

# **Request for Proposals**

## **The Catonsville CUBE Mural**

**Call for Artists:** Fast Track Public Art Project, The Cube Mural (Catonsville Maryland)



### **Purpose:**

The Baltimore County Arts Guild (BCAG) seeks a Maryland artist to create a permanent outdoor mural for an audience of all ages on the east wall of the Catonsville Cube located at 757 Frederick Road, Baltimore Maryland 21228, to be completed by August 2020. Currently this location serves as the gateway to the downtown's major community gathering place for Frederick Road Fridays, Sunday Farmer's Market, and the July 4<sup>th</sup> musical celebration. This site also marks where the Bike and Hike Trail will connect to Catonsville's Main Street.

BGAG is committed to creating an aesthetically engaging, inspiring, and welcoming gateway to Catonsville's busiest communal area. The large mural on the highly visible east wall (on Frederick Road) of The CUBE will celebrate Catonsville's vibrant musical, social, and cultural traditions while actively promoting the Bike and Hike Trail. It is our intention this large mural (Phase 1) will then serve as the catalyst for transforming the entire parking area with a series of smaller murals (Phase 2), creating a visually engaging venue for the many community events held there.



## **Background:**

The Baltimore County Arts Guild was formed in 2012 with the mission of providing visual and performing arts experiences for artists and residents to strengthen Baltimore County communities. We create art spaces, provide introductions to the arts, serve budding and experienced artists, and build strong community through arts engagement.

The large CUBE mural will serve as the gateway to Catonsville's cultural hub, while supporting the Bike and Hike Trail and its physical connection to Frederick Road. The mural will promote Catonsville as a walkable, bike-friendly community.

The parking area on Mellor and Frederick behind The CUBE has developed into the place where Catonsville residents gather as a community; every Friday in June, July, and August, residents enjoy music, food, and socialize with their Catonsville neighbors. Every Sunday from May to November, the lot is transformed into a bustling farmers' market with fresh produce, baked goods, and unique specialty items. And even at the Farmers' Market, there is music, supporting Catonsville's reputation as Music City, Maryland. The CUBE parking area enjoys a rich history, once the spot where the Short Line Depot stood. Currently, community activists are working to connect the Short Line, (now the Bike Trail) directly to downtown Catonsville's Frederick Road at the Depot's original location, on the eastside of The CUBE.



North facing view toward Frederick Road.



South facing view toward, trail and events center.

## **Criteria:**

The applicant should demonstrate:

- Experience in acrylic and aerosol painting technique and use of paint sprayers
- Artistic or design excellence and technical merit
- An AWP lift certification
- Experience painting murals more than 3 stories high.
- Maryland resident

## **Site Specifications:**

- East Wall of The Catonsville CUBE located at 757 Frederick Road, Catonsville, MD 21228
- Wall dimensions: 100' x 40'
- Surface: White painted cinder block

## **Scope of Work:**

Discussions with community members and stakeholders revealed the desire for a public art mural with the following characteristics:

1. Symbolic of the vibrant community life of the “Ville” while promoting the bike and hike trail. Community characteristics: Park, woods, road and mountain biking, trails, music, youth, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, young families (ex. kid on tricycle, parent pushing stroller), dog walker, runner, hiker, retriever (UMBC), farmer’s market, main street, restaurant row.
2. “Selfie” friendly
3. Durable and easy maintenance

## **Project Timeline:**

November 2018	Community and artist discussions commence
March 25, 2019	RFP release
April 17, 2019	Artist Proposal Due Date
April 18-23, 2019	Selection Panel will review applicants’ proposals (The Selection panel will consist of art and design professionals, stakeholder organizations, and community members)
April 24, 2019	Notification of Selection
June 2019	Project planning meeting
August 2020	Mural complete

## **Budget:**

The Budget for this project is approximately \$10,000 inclusive of artist compensation, materials, transportation, permits, installation, and required insurance.

## **RFP Submission Requirements:** Proposal Format

1. **Applicant Information:** Attach 1-2 page artist CV or artist resume (PDF).

2. **Samples of Work:** Up to six samples of previous, relevant work (PDF or JPEG format). Experience in successfully completing public art projects of this scale is required. Please include a separate page with descriptions of the attached sample work.

3. **Proposed Mural Designs:**

-Each artist may submit up to three images (JPEG or PDF) to include details of each actual proposed work. Proposed mural designs must be original designs by the submitting artist.

-The applicant should provide a brief overview narrative defining concepts or themes they may incorporate in the mural design. Please be sure to describe how the proposal fits with the community's described goals. This response ensures BCAG that the selected artist's vision for the project is aligned with the community and neighborhood stakeholders. Also include any possible ancillary activities relating to The CUBE Mural (Phase 1).

4. **References:** A minimum of two professional references are required. The proponent should provide the following information for their references:

- Contact Name, Position
- Organization
- Telephone
- Email
- Description of the professional relationship with the reference

5. **Email Submission:**

- Please send to [tmchason@gmail.com](mailto:tmchason@gmail.com)
- Type "Cube Mural Proposal" on the subject line
- Please send all requisite RFP Documents within one email correspondence with each of the above 4 requirements as a separate attachment.

Baltimore County Arts Guild and The CUBE Office Building will hold all rights of the mural artwork including images of the mural for promotional materials such as newsletters, flyers in print and web-based media.