be displayed on the parking garage. The City’s Cultural Advisory Board and the Public Art Committee reviewed 34 design proposals submitted by the deadline, and selected five finalists. The finalists for the Durham Art Banner Design Contest were Lidia Churakova, Gabriel Eng-Goetz, Lief Gann-Matzen, Madiha Malik, and Jessica Sandford. Each finalist was awarded a \$500 honorarium for their submission. The finalists’ design proposals were then displayed on the City’s [webpage](#), during which the community was asked to vote online for their favorite design. Over 3,460 community members cast their votes, with Eng-Goetz receiving the most votes at 1,219. He will now be awarded a \$7,500 honorarium and have his winning design professionally printed and installed by the City’s General Services Department.

For more information about this contest, contact Special Projects Manager Stacey Poston with the City’s Public Art Program at (919) 560-4197, ext. 21254 or by [email](#).

About the City of Durham General Services Department

The [General Services Department](#) creates, manages, and maintains City properties to provide best value to the Durham community. The core business functions include: Administration/Business Services, Facilities Operations, Landscape Services, Urban Forestry, Real Estate, Project Management, Cemeteries, the Public Art Program, and [Keep Durham Beautiful](#). As guided by the City’s [Strategic Plan](#), General Services serves as a steward of the City’s physical and environmental assets. Through annual and long-range facility planning activities, the department plans, provides, and maintains the City’s facilities infrastructure, which supports the community’s quality of life and serves as a foundation of a healthy economy.

About the City of Durham Transportation Department

The [Transportation Department](#) is responsible for a broad range of transportation services, which include traffic signs and signals, transportation planning, [parking operations](#), street lighting, taxicab administration, and bicycle and pedestrian planning. The department also oversees [GoDurham](#) and [GoDurham ACCESS](#) as well as leads planning functions for the [Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization](#) (DCHC MPO), which is the regional organization that is responsible for planning and programming state and federal transportation projects in the urbanized areas of Durham, Orange, and Chatham counties. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department helps to strengthen the foundation, enhance the value, and improve the quality and sustainability of neighborhoods that are necessary for a strong and diverse community. For more information, follow the department on [Twitter](#).

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 General Services Department 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. To further help artists connect with future public art opportunities, the City has a [Durham Calls for Artists](#) webpage, which lists a number of upcoming opportunities for artists in and around Durham. Artists and other stakeholders who would like to be notified of current and future art-related opportunities and news can also 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](#).

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101 City Hall Plaza, Second Floor, Durham, NC 27701

919.560.4123

[DurhamNC.gov](#)

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