



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

## PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE REPORT

Carla Simms, Committee Chair

February 28, 2024

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### FY24 Grant Program Update

Color the Curb: School Safety Program

#### Program Description

Color the Curb: School Safety Program is a collaborative design and placemaking project created through a partnership of The District of Columbia Commission on Arts and Humanities (CAH), District Department of Transportation (DDOT), and DC Public Schools (DCPS). This program aims to increase pedestrian safety by painting ground murals in curb extensions outside or near schools in Washington, DC. The RFA seeks applications from mural artists and design professionals with prior large-scale exterior mural painting and youth engagement experience to design and install these ground murals in the intersections of 4 (four) schools in. For FY24 those schools are in Ward 1, Ward 4, Ward 5 and Ward 8 in Washington, DC. Selected artists will be paired with one of the 4 (four) designated elementary schools and will work closely with faculty and students at the paired school, to create a final mural design.

#### Recommendation

Review Panel meet on Thursday, February 1, and decided on a FY24 funding recommendation of 4 finalists at \$120,000

### Public Art Grant Updates

- On Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, the Public Art Committee convened to decide on recommendations for some FY25 Public Art Grants. From those recommendations, the committee voted to bring the following recommendations for a vote to the full commission:
  - Public Art Building Communities (PABC)
    - Inclusion of an “impact statement” to give applications with repeated projects or themes a chance to explain how their current application concept builds or innovates on the past years concept.
    - Program Manager will explore language to address the use of AI in Public Art Projects
  - Artist Exhibition Grant (AEG)
    - Curators from DC based Nonprofit Organizations are now eligible to apply
    - Allow for DC curators to propose bringing existing or previously exhibited shows to our gallery
  - Art Bank Program (ABP)
    - Create a requirement that specifies that a percentage of our acquisitions from each year will be from artists that are new to the Art Bank collection.

The percentage has not been determined, but the current operative percentage is 25%

- Color the Curb: School Safety Program (CTC)
  - Keep grantees from the previous fiscal year as ineligible to apply for the next fiscal year
  - Expand school engagement to middle and high schools
- Call to Order: JEG Exhibition “Legacy: Civil Rights at 60” closing Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, with a special event from 6 – 8 in the gallery. There will be a discussion with contemporary civil rights leaders and a pop up story booth to capture oral histories in partnership with HumanitiesDC. Commissioners are invited to attend
  - RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/legacy-civil-rights-at-60-closing-reception-tickets-840500378257>
- Next exhibition in CAH’s 200 Eye ST Gallery will be a collaboration with Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) and run during the Spring. More details to come