



Call for Artists: Public Art Opportunity

Tennis Wall Mural Project – Les Myers Park in Concord, NC

Deadline for Submissions: January 13, 2025 (11:59 p.m.)

Project Overview: The City of Concord Public Art Commission invites qualified artists to apply for an opportunity to create a vibrant and engaging mural that addresses themes of nature, community, history, and harmony, reflecting the unique spirit of Concord.

Location: This mural will be located on the concrete-block “Tennis Wall” at Les Myers Park (338 Lawndale Ave. SE) in Concord, NC. This is a free-standing, existing wall adjacent to the tennis courts and upper parking lot. The side to be painted faces Lawndale Avenue and the entrance to the park. The wall measures approximately 9 ft H x 30 ft W. (see image, next page)

Eligibility: This opportunity is open to professional or amateur artists or artist teams with demonstrated experience in successfully completing large-scale mural projects. Artists of all backgrounds and abilities, and Artists from Concord and surrounding areas are strongly encouraged to apply.

Project Budget: The total budget for the mural project is \$10,000.00 to include artist fees, materials, travel, insurance, labor and any other project-related expenses. The mural’s design; a community engagement component; and completion, must all be covered within this budget.

Submission Requirements: Please submit the following materials according to the instructions below, for consideration:

1. **Letter of Interest:** A brief statement (no more than one page) outlining your interest in the project, your approach to public art, and how you will approach the community engagement process. (Please note the Community Engagement Period in Timeline *below*)
2. **Resume/CV:** A current resume or CV, including contact information and a summary of relevant experience.
3. **Portfolio:** Up to 10 images of previous work, with an emphasis on mural projects. NOTE: Please embed your images in a PDF document, *total size 10 MB or less*, with one (1) image per page; include a description of each project, with location, date, and budget. If you cannot place images into a PDF, number and attach separately (jpeg format) but be sure *each image is no larger than 2MB*; and provide image descriptions in a separate, correlating numbered list.
4. **References:** Contact information for at least two professional references who can speak to your experience and qualifications in completing a project of this scale.
5. **Tentative budget** outlining how you would address budgeting a project of this scale.

How to Apply: Please submit all required materials listed above under “Submission Requirements,” via email with all materials attached, in PDF format (multiple PDFs or one PDF containing all documents are fine as long as all are in ONE email), In advance of the Submission Deadline, to: Sarah Gay, Concord Public Art Staff Liaison, with the subject line, “Les Myers Mural Submission.” Email address: gays@concordnc.gov .

Selection Process: A selection panel comprised of community members, city staff /officials, and art professionals in addition to members of the Public Art Commission will review all submissions. The panel will evaluate artists based on the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence and originality
- Experience with similar projects
- Ability to engage with the community
- Feasibility of the proposed approach

Estimated Timeline:

- **Call Release Date:** Dec. 13, 2024
- **Submission Deadline:** Jan. 13, 2025
- **Review of Applications:** Late January 2025
- **Notification to Finalist:** Late February, 2025
- **Contract Finalize:** March 2025
- **Community Engagement Period:** March 2025
- **Mural Design Deadline:** April, 2025
- **Council Approval of Design:** April, 2025
- **Project Completion:** by June 30, 2025

Please note, all dates in the estimated timeline are subject to change

Mural Site: “Tennis Wall” in Les Myers Park, as seen from upper parking lot:



Background Info: Les Myers Park is a beloved destination for both residents and visitors, offering a variety of activities such as walking, baseball fields, tennis and pickleball courts, shelters and tables for picnicking, ping-pong, a roller skating rink, children’s playground, and open space covering hills and

elevation changes as well as level ground. While people come to the park for a multitude of options for activity or relaxation, above all they are seeking to do those things outside, in natural surroundings. The park's open spaces are surrounded on two sides by wooded areas, with more woods across the street; and the park contains an outdoor amphitheater which makes use of a steep hillside in one area for graded seating.

As stated in the City's Master Plan for Public Art, Concord's vision is for public art to be a unifying feature in the City: strengthening Concord's overall identity, uplifting authentic community stories and resources, and adding beauty and meaning to public places and facilities.

Public Input/ Top Themes:

In preparation for this project, the City published an online Public Input Survey, Oct. 8 – Nov. 17, 2024 asking the Community several questions about what they'd like to see addressed with the Mural. The survey received over 100 participants, tallying more than 350 original comments. From this response, the top themes which emerged were: 1. Nature; 2. History or Historical Relevance; and 3. Community (with sub-themes of Harmony and Unity).

This project therefore should produce a mural that celebrates community and gathering, the joy of recreation and anything else the selected artist wishes to include, by incorporating an overarching focus on Nature as the unifying theme.

CONTACT STAFF PERSON: City of Concord Staff Liaison to the Public Art Commission, Sarah Gay is your contact for any questions, and to send in your application.

Please direct any questions – preferably via email only – to her, at the following email address, *at least a week ahead of Submission Deadline*; (Phone only if absolutely necessary)

To submit your application for this project, please format all your materials into PDF format as outlined above and be sure everything is attached in ONE email, to:

Sarah Gay

ClearWater Arts Center Coordinator / Public Art Liaison
City of Concord, NC

Email Address: gays@concordnc.gov

Office Phone: (704) 920-6601