

2016

Community Commissions

Request for Proposals



Arts Gowanus and Ruth Hofheimer
Greenery
4th Avenue and Prospect Avenue(Brooklyn)

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Since the launch of the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) Art Program in October 2008, DOT Art has installed over 200 engaging temporary art installations throughout New York City. The Program partners with community-based organizations and artists to present murals, sculptures, projections and performances on public property. These temporary art installations create attractive corridors and activate public space for passersby. Projects are presented within four program tracks: Community Commissions, Barrier Beautification, Arterventions and Art Display Case Exhibits. Additionally, DOT Art produces special projects, such as: the 191 St Tunnel Beautification Project, Summer Streets Interventions and Asphalt Art Activations.

COMMUNITY COMMISSIONS BACKGROUND

Community Commissions is the program that commissions artists to produce temporary site-responsive art in collaboration with community-based organizations. Twice a year in fall and spring, NYCDOT owned plazas, fences, medians, triangles, sidewalks and step streets in all five boroughs are announced as priority sites for art. NYCDOT Borough Offices and Operating Units identify sites that are: 1) in need of beautification; 2) large enough to accommodate artwork; and 3) accessible to a large audience. (Appendix A: Spring Priority Site List.)

Organizations are invited to submit proposals in response to the priority site list by a firm deadline. Artwork commissioned through this program may remain installed for up to 11 months. Selected organizations are eligible to receive up to \$8,000 toward direct project costs. Also, NYCDOT arranges for an engineering review by a NYS licensed engineer for all sculptural works and provides the necessary permits to install on City-owned property. NYCDOT may also provide additional services on a case-by-case basis to assist with project implementation; i.e. material donation and installation assistance.

Past examples of successful Community Commissions projects include: Arts Gowanus and Ruth Hofheimer, *Greenery*, 4th Avenue and Prospect Avenue, Brooklyn; Montserrat Daubon and Pedro Villalta, *Shipwreck*, West 155th Street and Riverside Drive, Manhattan; Arts Gowanus and Miguel Del Real, *Intersections*, 4th Avenue and Prospect Avenue, Brooklyn; North Brooklyn Public Coalition, Open Space Alliance and Magda Sayeg, *Plan Ahead*, Kent Avenue between South 5th Street and South 6th Street, Brooklyn; Freshkills Park Alliance and Kirk Finkel, *NEST*, St. George Ferry Terminal, Staten Island; and Kingsbridge Heights Community Center and Laura Alvarez, *KHCC Grows*, 231st Street and Kingsbridge Terrace, Bronx. (Appendix B: Past Community Commissions.) For additional photos of past Community Commissions, visit www.flickr.com/photos/nycstreets.

PROGRAM PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

NYCDOT works closely with selected applicants to implement projects within six months of approval. The DOT Art Program Director, the artist, a representative from the partner organization and other NYCDOT staff make up the project team. Throughout implementation, the project team meets to review design, discuss the budget, develop a project schedule, assess the engineering documentation and sign the legal agreement. The artist is responsible for design and fabrication of the artwork. The partner organization is responsible for: 1) overseeing artwork fabrication and installation; 2) maintaining artwork during the display period; 3) removing artwork upon completion of the display period; 4) restoring the site to its original condition; and 5) processing funds from NYCDOT to the artist.

All selected applicants must sign a legal agreement with NYCDOT and provide a certificate of insurance naming the City as an additional insured. As per the agreement, the artist receives credit, sole ownership, and copyright of the final design and artwork, but is required to extend to the City the right to a royalty-free, perpetual license to use any depiction of the artwork for non-commercial purposes.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Organizations are invited to submit proposals for the listed priority sites by **Friday, April 29, 2016**. Applicants are notified of selection within two months of the submission deadline. Funding is not guaranteed with project selection.

Interested organizations and artists are required to submit a joint application. Organizations are permitted to receive multiple commissions per fiscal year when applying with different artists. However, artists are only eligible to receive one commission per fiscal year. All applicants must select a priority site and provide a conceptual design for consideration.

For submission specifications, review the Community Commissions Application Cover Sheet.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Art Advisory Committee, a panel of appointed arts professionals from varying disciplines, reviews all proposals based on the following selection criteria:

Public Safety

- Proposal does not present any public safety hazards.

Artistic Merit

- Proposed artwork is aesthetically pleasing and appropriate for the public realm.
- Artist's past work demonstrates proficiency in the proposed medium.
- Artist has exhibited in the public or private realm and participated in team and/or community-based art projects.

Site Suitability

- Artwork is suitable for the site based on size, scale, and form.
- Proposal considers the variety of audiences at the site.
- Proposal considers the social, historical, architectural, geographical and/or cultural context of the site.
- Proposal illustrates community involvement during design, fabrication, and/or installation.

Organizational Capacity

- Organization has experience planning public programs and/or public art projects.
- Organization agrees to monitor and maintain the artwork.
- Organization has secured additional funding to cover the total budget.

Artwork Durability

- Artwork will be made of durable materials to withstand outdoor weather conditions.
- Artwork is carefully planned ensuring sound fabrication and installation.

ADDITIONAL LEGAL INFORMATION

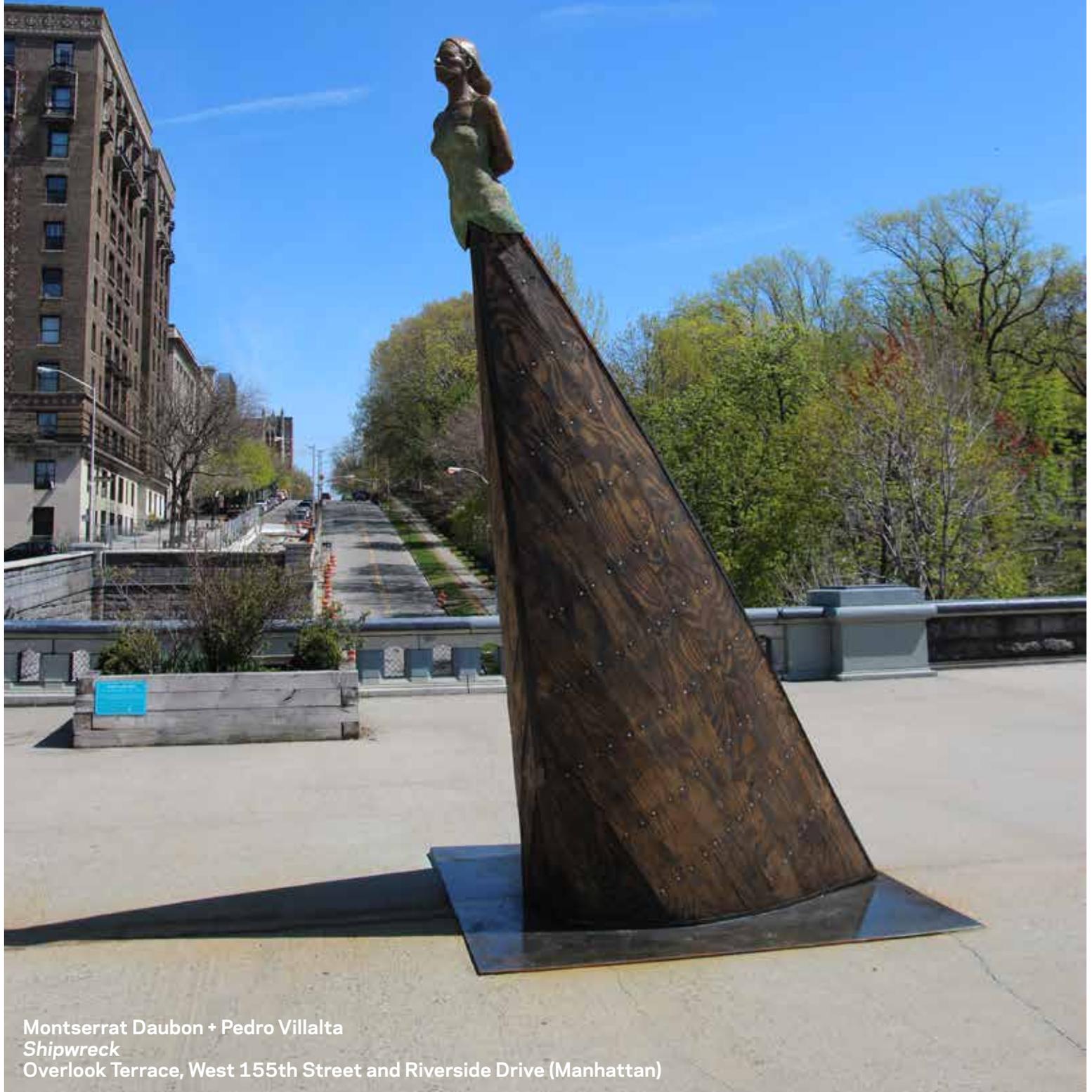
Please note the following:

- This RFP is not intended as a formal offering for the award of a contract or for participation in any future solicitation;
- NYCDOT does not intend to grant or issue any additional agreements on the basis of this RFP;
- NYCDOT, the City and their officials, agents and employees make no representation or warranty and assume no responsibility for the accuracy of the information set forth in this RFP;
- No information contained in submissions shall be deemed confidential and such information may be shared with other governmental entities. Therefore, please do not submit any information that may be deemed proprietary in nature;
- Neither NYCDOT nor the City shall be liable for any costs incurred by any respondent in the preparation, submittal, presentation or revision of its submission. Neither NYCDOT nor the City shall be obligated to pay and shall not pay any costs in connection with the preparation of such submissions;
- All submissions shall become the property of NYCDOT and the City and shall not be returned; and
- NYCDOT at its sole discretion reserves, without limitation, the right to;
 - Withdraw the RFP at any time;
 - To discuss various approaches with one or more respondents (including parties not responding to the RFP); and
 - Change any terms of this RFP.

QUESTIONS

All inquiries regarding Community Commissions should be sent to: arts@dot.nyc.gov.

Appendix A: Spring Priority Site List



Montserrat Daubon + Pedro Villalta
Shipwreck
Overlook Terrace, West 155th Street and Riverside Drive (Manhattan)

SPRING PRIORITY SITE LIST

BRONX

Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and East Fordham Road (adjacent to Bronx Zoo)

Step Street: Naples Terrace between Broadway and Goodwin Terrace

BROOKLYN

Plaza: Putnam Plaza, Putnam Avenue at Grand Street

Chain-link fence: Livonia Avenue between Van Sinderen Avenue and Junius Street

MANHATTAN

Sidewalk: 97th Street between Columbus Avenue and Amsterdam Avenue

Sidewalk: Riverside Drive and Dyckman Street

QUEENS

Sidewalk: Beach 21st Street and Mott Avenue (DOT Municipal Parking Lot)

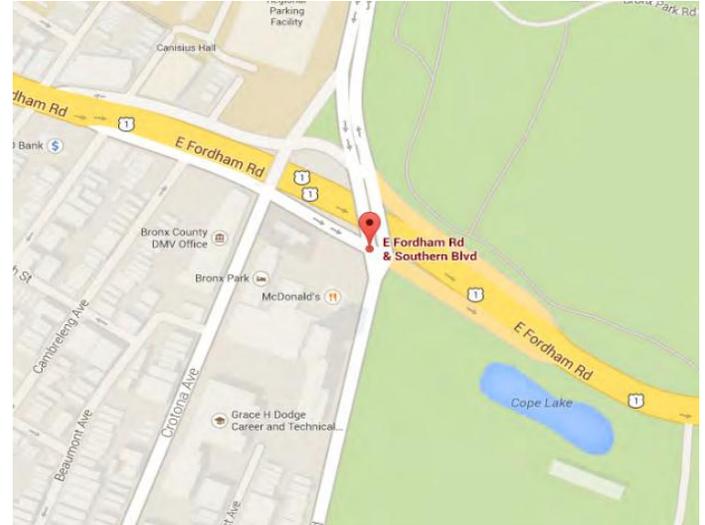
Corrugated Fence: Vernon Boulevard and Queens Plaza South

STATEN ISLAND

Chain-link fence: Bay Street and Victory Boulevard

Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and East Fordham Road (adjacent to Bronx Zoo)
BRONX

Site Photo + Map



Past sidewalk installation for reference:

Carin Mincemoyer, *Dandelions*, 97th Street between Columbus Avenue and Amsterdam Avenue (Manhattan)



Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Artwork must be installed at a minimum of 20' from the zoo fencing.

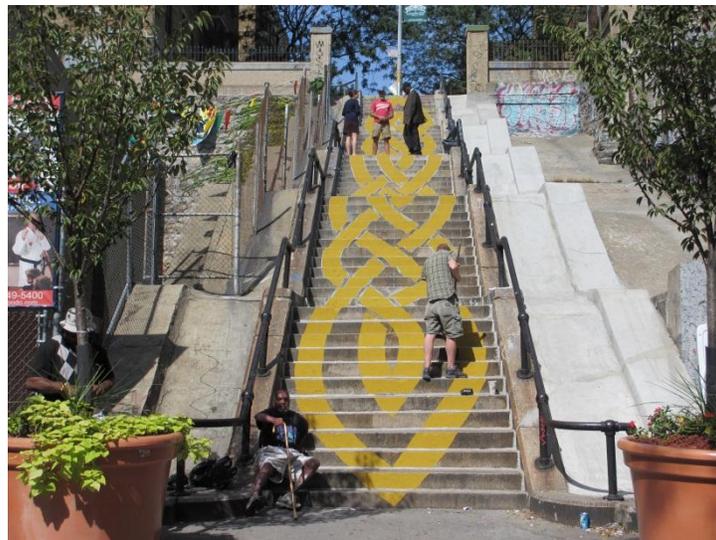
Step Street: Naples Terrace between Broadway and Goodwin Terrace
BRONX

Site Photo + Map



Past step street installation for reference:

Steed Taylor, *The Bridge & The Devil*, Naples Terrace between Broadway and Goodwin Terrace (Bronx)

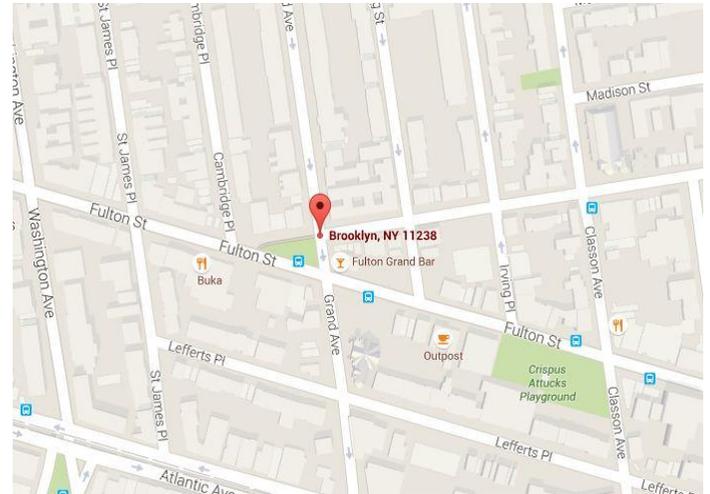


Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** two-dimensional proposals will be considered for the staircase of the step street.
- A mural may be painted directly onto the concrete. Parachute cloth, vinyl decals and/or other forms of canvas may not be installed onto the staircase of the step street.

Putnam Plaza: Putnam Avenue at Grand Street
BROOKLYN

Site Photo + Map



Past plaza installation for reference:
Hana Liden, *Everything*, Christopher Street and 6th Avenue (Manhattan)



Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** sculptures will be considered for the plaza.
- Artwork will be installed in the center of the plaza.

Chain-link fence: Livonia Avenue between Van Sinderen Avenue and Junius Street BROOKLYN

Site Photo + Map



Past chain-link fence installation for reference:

Lina Montoya, *Las Mariposas Amarillas*, Richmond Terrace and Jewett Avenue (Staten Island)

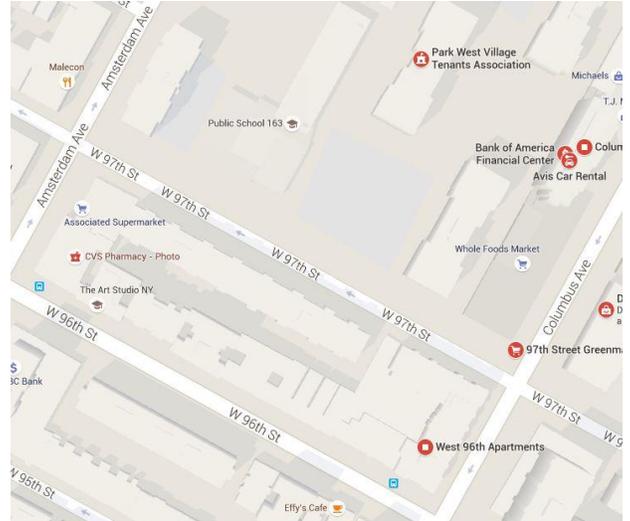
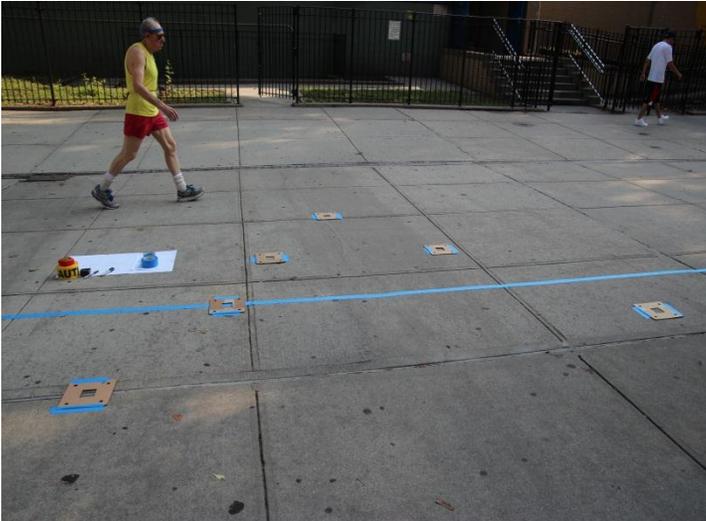


Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** exterior grade materials such as, yarn, fabric, zip ties, etc. that can be easily and installed and removed will be approved.
- The proposed design must allow for visibility and cannot completely cover the chain-link fence.

Sidewalk: 97th Street between Columbus Avenue and Amsterdam Avenue MANHATTAN

Site Photo + Map



Past sidewalk installation for reference:

Carin Mincemoyer, *Dandelions*, 97th Street between Columbus Avenue and Amsterdam Avenue (Manhattan)



Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Artwork will be installed at a minimum of 20' from buildings.

Sidewalk: Riverside Drive and Dyckman Street MANHATTAN

Site Photo + Map



Past sidewalk installation for reference:

Montserrat Daubón & Pedro Villalta, *Pod*, Lenox Avenue at 124th Street (Manhattan)



Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Artwork will be installed in the center of the island.

Sidewalk: Beach 21st Street and Mott Avenue (DOT Municipal Parking Lot)
QUEENS

Site Photo + Map



Past sidewalk installation for reference:

Montserrat Daubón & Pedro Villalta, *Shipwreck*, West 155th Street and Riverside Drive (Manhattan)



Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.

Corrugated Fence: Vernon Boulevard and Queens Plaza South QUEENS

Site Photo + Map



Past fence installation for reference:

Mohamed Sharkawy, *Birds*, Vernon Boulevard and Queens Plaza South (Queens)

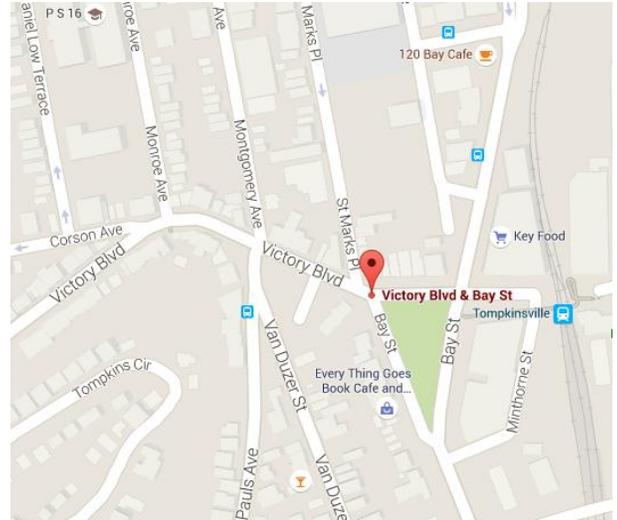


Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** two-dimensional proposals will be considered for the fence.

Chain-link fence: Bay Street and Victory Boulevard STATEN ISLAND

Site Photo + Map



Past chain-link fence installation for reference:

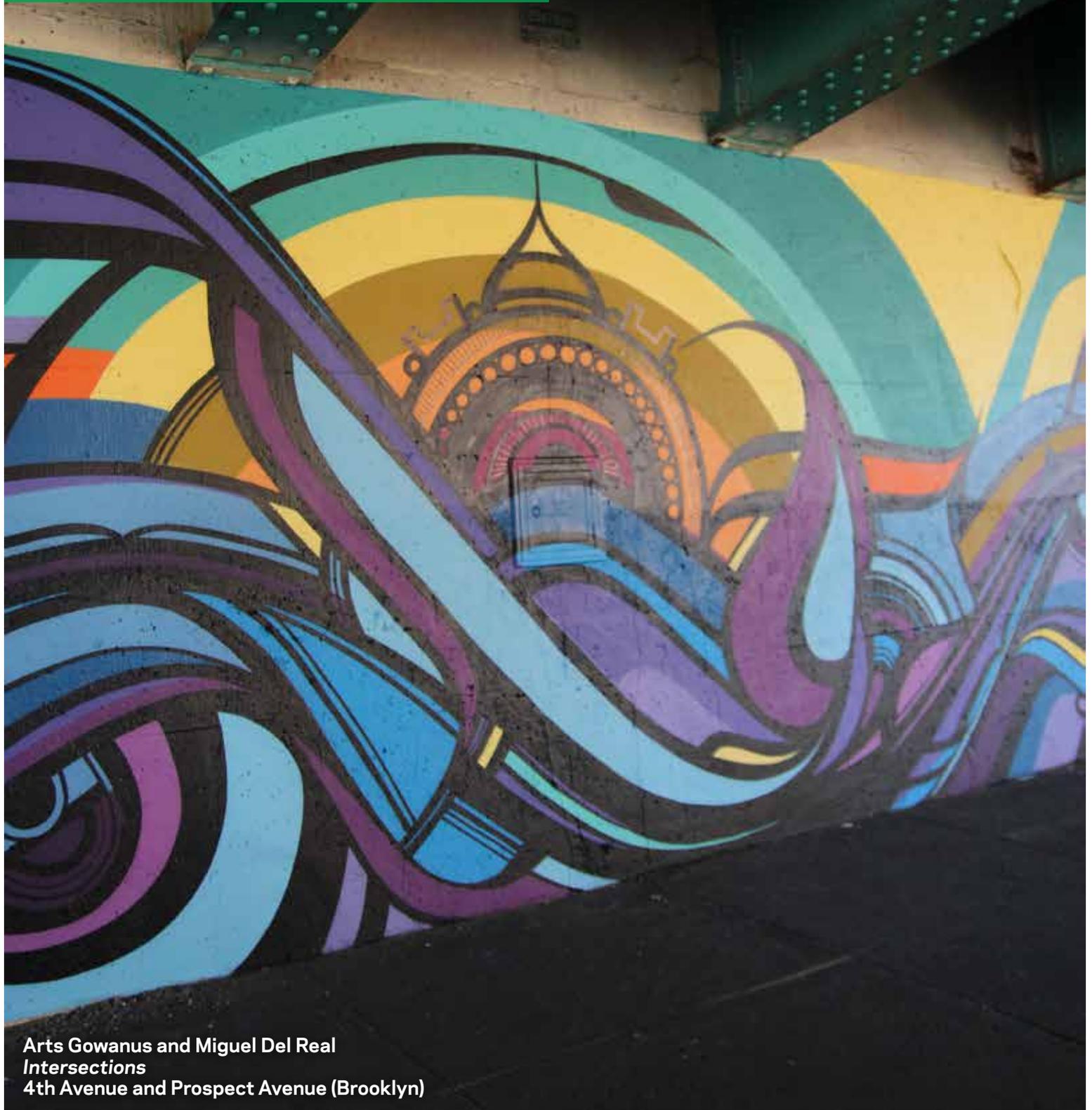
Lina Montoya, *Las Mariposas Amarillas*, Richmond Terrace and Jewett Avenue (Staten Island)



Restrictions/Considerations:

- **Only** exterior grade materials such as, yarn, fabric, zip ties, etc. that can be easily and installed and removed will be approved.
- The proposed design must allow for visibility and cannot completely cover the chain-link fence.

Appendix B: Past Community Commissions



Arts Gowanus and Miguel Del Real
Intersections
4th Avenue and Prospect Avenue (Brooklyn)

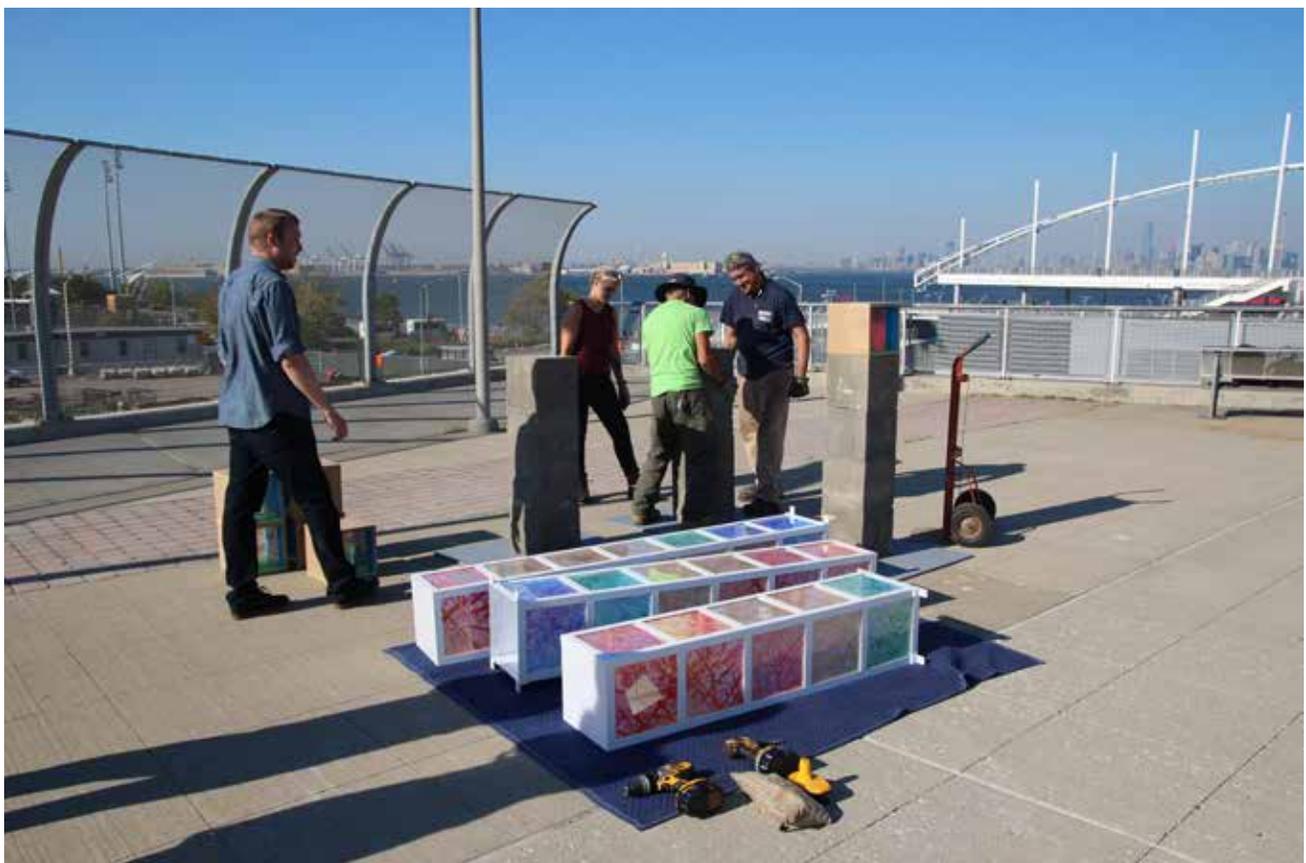
North Brooklyn Public Coalition, Open Space Alliance and Magda Sayeg
Plan Ahead
Fence: Kent Avenue between South 5th Street and South 6th Street, Brooklyn



Freshkills Park Alliance and Kirk Finkel

NEST

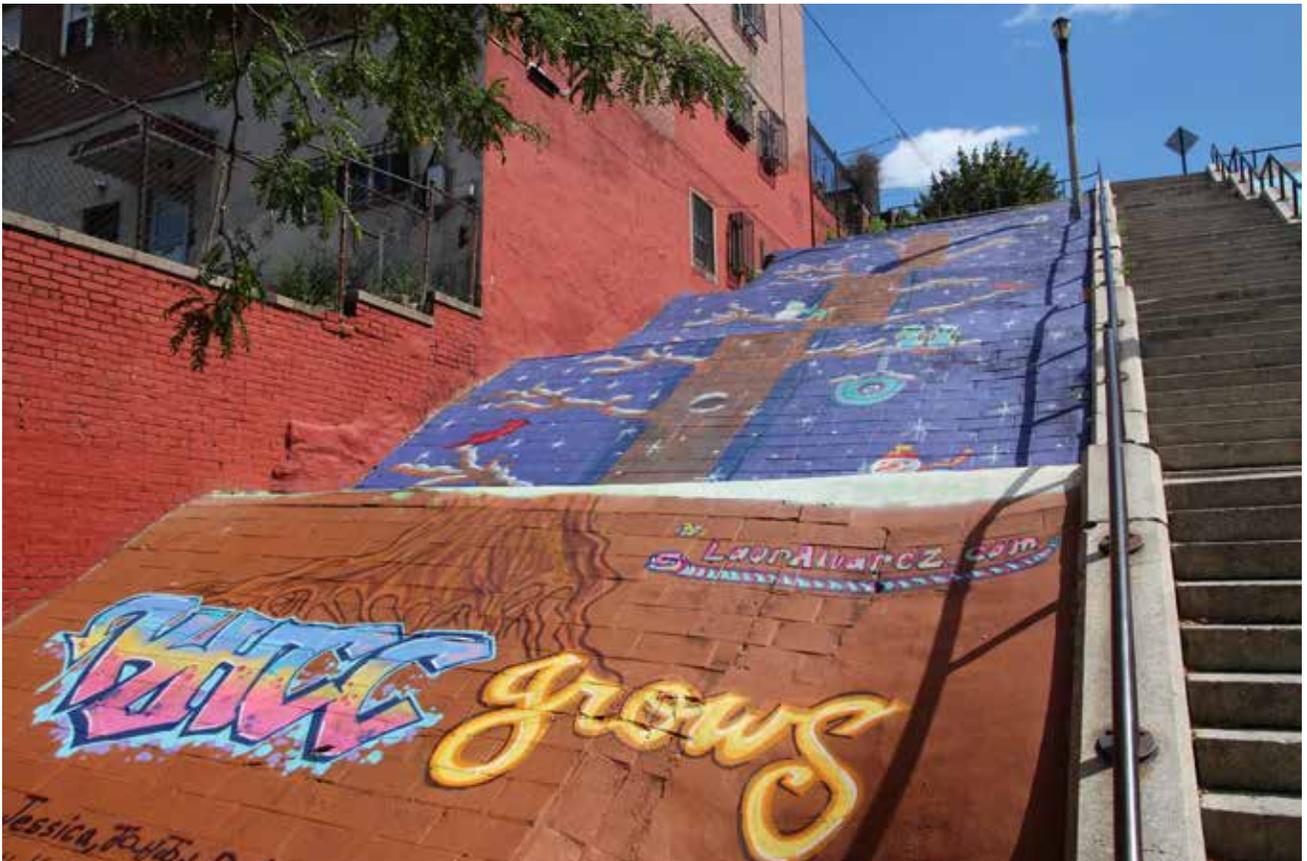
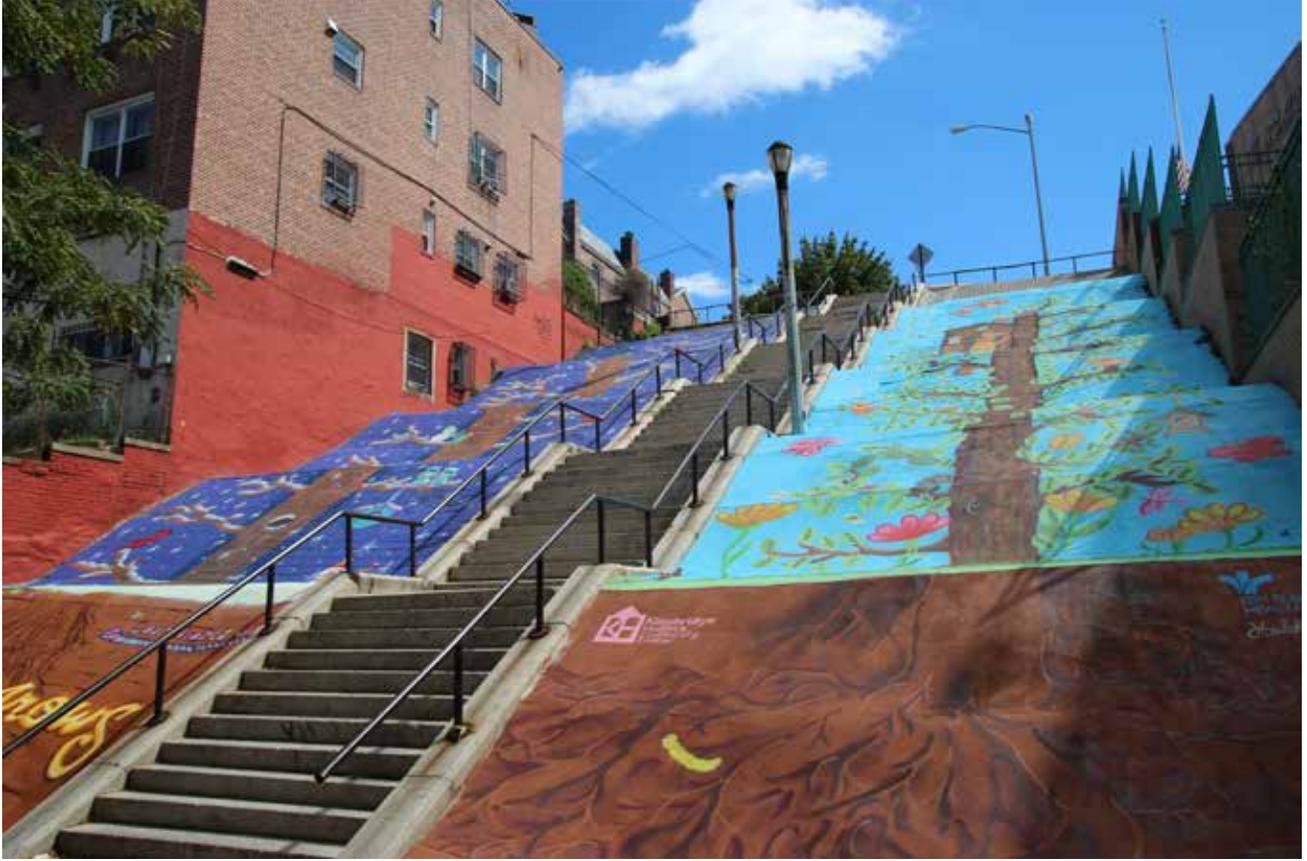
St. George Ferry Terminal: Richmond Terrace Plaza (Staten Island)



Kingsbridge Heights Community Center and Laura Alvarez

KHCC Grows

Step Street: 231st Street and Kingsbridge Terrace (Bronx)



Community Commissions

Application Cover Sheet

GENERAL INFORMATION

Submission Date: _____

Site Selection: _____

Organization Name: _____

Artist Name: _____

Project Title: _____

Artwork Type: Sculpture Mural Lighting Design Intervention Other

Materials: _____

Proposed Installation Date: _____ **Funding Request:** _____

Materials should be submitted as printed hardcopies and included on either a CD-ROM or USB flash drive. Proposals will be reviewed by the Art Advisory Committee. All items must be included as part of the submission package or applications will not be reviewed.

- Community Commissions Application Form;
- No more than 4 project renderings (include: sketches, site plan, and Photoshop renderings);
- No more than 4 photographs of past artwork in jpeg format (resolution of 72 to 150 dpi) and associated image list that includes: title, date of completion, medium, dimensions, location, sale price or commission budget, description of artwork, and list of partners;
- Artist curriculum vitae; and
- Organization support letter.

All application materials should be mailed to:

**Attn: Emily Colasacco, Art Program Director
NYC Department of Transportation, Urban Design + Art + Wayfinding
55 Water Street, 9th Fl, NY, NY 10041**

Community Commissions

Application

Organization Name: _____

Executive Director: _____

Contact Name & Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **Phone #:** _____

Email: _____ **Website:** _____

Organizational Background Describe your organization's mission and include one strong example of a community-based project.

Site Selection Describe your organization's interest in commissioning an artwork for the selected priority site.

Project Description/Artist Statement Describe the overall concept and approach for the proposed artwork and its consideration for the social, historical, architectural, geographical and/or cultural context of the site.

Community Commissions

Application

Community Involvement Describe your community outreach strategy and include a list of local stakeholders you plan to involve during design, fabrication and/or installation.

Artist Bio Describe the artist's past experience in any significant solo or group exhibitions in the public or private realm.

Project Budget

What is the estimated total project budget? _____

Provide a line item budget (Artist Fee, Materials, Fabrication, Equipment Rental, Transportation, Installation, Maintenance, and Removal):

Community Commissions

Application

How much funding is being requested from NYCDOT? _____

How much funding is already committed for the project? _____

Fabrication/Installation Describe the fabrication and installation methods and include a list of relevant materials, hardware and equipment required to produce and install the artwork.

Maintenance Describe the proposed maintenance plan to monitor and maintain the artwork throughout the display period and include any potential maintenance concerns given the proposed materials.

Project Schedule

Provide a tentative schedule for implementation.

Installation _____

Display Period _____

Removal _____