

Call for Artists

Project Description

The project is a collaboration between Mill City Museum, Stone Arch Bridge Festival, a local artist(s) and school age children who attend Mill City Museum and Mississippi Park Connection field trips during the months of April and May 2023. These entities are working together to create three impactful and inclusive temporary public art pieces to be displayed during and after the Stone Arch Bridge Festival in June of 2023.

Main Project Collaborators:

[Mill City Museum](#) is situated on the lively Mississippi riverfront — the very birthplace of Minneapolis. This National Historic Landmark is part of the Minnesota Historical Society network of sites and museums. Built within the ruins of what was once the world's largest flour mill, Mill City Museum is packed with fun for all ages. Staff at the museum have participated in two similar installations in 2020 and 2021.

The [Stone Arch Bridge Festival](#) is a 27 year festival tradition on the Minneapolis Riverfront. It is a high energy festival featuring a combination of artist vendors, music and food situated on the west bank of the Mississippi at St. Anthony Falls in Minneapolis.

Art Pieces Descriptions: *See photo inspiration examples at end of this document.*

Education Experience Driven Installation: Students will be prompted to capture a visual memory or feeling they experienced while on their field trip. Field trips include views of the Mpls Riverfront and the history, preservation and natural resources in the Minneapolis heritage zone. Students will be invited to express their impressions of the Heritage Zone with a drawing, poetry, or word art. Teachers who opt in will be given a packet with individual pieces of recycled vinyl for the students to use as their base media. To tie the learning to the art project teachers will be provided with a short classroom lesson about Impressionism and Expressionism art style. These pieces will be collected by Mill City Museum and given to the artist to incorporate into the art installation.

The chosen artist is asked to capture the energy and ideas from the students' work to inform and inspire the large art installation. Hopefully further exploring Impressionism and Expressionism art styles. The artist is asked to use the same recycled vinyl for the majority of the piece. It is preferred that the vinyl pieces created by students be incorporated into the artist piece. Alternatively they can be displayed adjacent to it. See examples at the end of this document.

Public engagement element: Festival attendees will have the opportunity to add on to the art piece during the Stone Art Bridge Festival with a similar prompt and art supplies. Additional educational information through a QR code would be displayed near the public art piece and on the festival website.

Entry Piece: Artist/artist team will design, fabricate and install an artistic street display as an "entry" and "welcome" for festival attendees to easily find the art installation and family activity area of the festival.

Complimentary Artist Created Element: OPTIONAL Artist can create or provide a thematically connected feature piece to display during the festival. The artist is invited to be onsite during the festival with their artwork and to engage with attendees. (promotional opportunity for the artist) Location: TBD

Summary: Artwork by Artist/Artist Team:

1.) Education Experience Driven Installation:

- Design, fabricate and install a thematic and artistic, cohesive, site and materials specific, temporary installation using preselected work media.

2.) Entry Piece: family activity area

- Create and install an impactful display to be used during the festival as an “entry” and “welcome” for festival attendees to easily find the art installation and family activity area of the festival.

3.) Optional: Complimentary Artist Created Element

- Feature piece by the artist to display during the festival. The artist is invited to be onsite during the festival with their artwork and to engage with attendees. (promotional opportunity for the artist)

Artist will ALSO be responsible for and to:

- Collaborate with Mill City Museum staff on design, project logistics, installation logistics
- Create coordinating graphic design for signage to use for installation labels and infographics during the festival by set deadlines
- Contribute to the creation of the prompt and educational materials being sent to teachers.
- Project manage the project and timeline with regular check ins with collaborator team
- Assist with educational materials preparation
- Coordinate and assist with installation
- Attending the Stone Arch Festival to facilitate public additions to the installation. Time TBD by artist/artist team
- **Cultivating a collaborative, flexible and positive relationship between project entities/team**

Mill City Museum/Stone Arch Festival will be responsible for:

- Collaborating, advising on design, project logistics, installation logistics
- Sourcing recycled vinyl
- Sourcing other installation materials
- Assist with educational materials preparation
- Contacting teachers to secure participation, providing packets
- Providing workspace during standard daytime business hours and museum open times on weekends.
- Assist with installation
- **Cultivating a collaborative, flexible and positive relationship between project entities/team**

Work media:

Recycled vinyl banner pieces with student artwork. Piece size TBD.

In addition the artist will create graphic designs for coordinated outdoor signage in digital files.

Work size:

Installation space size: 8’ tall by up to 120’ long chain link fence. [Example](#)

Entry display would be on West River Parkway near the art installation including possibly suspending over the street.

Project Timeline:

Sunday, March 26

Artist Application Deadline

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Wednesday, March 29 | Artist Notifications |
| Friday, March 31 | Onsite meeting with project collaborators. Emails to field trip registered teachers. |
| Week of April 3 | Materials prepped and packets for teachers compiled |
| Week of May 26 | Gather submissions from schools and deliver to artist |
| Week of June 12 | Installation |

Saturday, June 17 and Sunday, June 18 - Stone Arch Bridge Festival

The artwork is temporary. Based on the wear and tear condition of artwork the installation will potentially remain installed through the weekend of July 8, 2023.

Stipend:

Selected artist(s) will receive a **\$5,000-6,000** stipend

There is a separate budget amount for supplies.

There will be no Insurance for artwork.

Eligibility:

Artists must be 18+ years of age

Artist must have transportation to the installation site

Artist must have daytime availability to meet with collaborating team

- Digital meetings possible for project check in

Entry requirements:

Artist must be 18+ years of age

Artist must be able to work outside to assist with installation

Entry Submission must include:

1. Short cover letter including:
 - a) Interest statement
 - b) Short concept/design idea statement for this project including:
 - How will the student pieces be used by the artist?
 - Rough Sketch if possible
 - Description of the entry display and how it would be installed.
2. 5-8 digital images of work as either Jpeg attachments, website, or Google folder
3. Artist Resume

Submit entries VIA EMAIL ONLY to:

Sara Collins - Stone Arch Bridge Festival Executive Director: saracollinsemail@gmail.com

Wini Froelich - Mill City Museum Program Specialist: Wini.froelich@mnhs.org

Submission Deadline: 12 am on Mar 26, 2023

Entries review, selection process and notification:

Entries will be reviewed and selected by Sara Collins and Wini Froelich. The artist chosen will be notified by March 29. All other artists will be notified by April 3.

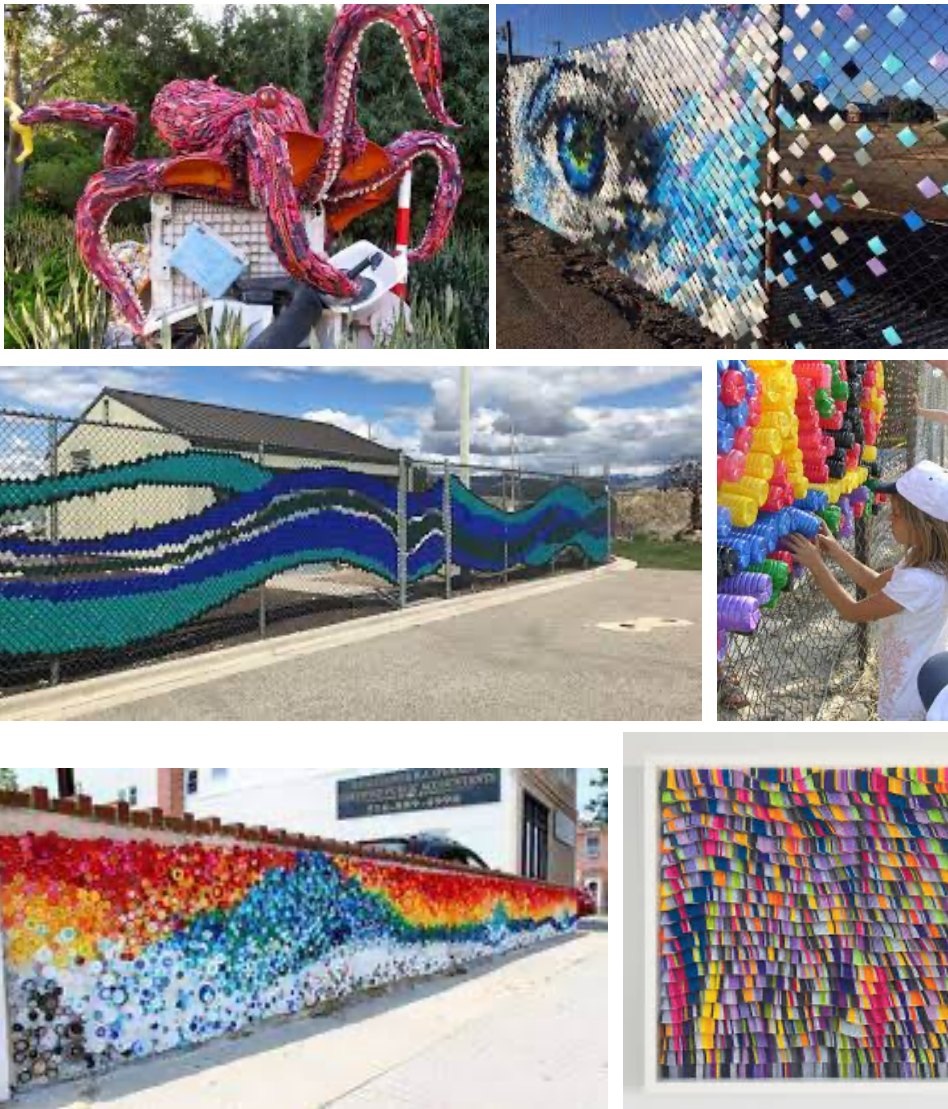
CONTACT: Wini.Froelich at 612-341-7539 or wini.froelich@mnhs.org with questions.

Installation Location

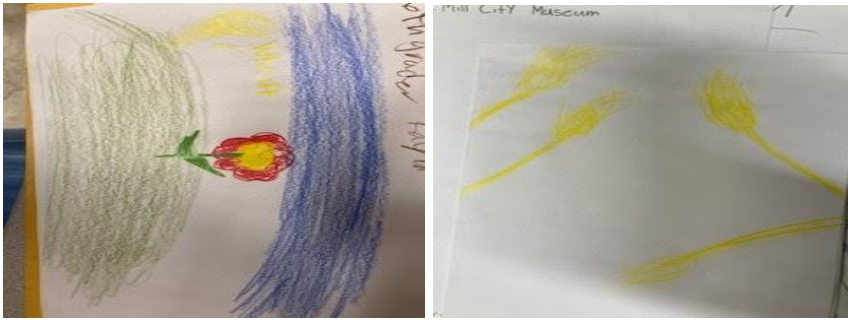


Project Inspiration Images

Education Themed Art Installation/Public Participation



Examples of what might be returned with student pieces:



Entry Piece - for Stone Arch Weekend only.



Complimentary Artist Created Element

