

## **Call for Maryland Artists**

### **Public Art Project**

The Hagerstown Cultural Trail - Hagerstown, Maryland

### **Storied Playscape Sculpture**

The City of Hagerstown seeks an artist to create a permanent sculpture adjacent to the Hagerstown Cultural Trail near Park Circle. The City plans to apply for a *Public Art Across Maryland* (PAAM) New Artworks Grant to fund the work. To be eligible, the lead artist must be a Maryland resident (owning or renting residential real property in Maryland at the time of submission of the application and throughout the funded project or program). This artist call is presented in partnership with the Washington County Arts Council.

### **Project Summary**

The Hagerstown Cultural Trail is a multi-use walkway connecting the rich attractions of the Arts & Entertainment District in Hagerstown's historic downtown with The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts and City Park. Often called one of the most beautiful parks in the nation, City Park is an important historic and cultural destination.

The first phase of the Trail opened in 2017 and is one of eight catalyst projects in the Hagerstown community's ambitious roadmap to spur development in its City Center. The ten-foot wide, half-mile long brick Trail is beautifully landscaped, very well-lit and features a chain of ten (10) unique public art installations, public plazas, and other inactive features such as geocaching, history interpretations and resting benches. The final phase of the project was completed in May 2022.

At the midpoint of the Trail, the \$60 million "Multi Use Sports and Events Center" is currently under construction by the Maryland Stadium Authority and will be the home of the new Hagerstown professional baseball team and other events. The Trail will be the main pedestrian access to this facility from the north (downtown) and points south (City Park).

The City of Hagerstown has made public art central to the Trail. Its many public spaces showcase unusual and diverse public artworks by leading local, regional, and national artists. The scale and style of the public art is diverse, from small installations that must be discovered to dramatic statement pieces that are visible from long distances. For a Current Trail brochure, information on the Trail's vision, goals and planning priorities, entrants are encouraged to visit [hagerstownculturaltrail.com](https://hagerstownculturaltrail.com).

In the City-owned 0.4 acre triangular-shaped land parcel adjacent the Cultural Trail near Park Circle and Virginia Avenue, the City has an agreement with the Clara Barton Memorial Committee and renowned sculptor Toby Mendez to create a larger-than life bronze sculpture of Ms. Barton attending to a wounded soldier. A rendering is below:



This \$1 million sculpture will be installed in 2023 and located on the south end of the parcel. The conceptual improvement plan for the parcel is attached as Exhibit 'A' and was prepared by *Mahan Rykiel & Associates*. The plan depicts a possible art location and some precedent images of possible art. The proposed sidewalks, lighting and landscaping shown on the plan are all being designed and the City plans to bid the work in February, 2023. The improvements are funded by the City

For the proposed use of the balance of the parcel, utilizing a *Public Art Across Maryland* (PAAM) Planning Grant, the City solicited public input at a public meeting on site on July 20, 2022. The findings of that public meeting are attached as Exhibit 'B'.

The City seeks artists to create a permanent art that is envisioned to be a whimsical storied playscape, visually appealing and family friendly that will pay respect to either one or both of the following:

- The **trolley system** that operated throughout the City, the importance of the **railroad industry** to Hagerstown making it the "Hub City" of rail activity in the region,
- The creation of the first **book mobile** in North America by librarian Mary Titcomb, who's former home is directly across Summit Avenue from this site.

The City seeks art with appeal to visitors of all ages on both visual and conceptual levels. Sculptures should be stimulating to the imagination and enrich and transform the environment. Artwork must be integrated into the fabric of the site to create visual drama in their public setting yet be appropriate to the scale of the available land.

Sculptural elements shall be created with durable materials. The selection panel is open to salvaged materials, or any materials and approaches that are safe and low maintenance in permanent outdoor settings.

## Eligibility

To be eligible, the lead artist must be a Maryland resident (owning or renting residential real property in Maryland at the time of submission of the application and throughout the funded project or program. Artists must show applicable experience on similar scale, public projects. Artist(s) must enter into an agreement with the City of Hagerstown and comply with all PAAM Guidelines.

## Timeline

12/16/22	Call Released
01/10/23	Last Day for Questions
01/13/23	Answers to all questions posted
01/24/23	Submissions due by 5 pm EST
01/27/23	Selection Panel short lists up to five (5) proposals
02/02/23	*Selection panel interviews the five artists in person or by video conference and selects two artists to submit concepts. Utilizing grant funds to facilitate the artist selection process, the City will pay a \$1,000 honorarium to both of these artists to prepare sketches/models of art.
03/01/23	**Artist Interviews and presentation of concepts
03/03/23	Selection Panel Review Complete
03/24/23	City of Hagerstown submits Application & Concept to MSAC for grant funding
05/30/23	Grant Award Notification
07/25/23	Contract Finalization
10/01/24	Final Design Complete
04/15/24	Installation Complete

\*Short listed artists must be available in person or by video conference

\*\*Finalists must be available for in person presentations on March 1, 2023.

## Budget

A budget of \$50,000 is identified for this project assuming the City successfully acquires a PAAM grant. This funding will be fully allocated to the art creation including the artist's costs such as travel, insurance, transportation, and installation. The City will fund the sidewalk construction and run power to the art. The artist's electrician must complete any illumination of the art installation itself.

## Selection Process

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**Criteria:** In their application materials, the applicant should demonstrate:

- Artistic or design excellence, technical merit, and interaction potential.
- Experience in permanent public art installations with a proven ability to complete artwork at a scale appropriate to this project.
- Responsiveness to community context and the design intent. Community involvement and/or incorporating collaboration with youth into the project.
- Sustainable design and the ability to meet Durability and Maintenance Criteria as delineated in this call, if applicable.

The City is committed to excellence in environmental stewardship and in sustainable building practices and encourages artists interested in sustainable design to consider applying for these artworks.

Applications by board or staff members of the City of Hagerstown, the Washington County Arts Council, or the Selection Panel or their relatives or business or personal partners will not be considered. The City of Hagerstown reserves the right to approve or decline selected artists and projects at its discretion or to make no selection from the submitted applications.

### **Selection Panel:**

The Public Art Commission appointed by the Hagerstown Mayor and City Council will jury the submissions. Most of the members of the Selection Panel will consist of art and design professionals, including curators, architects, and professional artists. Juries may also include representatives of the City of Hagerstown, the Washington County Arts Council, stakeholder organizations, and community members. The City Engineer will serve as an advisor to the Selection Panel.

# Submission Requirements

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## What to Submit:

As part of the submission form ([Attached Below](#)):

- A brief statement, in PDF or Word format, not to exceed two pages, describing:
  - how the artist would approach this work and its context,
  - how the artist sees this work in relation to the past work of the artist,
  - the artist's interest in and/or experience with community involvement, participation, or interactivity in public art projects; and,
  - ability to stay within budget
- Three professional references with current contact information, in PDF or Word format.
- A Slide Script (image list) that includes for each work the title, year, dimensions, the medium or material, the names of any other artists involved, and a one sentence description, budgets, date of work, in PDF or Word format.

Upload to WCAC's Dropbox:

- An artist resume of no more than two pages, at a minimum 10-point type size, with current contact information, in PDF or Word format; and,
- Up to 6 labeled digital images of related past work related to this call:
  - jpeg file format only.
  - No smaller than 1920 pixels on the longest side.
  - 72 ppi/dpi.
  - 5 MB maximum file size.

All filenames **MUST** include **YOUR** name and the names/titles of the images. For example: **Brewer, Chris\_Resume.pdf** and **Brewer, Chris\_IMAGE1-Zenith-Sculpture.jpg**. If your files are not named properly, it is impossible to know what images go with which resume and/or example.

The deadline for applications is 1/24/23 at 5 pm EST.

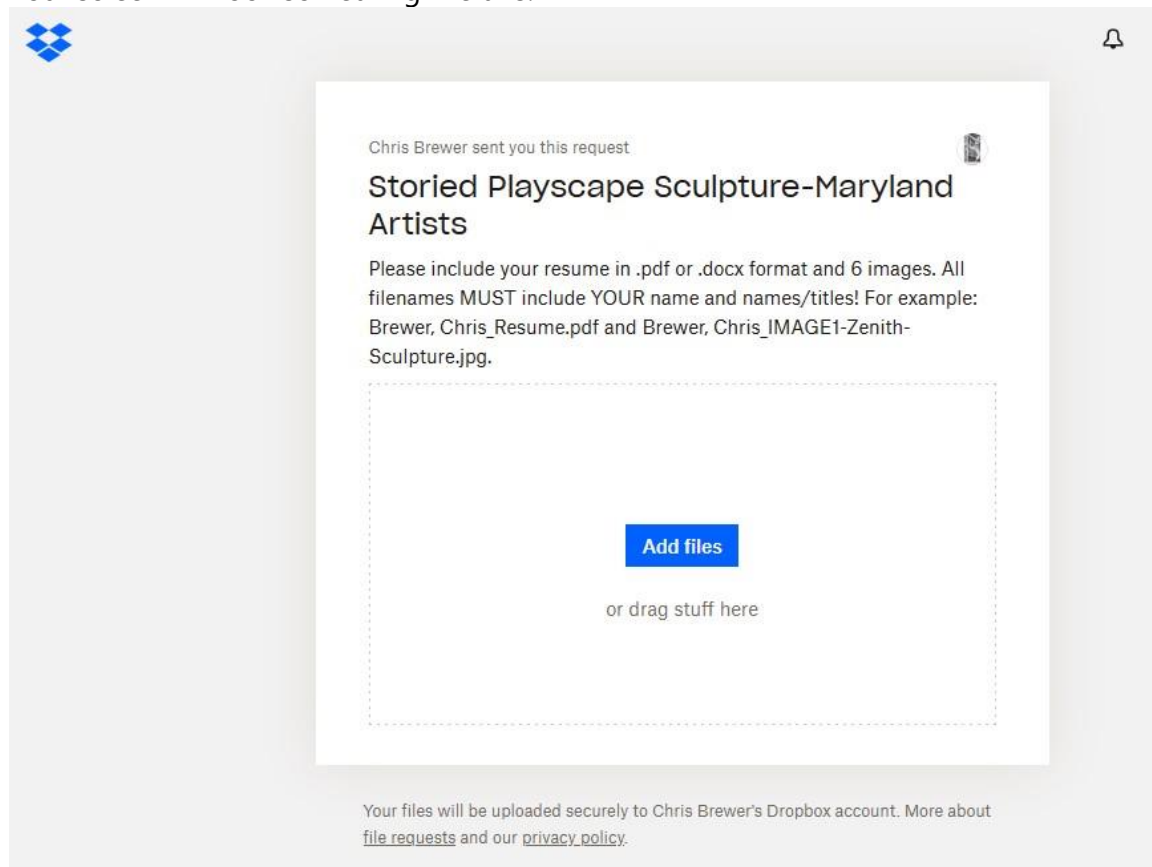
The project prefers to receive applications through the Washington County Arts Council's Dropbox folder "Storied Playscape Sculpture-Maryland Artists" using this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/KXbgFq8ddS4mqRMQLSgK>

To use the online submission form:

Please first verify that you have the most current version of Adobe Reader. Then, open the .pdf file, fill it out digitally, and save it on your computer with a **different name** than the original .pdf file. Saving it somewhere easy to remember (like your desktop) will also help. If you absolutely need to print out the form and fill it out, either scan or photograph the filled-out form and save it as a .jpg or .pdf file with a **different name** than the original. Finally, upload the newly saved/renamed file, along with all other required files, to WCAC's Dropbox folder, "Storied Playscape Sculpture-Maryland Artists" on the web at <https://www.dropbox.com/request/KXbgFq8ddS4mqRMQLSgK>.

Your screen will look something like this:



Either upload files from your computer or DropBox. You will not need a DropBox account to use the "Add files" button and find the required documents on your computer to upload to the folder.

Mailed or hand-delivered submissions will be accepted by the Washington County Arts Council at 34 South Potomac Street, Suite 100, Hagerstown, Maryland, 21740. These submissions will be considered, as long as:

- they comply with all submission requirements above and include a CD or thumb drive of digital images; and,
- they are received by 5 PM on 01/24/23 – **This is not a postmark deadline!**

**Incomplete applications or those that do not follow instructions will not be considered. Mailed materials cannot be returned.**

## Questions

Questions must be submitted via email to Rodney Tissue at [RTissue@hagerstownmd.org](mailto:RTissue@hagerstownmd.org) no later than 4:30 PM on 1/10/23. Answers to all questions will be posted for all artists by 1/13/23 to the call webpage at <http://www.washingtoncountyarts.com/city-triangle>.

## Durability and Maintenance Criteria for Commissioned Artworks

All permanent artworks shall be durable, low-maintenance, and appropriate to the location. Works shall be easy to clean. Artists or their designated fabricators shall offer a warranty against damage from normal weathering and "inherent vice" for period of two years. Works shall not in any way represent an "attractive nuisance" nor shall normal public interactions and handling of the artwork result in special hazard to or from the work, including any possible climbing hazard. Artists shall meet standard engineering and conservation criteria as specified below.

## Artist Selection Criteria Related to Durability & Maintenance

In an effort to assure that The Hagerstown Cultural Trail's commissioned public artwork will stand the test of time, each finalist or artist will be reviewed. Specifically, the selection committee will review any a record of the artist's professional achievements and/or training in technical planning and execution of permanent exterior work.

## Reviewing Durability & Maintenance of the Artwork

Permanent work is expected to be permanent; that is, not subject to deterioration, easy to clean, safe to public, and shall not be an attractive nuisance. Finalists and selected artists are responsible for developing appropriate material selection and installation for long-term exterior exposure. Artist shall identify maintenance and conservation needs prior to the installation of new works and may be asked to engage an expert to assess durability in unusual areas if necessary.

## Five Point Technical Review

1. Materials Durability: Includes site preparation materials, paints, pigments and anti-graffiti coating or other needed measures against vandalism.
2. Methods Durability: Includes elevation from ground, balance, proximity to moisture, exposure to salt or UV.

3. Maintenance Needs: includes how often artwork needs cleaning, what type of cleaning and propensity of materials to develop mold or damage overtime.
4. Site Preparation: Includes any necessary materials and techniques for preparing the site.
5. Installation Safety: Includes safety of materials and techniques and proposed installation methods, materials, and equipment.

## Documentation of Maintenance and Conservation Requirements

All public art will eventually need some form of maintenance and conservation. Therefore, it is important to have a clear understanding of each artwork's maintenance and conservation requirements and any special qualifications required for those who will carry out the work. The commissioned artist will be required to submit a standardized Maintenance and Conservation worksheet at the completion of the project. This would include information such as a listing of all materials used, fabrication techniques and a recommended cleaning schedule, any special qualifications of maintenance personnel, etc.





## Call for Maryland Artists Storyed Playscape Sculpture Submission Form

Artist Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

### Image Script:

Image #1 Photo Title \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description

Budget \_\_\_\_\_

Date of work \_\_\_\_\_

Image #2 Photo Title \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description

Budget \_\_\_\_\_

Date of work \_\_\_\_\_

Image #3 Photo Title \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description

Budget \_\_\_\_\_

Date of work \_\_\_\_\_

Image #4 Photo Title \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description

Budget \_\_\_\_\_

Date of work \_\_\_\_\_

Image #5 Photo Title \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description

Budget \_\_\_\_\_

Date of work \_\_\_\_\_

Image #6 Photo Title \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description

Budget \_\_\_\_\_

Date of work \_\_\_\_\_

## References:

### Reference #1

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Project/Relationship

Budget\_\_\_\_\_

Year\_\_\_\_\_

### Reference #2

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Project/Relationship

Budget\_\_\_\_\_

Year\_\_\_\_\_

Reference #3

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Project/Relationship

Budget\_\_\_\_\_

Year\_\_\_\_\_