

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

TO: ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS

FROM: MEIKA DAUS, PUBLIC ART SENIOR MANAGER, OFFICE OF THE ARTS



RE: MURAL ARTIST ROSTER: ARTIST LIST

Request: The City of Alexandria Public Art Program is requesting approval of the task force's recommendations for the City's first pre-qualified artist list for murals or Mural Artist Roster.

Background

The Public Art Program anticipates having multiple mural opportunities over the next three years and believes a prequalified list could appropriately streamline the City's artist selection process for commissioning murals.

As outlined in the Public Art Implementation Plan, the Office of the Arts can establish a pre-qualified artist list for City projects. The list can include national, regional and/or local artists. An ad hoc Task Force should be organized to review the call and criteria for artist selection, review artist submissions and make recommendations as to which artists should be added to the pre-qualified list. Once selected, artists should be kept on the eligibility list for three years before they need to re-apply.

In April 2026, the Arts Commission approved the Task Force that would support the development of the pre-qualified artist list for murals. The Task Force includes David Pritzker, Brian Kelley, Saya Behnam, Dereth Bush, and Allison Nance.

In May 2026, the Arts Commission approved a framework for the pre-qualified artist list. This list is being created to:

- Help strengthen the sense of community and enrich the quality of life of all Alexandrians by facilitating high quality and varied mural projects across the city.
- Support public art and placemaking initiatives across the City of Alexandria.
- Streamline the process and timelines for artist selections, which will benefit artists, agencies, and partners working on mural projects across the city.
- Foster opportunities for local creative talent.

Muralists are being sought to complete projects in the following general areas:

- Developing murals at a variety of project scales and methods that are reflective of a neighborhood's identity and celebrates the culture, spirit and/or history of the area.
- Using asphalt art to elevate the importance of transportation safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.
- Integrating ground murals on sport courts, paving, or hardscape during scheduled park renovations or maintenance projects.
- Improving the appearance outside or inside city facilities, including recreational centers.
- Working with community groups and/or youth to develop and/or implement mural concepts.
- Working with developers to integrate wall murals into new projects, including multi-story development proposals.

In June 2026, a regional artist call was posted on an online application system (CaFE – callforentry.org) for artists interested in joining the roster. The artist call was open to all artists/muralists living in Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., West Virginia, or Pennsylvania. Experienced and emerging muralists living in the City of Alexandria were especially encouraged to apply. Thirty-eight (38) applications were submitted in response to the call. Those applications were reviewed and scored individually by each public art task force member. Follow-up meetings were held on September 3rd to build consensus around the selections. The Task Force recommends 22 artists for the roster.

The artists included in the Task Force recommendation include professional muralists as well as emerging muralists. The listed artists work at a variety of scales and budgets. Some artists submitted applications on behalf of their team or professional studio. The list as a whole is intended to respond to a variety of mural opportunities in the City, including interior murals, street and sport court murals, and potentially large-developer commissioned projects, among others.

Task Force Recommended Mural Artist Roster

1. **Amy Ahrens** (Middletown, MD)
2. **Brandon Hill** (Washington, DC)
3. **Breana Field** (Charlottesville, VA)
4. **Brianna Camp** (Fairfax, VA)
5. **Bryane Broadie** (Glenarden, MD)
6. **Camila Leao Lopes** (Baltimore, MD)\
7. **Chelsea Ritter-Soronen** (Washington, DC)
8. **David Barr** (Falls Church, VA)
9. **Eric B Ricks** (Montgomery Village, MD)
10. **Eric Dolgas** (Fairfax, VA)
11. **Graham Coreil-Allen** (Baltimore, MD)
12. **Jessie Unterhalter** (Baltimore, MD)
13. **Joel Bergner** (Washington DC)
14. **Keir Johnston** (Philadelphia, PA)
15. **Marcella Verchio** (Washington, DC)
16. **Patrick Kirwin** (Arlington, VA)
17. **Paul Santoleri** (Philadelphia, PA)
18. **Rose Jaffe** (Hyattsville, MD)
19. **Tammy Barnes** (Washington, DC)
20. **Tyler Kauffman** (Keezletown, VA)
21. **Veronica Barker-Barzel*** (Alexandria, VA)
22. **Wesley Clark** (Hyattsville, MD)

**Self-identified as an emerging muralist.*

Staff Recommendation: Approval of the Task Force recommended Mural Artist Roster.

Attachments

Work Samples (All Images Courtesy of the Artists)

Approved Framework for Pre-Qualified Artist List for Murals

Amy Ahrens (Middletown, MD)

<https://ahrensgraphicdesign.com>



Atlantic City 60's Childhood Memories - (Left Panel 1 of 3)

Acrylic on Canvas

6' x 43" x 2.5"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2026

Painting

Art in Public Places: No

To be COMPLETED JULY 2026. Currently in progress artwork. Final will be posted upon completion. This is the left panel of a 3 part mural commission on canvas. Left Panel 1 of 3. When Completed the 3 panels will be installed on wall in Frederick, MD and will total 15 ft wide x 6 ft height.

Brandon Hill (Washington, DC)

<https://brandon-hill.art>



FloraFlora

Aerosol, Acrylic on Brick Wall

250' x 25' x .05"

Artwork for Sale: Yes

\$102,000.00

2026

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Pike and Rose area (Bethesda)

Public Art Program: NA - Private Commision

<https://www.bravecollaborative.com>



10' x 14' x 0"

\$5,000.00

Mural

Location: Skyline High School, Front Royal, Virginia

Public Art Program:

This piece was donated to Skyline high school in honor of mental health awareness, following multiple teen suicides. I ran the project , orchestrating other artists and affected teens to complete the mural, with added community support for meals and uplifting morale.

Brianna Camp (Fairfax, VA)

<https://briannacamp.com>



Viam (Detail)

Exterior masonry paint and acrylic on brick

12' x 40' x 0'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2022

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Laurel Ridge Elementary School - Fairfax, VA

Public Art Program:

This mural was a collaboration with the sixth-grade class at Laurel Ridge Elementary School in Fairfax, VA, created in the school's courtyard, near the pollinator garden. The project was created in memory of Viam, a student from their graduating class.

Bryane Broadie (Glenarden, MD)

<https://www.bbroadie.com>



Spiritual Alignment Mural

Painted Mural

72' x 65' x 1"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2023

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Takoma Park, MD

Public Art Program:

Mural wall in Tacoma Park, MD

Camila Leao Lopes (Baltimore, MD)

<https://camilaleao.art>



Wild Wonders Mural

Brick Wall

12.5' x 46' x 0'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2024

Public Art

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: The Alley Center. Ponca City, OK,

Public Art Program: Sunny Dayz Mural Festival

Mural designed & painted with Ayesha Rana at The Alley, as an initiative for Sunny Dayz Mural Festival. The first-of-its-kind in Oklahoma, Sunny Dayz Mural Festival exists to empower, elevate, and celebrate women and gender minority artists through the creation and advocacy of public art.

Chelsea Ritter-Soronen (Washington, DC)

www.groundshift.studio



Alma's Corner

Paving paint on asphalt

8' x 60' x 0'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$9,000.00

2021

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Washington DC

Public Art Program: Color the Curb from DDOT

Diagonally across the street from this curb extension sits the lifelong home of venerable DC artist Alma Thomas. This design honors her career and life's work while helping to slow traffic. Part of a pilot program.

David Barr (Falls Church, VA)

<https://www.barrart.com>



Nova Labs

vinyl installation

20' x 58' x 0"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2024

Art in Public Places: No

The Nova Labs Makers Mural features tools and concepts reflective of the makers who are part of the Nova Labs community and the joy of making. Playing to the rhythmic sequence of the building panels, this graphic concept uses pops of bold color layered with silhouetted maker-inspired illustrations t

Eric B Ricks (Montgomery Village, MD)

<https://www.phoenixart.design.com>



Nourishing and flourishing with delight

Acrylic

37' x 58' x 0"

Artwork for Sale: Yes

\$17,000.00

2019

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: The Maya Angelou learning center

Public Art Program: Murals DC

This project pays homage to the school namesake a matriarch that feeds the mind.

Eric Dolgas (Fairfax, VA)

<https://www.emoneyoriginals.com/mural-portfolio>



E\$ Was Here District Fray Cover

Exterior Paint & Primer

10' x 84' x 0"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2022

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Alethia Tanner Park DC

Public Art Program: DC Walls

Mural completed for DC Walls in 2022.

Graham Coreil-Allen (Baltimore, MD)

<https://grahamprojects.com>



Remingtopo

StreetBond 150 pavement coating

8' x 150' x 140'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2022

Public Art

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: 27th Street and Remington Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21211

Public Art Program: Greater Remington Improvement Association

Remingtopo is a topographically-inspired traffic calming pavement art project enhancing pedestrian safety and creating outdoor space for community gatherings and small business events in the Remington Neighborhood of Baltimore, Maryland.

Jessie Unterhalter (Baltimore, MD)

<https://jessieandkatey.com>



Chromatic Portal

Latex Paint

25' x 80' x 5'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$50,000.00

2023

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Atlanta, GA

Public Art Program: Living Walls

This mural was designed to seamlessly integrate with its surroundings, incorporating an oversized bench that the artwork extends over and spills onto the floor, creating an immersive, dynamic experience.

Joel Bergner (Washington DC)

<https://joelartista.com>



Our Dreams Take Flight

Acrylic and aerosol

70' x 16' x 0"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$55,000.00

2025

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Silver Spring, Maryland

Public Art Program: Wxllspace, Enterprise Community Development

Diverse community members mingle with plant life, and a boy opens a book to unleash hot air balloons that rise up, interacting with the characters. These balloons were painted offsite on Polytab cloth by local 5th graders working with Joel, who then glued them onto the mural.

Keir Johnston (Philadelphia, PA)

<https://amberartanddesign.com>



Tanner G Duckrey Schoolyard

Asphalt Mural Paint and Acrylic Paints, Metal Paints

84' x 50' x 0'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$106,000.00

2025

Public Art

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Tanner G Duckrey Schoolyard, Philadelphia, PA

Public Art Program: Big Sandbox

Painted basketball courts and shipping containers as part of the schoolyard beautification process. 9200sq feet across 2 Basketball Courts (50' x 84' per court) and 2 shipping container Snack Bars (each 20' x 8' x 8')

Marcella Verchio (Washington, DC)

<https://marcellaverchio.com>



DC Walls Mural Festival

Exterior Paint and Spray Paint on Exterior Wall

20' x 45' x 0"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$0.00

2024

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Washington, DC

Public Art Program: DC Walls Mural Festival

DCWalls is a week-long mural festival that invites artists internationally and locally to transform walls in the city. This year's collaborator was NASA. "The cosmos is within us. We are made of star-stuff. We are a way for the universe to know itself" a quote by Carl Sagan inspired this design.

Patrick Kirwin (Arlington, VA)

<https://patrickkirwin.com>



2 Waves

Sher Cryl on masonry

24' x 0' x 48'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$12,000.00

2022

Painting

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: 13th Place and Constitution Avenue, NE, W., DC.

Public Art Program: none

Client wanted the "Great Wave" painted on their house. There was enough room to put two waves on and to add something reasonable to make it different from the original.

Paul Santoleri (Philadelphia, PA)

<https://www.paulsantoleri.com>



THE WATCHER

acrylic on polyethylene on wall and iron stairs

25' x 40' x 6'

Artwork for Sale: Yes

\$20,000.00

2019

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Summit, NJ

Public Art Program: SUMMIT PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

three story mural on varying wall height and width on the back of a bank in Summit NJ, visible upon entering the city by train, one stop away from manhattan by rail, the Heron sits calmly on a nest of chaos and looks on, an image based on my recently deceased father in the midst of a changing world

Rose Jaffe (Hyattsville, MD)

<https://www.rosejaffe.com>



Community Uplift

Acrylic paint

25' x 45' x 0"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$14,000.00

2024

Mural

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: Lincoln Park Community Center in Rockville, MD

Public Art Program: VisArts

Tammy Barnes (Washington, DC)

<https://www.tbarnescreates.com>

Tammy A. Barnes | @tbarnescreates

info@tbarnescreates.com



Large scale, 3-sided exterior mural using latex paint on faux wood siding of trailer. Client is the construction and building management company facilitating the development of DC's newest named neighborhood, "Bridge District" in Ward 8. The design reflects the requested theme of how humans interact with biophilic architectural design, featuring native plants, insects, and wildlife. A third side of the trailer features their corporate branding.



Biophilic DC

Latex exterior paint on siding

14.5' x 213' x 0'

Artwork for Sale: No

\$16,000.00

2025

Public Art

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: 623 Howard Rd SE, Washington, DC

Public Art Program: Bridge District c/o Indie Walls

A large-scale, 3-sided exterior mural that beautifies the construction management company trailer of a new neighborhood development called Bridge District. The design reflects how humans interact with biophilic architectural design, featuring native plants, insects, and wildlife; plus, corp. logo.

Tyler Kauffman (Keezletown, VA)

<https://tylerkauffman.art>



Billy Jack's Mural Full Image

Montana Black Spray paint & 100 acrylic house paint

32' x 45' x .1"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$40,000.00

2024

Mural

Art in Public Places: No

"Space Cowboy", a mural painted in Harrisonburg, Virginia for Billy Jack's Wing Shack. Painted on a textured brick wall, including conduit and junction boxes. Inspired by objects decorating the inside of the restaurant. I used those objects and created a narrative for the exterior of the building.

Veronica Barker-Barzel (Alexandria, VA)

https://torpedofactory.org/profile/barker-barzel_v



Looking for "Home"

Oil, mix media

30.5" x 22.5" x 1"

Artwork for Sale: Yes

\$1,787.00

2025

Painting

Art in Public Places: No

Wesley Clark (Hyattsville, MD)

<https://wesleyclarkart.com>



MacFarland Mural

Acrylic paint, foam, epoxy

26' x 9' x 3"

Artwork for Sale: No

\$50,000.00

2018

Public Art

Art in Public Places: Yes

Location: MacFarland Middle School, Washington, DC

Public Art Program: The Department of General Services

The focus of this work is that hands are an integral part of the work for visual artists. The background is a page of a sketchbook, as a base for the work to connect the idea that many artists start with a plan and the limitless possibilities of what can be created.

PRE-QUALIFIED ARTIST LIST

MURALS

Approved: May 19, 2026

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I. Introduction

The City of Alexandria's Public Art Implementation Plan sets out a process for the commissioning of new public art. As outlined in the Public Art Implementation Plan, the Office of the Arts can establish a pre-qualified artist list for City projects. An ad hoc Task Force should be organized to review the call and criteria for artist selection, review artist submissions and make recommendations as to which artists should be added to the pre-qualified list.

The Office of the Arts Public Art Program anticipates having multiple mural opportunities over the next three years and a prequalified list will appropriately streamline the City's artist selection process for commissioning murals. The list will be used for interior and exterior wall murals and ground murals. Additionally, the list may be used for murals on private property, in instances when developers or business owners reach out to staff for recommended muralists.

II. Purpose

The Alexandria Public Art Program is establishing a pre-qualified artist list for murals. This list is being created to:

- Help strengthen the sense of community and enrich the quality of life of all Alexandrians by facilitating high quality and varied mural projects across the city.
- Support public art and placemaking initiatives across the City of Alexandria.
- Streamline the process and timelines for artist selections, which will benefit artists, agencies, and partners working on mural projects across the city.
- Foster opportunities for local creative talent.

III. Mural Project Types

Muralists are being sought to complete projects in the following general areas:

- Developing murals at a variety of project scales and methods that are reflective of a neighborhood's identity and celebrates the culture, spirit and/or history of the area.
- Using asphalt art to elevate the importance of transportation safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.
- Integrating ground murals on sport courts, paving, or hardscape during scheduled park renovations or maintenance projects.
- Improving the appearance outside or inside city facilities, including recreational centers.
- Working with community groups and/or youth to develop and/or implement mural concepts.
- Working with developers to integrate wall murals in new projects, including multi-story development proposals.

IV. How the List Will be Used

In accordance with the Public Art Implementation Plan, once selected, muralists will be kept on the eligibility list for three years before they need to re-apply. *The specific timeframe for the eligibility will be based on the date of the approval of the eligibility list by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts.*

Once an artist is selected for a project within the three-year term, they will be removed from the eligibility list for future city-commissioned projects in the same term.

The pre-qualified artist list will be used as a primary resource for the selection of muralists for City-commissioned projects. Inclusion on the list does not guarantee that an artist will be selected for a project.

V. Eligibility

This pre-qualified artist list for muralists is open to: Independent Artists, and Artist-led teams, studios, or collectives. This is an opportunity for regional artists to submit their qualifications.

Eligible applicants:

- Must reside in Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., West Virginia, or Pennsylvania.
- Must produce or present unique and original artwork
- Must be the lead artist whose original work is included in the application.
- Must be 18 years of age or older and able to enter a contract with the City of Alexandria. Artists younger than 18 may be included in an artist team application.

VI. Selection Process

An open call process will be used. This is a regional call open to all artists/muralists living in Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., West Virginia, or Pennsylvania. This call will be issued via an online application system (CaFE – callforentry.org) and applications will be accepted over a one-month period with exact dates to be determined between May and June 2026. Interested artists/artist teams are requested to complete an application and submit a letter indicating their project approach, qualifications, and work samples. Experienced and emerging muralists living in the City of Alexandria are especially encouraged to apply.

Applications must be submitted on CaFE to be considered by the posted deadline.

Public Art Mural Task Force

A Public Art Task Force has been formed to help develop this pre-qualified artist list for muralists, as follows:

The two Commission for the Arts representatives on the Task Force are:

- David Pritzker
- Brian Kelley

The Community Stakeholders for the Task Force include:

- Dereth Bush
- Allison Nance

Project Stakeholders for the Task Force include:

- Saya Behnam

The Task Force will review the submitted applications, and make a recommendation to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts regarding the muralists that should be included on the pre-qualified list. The Alexandria Commission for the Arts will approve the artist selections for the pre-qualified list. Once approved, the list will remain valid for three years.

Relationship to Future Public Art Task Forces for Murals

For each new City-commissioned mural project approved in the Public Art Annual Work Plan, the Commission for the Arts appoints a unique Public Art Project Task Force to advise on the entire project development process. The staff and the Public Art Project Task Force develop a Public Art Project Plan that sets out the project goals, artist selection process, budget, timeline, and communications strategy. Through the creation of the pre-qualified artist list, future public art task forces will have the ability to recommend direct selections or requests for proposals to streamline the artist selection process by the Arts Commission. In the event requests for proposals are desired prior to the selection of an artist for a specific project, Public Art Program staff may require or recommend that artists be paid a stipend for their design work.

The above-mentioned Mural Task Force members working on the pre-qualified artist list may have the opportunity to work on future task forces implementing individual mural projects.

VII. Mural Project Scopes

The individual mural project scopes will vary based on the specific project being pursued. Selected artists will be provided specific scope and budget details as opportunities become available. Generally, the following will apply to most projects based on the City's established public art process:

- Murals should be painted on or applied to the wall or ground surface by the selected artist, or artist team. Community involvement in installation may be appropriate in some instances, when this is consistent with an artist's practice and aligns with the specific project goals.
- The design of the mural should be appropriate for and inspire all audiences.
- Artists will be required to apply an anti-graffiti coating to any painted exterior wall murals.
- Artists will be required to use durable materials and mediums that can withstand indoor or outdoor conditions, including weather, dust, and sunlight exposure; and provide information regarding the expected durability and maintenance requirements.
- Selected artists will be required to meet with the community prior to beginning mural installation, and the conversations may inform the final design.

VIII. Application

The open call application should contain the following components. Specific language used in the online application is subject to modification by staff:

Residency

This is a regional muralist call that has residency requirements. Additionally, the call will ask whether a muralist is a resident of the City of Alexandria, since there may be opportunities that target local or neighborhood artists.

Biographical Statement (250-word limit)

Artists will be asked to: Describe your mural experience, especially with commissioned projects. Include your experience with community-based projects. Include any other information you would like to be considered. If no experience, enter None.

Describe Your Practice/ Share what kinds of art you create and why you make these choices [Artist Statement] (250-word limit)

Artists will be asked to: Share what you make and why you make it. Describe the focus of your mural practice. You can share the materials you like to work with and the concepts, ideas, or experiences that inform your process in creating art.

Artwork Samples

Applications will be required to submit a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 8 images.

Budget

Artists will be asked if they have a minimum budget requirement. Staff anticipates that the individual project budgets will range from \$10,000 to \$75,000 for outdoor wall murals; \$5,000-\$15,000 for indoor wall murals, and \$20,000-\$75,000 for ground and street murals. Individual project budgets are based on project complexity, scope, and materials.

Community Engagement

Artists will be asked to: Describe your experience leading community engagement activities in past public art projects; and how that community input informed the design. Please provide at least one specific example of activities or events you have facilitated. If no experience, enter None.

Additionally, artists may be asked to select community engagement methods they have used in the past from a provided list.

Staff is also interested in identifying artists who have or can conduct engagement in Spanish, Arabic, or Amharic.

Familiarity with Alexandria (optional)

This is an optional response question asking artists to share any familiarity they have with Alexandria, its neighborhoods, history, or communities.

IX. Panelist Review Criteria

The Mural Task Force will be asked to qualify artists in the following **general categories**:

Emerging
Professional
Community-Based Practices
Ground and Street
Multistory
Youth Engagement

The following eligibility criteria will be to evaluate applications:

- Artistic Excellence.
- Technical Expertise.
- Ability to achieve stated project goals.
- Connection to Alexandria, or a showing of the ability to connect to the community.

X. Marketing and Communications

The open call will be placed on the City of Alexandria website and promoted on social media. All applications will be directed to CaFE(callforentry.org).

Community engagement, marketing, and communications should build upon the existing stakeholder base for art and tourism in Alexandria and include additional stakeholders. Additionally, specific communication about the mural call should go out to:

- Alexandria Arts Alliance
- Torpedo Factory Art Center
- Arts Fairfax
- Arlington Arts
- Art Business and Galleries
- Visit Alexandria