



Imagine West Park: Public Art Initiative
Request for Proposals: Mini-Muralist Youth Education Project
Submissions Deadline: November 30, 2023

[Imagine West Park Program Overview](#)

Imagine West Park is West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development's inaugural public art program, but it is even more than that. It is a program that seeks to further placemaking and community engagement efforts that acknowledge the varied experiences of all West Parkers. Imagine West Park is made up of three different art initiatives, two painted murals, ten utility box wraps, and a ten-week youth arts program. Find more information on these different initiatives [here](#).

[Mini-Muralist Youth Education Project Overview](#)

West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development (WPKND) is seeking proposals for a project that will consist of leading a ten-week, after-school youth education program (ten sessions total) in the CMHA Riverside Community within the West Park neighborhood. One artist-teacher will be selected. Ten middle to high-school-aged students will be selected via an application process to participate. Each participant will be compensated for their time with a stipend upon completion of the program. At the conclusion of the program, two participants will be selected to receive an apprenticeship with a mural artist, which includes helping the artist to design, prep for, and install a mural in the neighborhood, as well as an additional stipend. During the community engagement process for this program, West Park residents identified community, green space, and local businesses as the things that make West Park a unique place to live. 34% of respondents identified Rocky River Reservation as their favorite place in the neighborhood, and 44% cited friendly neighbors and a strong community as the main factors that make West Park special. Applicants should address how their past work has incorporated these themes, and how they would approach incorporating these themes into this program. The selected artist will be paid a stipend of \$6,000 to develop and execute the program. This stipend includes any materials needed for the program. Selected art educator must be available Winter/Spring 2024 to execute this program.

[About West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development](#)

WPKND is the nonprofit, community development corporation serving Ward 17 in Cleveland's West Park Neighborhood. Together with the community, WPKND envisions West Park Kamm's as a vibrant, livable, and multi-generational neighborhood, known for its welcoming people, thriving businesses, and connection to the environment. Our mission is to cultivate a neighborhood where the diverse needs of its people are met through community-building, stewardship, and



development initiatives. WPKND is able to complete this series of projects thanks to the generous support of the Mandel Foundation's CDC Leadership Program.

About the West Park Kamm's Neighborhood

West Park Kamm's is the western side of the larger far-west side area of West Park in the City of Cleveland. It is bordered by Lakewood on the north, Rocky River Reservation on the west, Cleveland Hopkins International Airport on the south, and the RTA Redline to the east. Home to more than 23,000 residents and over 200 businesses, West Park Kamm's is known for its neighborhood feel, friendly community of neighbors, and well-kept housing stock. West Parkers highly value the walkability of their neighborhood, frequenting local stores and restaurants, as well as utilizing all of the neighborhood parks and greenspaces, including but not limited to the neighboring Rocky River Reservation. While historically known as an Irish Catholic neighborhood, West Park Kamm's continues to be a place for the City's newcomers, welcoming immigrants from around the world who are establishing businesses and putting down roots in the community.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development is committed to seeking artists who represent and celebrate all those who call West Park home.

Project Logistics

The goal of the Imagine West Park program is to further placemaking and community engagement efforts within West Park Kamm's as well as ensure that the varied experiences and identities of West Parkers are represented and celebrated. WPKND has been conducting public art visioning exercises to identify common sentiments and perceptions that community members have. The themes identified so far include love for neighbors, strong community ties, a deep appreciation for parks and green spaces, an affection for the local business community, and a love for the walkability of the neighborhood. These themes should be reflected in the content of the youth arts program.

Project Eligibility

This call is open to artists/educators with previous experience in arts education programs and/or youth arts programs. Artists with previous experience in murals and public art are preferred. We strongly encourage submissions from artists residing in the West Park neighborhood and the City of Cleveland.

Application Requirement and Submission

Artists should submit their application materials (see below) to molly@westparkkamms.org by November 30, 2023.

Application Materials

All applications should include the following:



- Name of Artist / Artist Team with contact information (email, phone, and mailing address)
- Website and Social Media Handles
- Artist / Artist Team Biography
- Program Description and Proposal (2 page maximum, double-spaced)
- Resume / CV (if a team, one for each member)
- A single (1) PDF document (can be multiple pages) containing images of past work*
- Optional: Professional References from past projects

*Within the PDF document, please include up to 10 images of previous work alongside a corresponding, numbered, annotated image list with title, media, dimensions, location, brief description, date of work, and project partners if applicable.

Selection Process

Top candidates from the application process will be selected for a brief interview before the final artist selection. Selected artist/team will be paid a \$6,000 stipend to develop and execute a ten-week afterschool program with ten youth participants. This stipend includes materials used in the programming. Information will be sent to the selected artist/team with details of the contract.

Project Timeline

- October 16, 2023: RFQ released
- November 30, 2023: Responses due by midnight
- Late December 2023: Artist Selected
- January 2024: Afterschool Program Begins

Project Contact

If you need assistance developing your proposal, please reach out to molly@westparkkamms.org.