



“Welcome to Sharon” Mural

Artist Request for Proposal

A Public Art Mural Project at 17 Post Office Square, Sharon, MA 02067

About the Project

The Sharon Cultural Council is seeking proposals for a qualified artist or team of artists to provide the design and execution of a large exterior “Welcome to Sharon” mural located in the town of Sharon, MA. The mural would be painted on wood paneling to be affixed to the side of the brick building that fronts Post Office Square directly in the center of town. The mural will be visible from pedestrian and car traffic.

The objective of this mural is to create a piece of art that celebrates the many facets of Sharon’s history, culture, and natural environment. The mural will contribute to Sharon’s cultural diversity, foster community pride, a sense of belonging, and enhance the quality of life for its residents and visitors.

About the Sharon Cultural Council

The Sharon Cultural Council funds projects and programs in music, theater, performance, publication, visual arts, arts education, and other programming that contribute to the cultural vitality of Sharon. Sharon Cultural Council is part of the Massachusetts Cultural Council’s Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program, the nation’s largest public grassroots arts support network. Each year 329 LCC’s award \$5.5 million in grants to over 6,000 recipients. To learn more, please visit [our website](#).

Deadline to Submit

The deadline for all proposals must be submitted electronically by **Friday, July 28, 2023** via email to the Sharon Cultural Council at sharonculturalcouncil@gmail.com. Please email us with any questions or clarifications prior to submitting.

Mural Site Location

The mural will be located on the northeast-facing brick wall of Sharon Market at 17 Post Office Square, Sharon, MA 02067. This wall faces Post Office Square/Billings Street.

The mural can be sized anywhere up to 7 feet tall and 15 feet wide. The intent is for the mural to maximize as much wall space as feasible.

There is an existing decorative wood paneling that will need to be removed or affixed over. The removal cost would be covered outside of this artist proposal.



Design Specifications

We are seeking proposals for mural designs that convey the history, culture, nature, and key landmarks of Sharon for a cohesive narrative integrated with "Welcome To Sharon" in large block lettering. The forefront of the mural can be a panoramic view of Lake Massapoag from the beach at sunrise/sunset with sail boats in the distance. It should be bright and use non-primary colors so that it is more visible and has a higher level of artistic sophistication.

The mural should represent many of the historical, cultural, natural, and landmark elements that represent Sharon. A non-exhaustive list of elements include: Lake Massapoag, Deborah Sampson, The Sharon High School Mascot: "Eagle", The High School Colors-Maroon and Gold, Mass Audubon's Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, Mann's Pond dam, Paul Revere church bell at the Unitarian Church, Wards Berry Farm, Crescent Ridge Dairy, local wildlife (deer, turkeys, birds, coyotes, etc.)



Other designs outside the scope of the above will be accepted and considered. The goal of the mural is to exemplify and represent Sharon in all its ways.

The mural should use high quality wood that can be primed and weatherproofed. The completed mural should have the appropriate mounting fixtures for secure installation onto the brick wall. The mural should be treated with a high-quality anti-graffiti exterior varnish with UV protection.

Budget

The selected Artist will receive a total of \$4,000-\$5,000, which includes artist fee and labor. The Artist will be responsible for their own travel costs, materials (including scaffolding/lifts), and personal liability insurance.

The Sharon Cultural Council will collaborate with the artist to possibly offset costs by seeking in-kind support (materials, scaffolding, etc.). The selected artist may be paid a portion of the total amount in advance for providing the final proposed design.

Eligibility

This call is open to all artists located within 75 miles of Sharon, MA to enhance local familiarity and aid logistics. Preferred but not required for candidates to be professional artists, designers, or fabricators or partnered with professional artists, designers, or fabricators.

Submission Requirements

1. Must be Age 18 and older.
2. Contact information: Name, address, telephone number, email address
3. A current resume/CV up to 2 pages.
4. Submit 3-5 samples of previous work including 2-3 samples of previously executed murals or large sale paintings (larger than 4'x4'). Please include date, location, collaborators, and medium.
3. Please include a written description up to 2 pages that addresses:
 - Why you are interested in this project and what excites you about this project.

- An overview of your process and how you would approach this project. Include description of materials, mediums, preparation, finishing, construction, and installation.
4. A description of your artistic vision with sketches to support it.
 5. Confirmed adherence to Project timeline outlined below.
 6. Itemized budget including artist fees, supply costs, wall preparation and installation, and any other associated costs.

Please Note:

- Artists are responsible for the entire mural execution including the hiring and paying of assistants if the artist so chooses.
- Artist will be responsible for obtaining Personal Liability Insurance.
- Artist will need to sign contract with Sharon Cultural Council.

Selection Process

The 13-person Sharon Cultural Council will review all completed proposals. We will select up to three semifinalists to interview. We will select one finalist for the project. The following will be considered in the selection process:

- Artist met the requirements outlined in the RFP
- The proposal was submitted by the deadline.
- Attention to the mission of the project.
- Evidence of ability to create large-scale, distinctive work.
- Originality and creativity.

Project Timeline (Subject to Change)

- June 5, 2023 Call to Artist Opens
- July 28, 2023 Deadline for Proposals
- August 8, 2023 Artist Applications Reviewed and semifinalists selected
- August 18, 2023 Final Artist Selection and Contract Signed
- September 7, 2023 Mural Design Finalized and Approved
- September 8, 2023 Mural Work Begins
- October 29, 2023 Mural Work Finalized with Public Unveiling

Ownership

The artist will retain ownership of any ideas submitted for consideration until a final design has been selected and a contract signed between Sharon Cultural Council and the artist. At that time, Sharon Cultural Council will obtain 100% ownership of artwork produced and the artwork shall become the property of Sharon Cultural Council as a work made for hire as defined by the copyright laws of the United States. Sharon Cultural Council shall be the sole and exclusive owner and copyright proprietor of all rights and title in and to the results and proceeds of artist's services hereunder. In addition, the artist will represent being the sole author of the Work, and that all services are original by artist and not copied in whole or in part.