



WESTPORT CT OPEN CALL FOR ART

Bedford Middle School & Coleytown Middle School Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 24, 2022



WESTPORT ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WAAC) in partnership with **WESTPORT PUBLIC ART COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE (WestPAC)** is requesting proposals from **Fairfield County-based artists** for 9-month loans of large-scale artwork to be installed and displayed at Westport Public Schools' **Bedford Middle School (BMS)** and **Coleytown Middle School (CMS)**.

OPEN CALL FOR ART: WestPAC and WAAC seek to expand the mission of bringing original artworks to our schools with loans of work by local and regional artists representing varied and diverse voices and to help stimulate discussion and connect with art and other subject-area curricula in the middle schools.

SUBMISSION PARAMETERS:

- **Subject, genre, or style.** Original works of art are to demonstrate artistic excellence and be appropriate for the main audience of students in grades 6-8 (ages 12-15) and for a school learning environment. We are especially interested in artworks that can stimulate dialogue about issues of contemporary or historical significance; **Painting, photography, textiles, or other two-dimensional media** suitable for safely and securely hanging on the wall in elevated locations in the schools using the [STAS mini-rail](#) and pylon cord hanging system in place at both locations.
- **The Artist or artist team is responsible for the installation of the art**, with assistance of WAAC/WestPAC committee members and WPS facilities staff, if needed and with advance notice. **There is no financial award** associated with the artist(s) selection, and no expense reimbursement to the artist(s) for time and materials in creating or installing selected work(s).
- **Artwork Minimum & Maximum dimensions:** The accepted artwork could be an overall large-scale work or a series of related works installed side-by-side, where no individual objects's horizontal dimension is less than 36 inches. Maximum dimensions are listed below under each site. *Note: If you have a concept that doesn't meet these requirements, please contact us prior to your submission.*

Bedford Middle School, Library Media Center: Maximum dimensions of artwork: 9 feet height x 14.5 feet width; **Coleytown Middle School, Main Stairwell:** Maximum dimensions of artwork: 6 feet height x 19 feet width

Proposals deadline: September 23, 2022; **Studio visits and selection process:** October 3 - 14, 2022; **Selection Committee announcement:** October 17, 2022; **Installation:** late October to early November 2022; **Deinstallation:** end of June 2023 (after close of school year)

SUBMISSIONS: Submit short proposal to westpac@westportps.org by September 23, 2022. Include: Short description of 1) the proposed artwork, including dimensions (H x W X D inches) and approximate weight, and 2) how you envision the work engaging a middle school audience and the school community at large and 3) what excites you most about this project.; Full view digital images (3) of each proposed work and of its installation (2), if available; please send .jpg files (300 dpi, 4MB max); Artist statement on proposed work(s) to introduce the Selection Committee to who you are as an artist and some of the themes and ideas you explore in your artwork; CV/resume and short bio for the press; Link to your art website and/or art social media sites.

Questions?

- Kathie Bennewitz, Town Curator and Ive Covaci, WestPAC Chair: westpac@westportps.org
- Nancy Diamond, WAAC Chair: WAAC@westportct.gov