



2495 Main Street #401, Buffalo NY 14214 \* 716-833-3004 \* [www.asiwny.org](http://www.asiwny.org)

## Call for Artist(s)

**Multiple Locations: South Buffalo, Lackawanna, West Seneca, and Orchard Park**

**Paint Your Town Public Art Project**

**Deadline: September 11, 2023**

*Revised 8/31/23*

Arts Services Inc. of Western New York (ASI), on behalf of Assemblymember Patrick Burke's Office, invites artists from throughout Western New York to submit proposals for an outdoor public art project called "Paint Your Town".

### **Project Background and Goals**

Four (4) towns within Assemblymember Burke's district will have fiber glass buffaloes placed at various locations to celebrate themes and community within those towns. The buffaloes are blank canvases and Assemblymember Patrick Burke's Office is seeking four (4) artists to design each of the buffaloes. Designing these buffaloes are a way for local artists to pay tribute to their friends, neighbors, and others within the community.

**South Buffalo:** This fiberglass buffalo will pay tribute to the resilience and bravery of hospital workers and first responders who fought tirelessly to aid and protect our community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The buffalo should be painted according to the theme of "Heroes of South Buffalo" and reflect the spirit of the community.

The selected artist should incorporate the names of healthcare workers who lost their lives in the line of duty during the pandemic into the design (names will be provided). The artwork should celebrate the dedication and sacrifice of these heroic individuals, reminding the community of their selflessness and commitment.

The Heroes of South Buffalo Buffalo will serve as a permanent symbol of gratitude, respect, and recognition for healthcare workers and first responders, reflecting the community's values and spirit. The selected artist will receive payment for their work and recognition for their contribution to the community's artistic landscape.

Overall, this project aims to promote local art, support community engagement, and honor the heroes of South Buffalo who demonstrated exceptional courage and resilience during challenging times.



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**LOCATION: CWA HEADQUARTERS (821 Elk St. Buffalo, NY 14210)**

Final location may change.

**Lackawanna:** The Lackawanna Buffalo is a call to art seeking an artist to paint a fiberglass buffalo that captures the essence of Lackawanna's rich history and unique heritage. The theme for this project is celebrating union legacy and diversity, highlighting the town's principles of solidarity, labor unions, and diverse communities.

The selected artist should draw inspiration from the town's history, including the struggles and triumphs of labor unions, the contributions of diverse communities, and the impact of Casimer Mazurek's legacy. Through their creative expressions, artists can convey their interpretation of Lackawanna's rich heritage and its significance in today's context.

Artists are encouraged to explore the themes of unionism, diversity, and social justice in their works. The artwork should depict the diversity of the community, the strength of solidarity among different groups, and the impact of the labor movement on shaping Lackawanna's past, present, and future. Incorporating symbolism, metaphors, and storytelling techniques is also encouraged to capture the complexity and depth of the theme.

The Lackawanna Buffalo will serve as a permanent installation that celebrates the town's union legacy and diversity through the lens of art. The selected artist will receive payment for their work and recognition for their contribution to the community's artistic landscape.

This project aims to promote local art, support community engagement, and celebrate Lackawanna's proud history of social activism, inclusivity, and the power of solidarity. Artists of all backgrounds and experiences are invited to participate in this call to art and contribute their unique perspectives to this compelling theme.

**LOCATION: SMALL "PARK", NEXT TO LACKAWANNA CITY HALL (714 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218)**

**West Seneca:** The town of West Seneca, New York, has a rich artistic heritage, deeply connected to the renowned American painter Charles Burchfield, whose vision and artistic style were inspired by the beauty and spirit of the local landscape. This call to art invites artists to pay homage to Burchfield's legacy by creating a mural that captures the essence of West Seneca and its artistic heritage.



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Artists are encouraged to draw inspiration from Burchfield's artistic legacy and the beauty of West Seneca's landscape to create a mural that reflects the spirit and character of the town. The mural can capture the changing seasons, the local flora and fauna, the architecture, or the people of West Seneca in a Burchfield-inspired style.

Through the use of vibrant colors, bold brushstrokes, and expressive compositions, the mural should aim to evoke a sense of connection to the local environment, the history, and the community of West Seneca. The artwork should be visually impactful, conveying a strong emotional message and celebrating the unique artistic heritage of the town.

This call to art seeks to celebrate Burchfield's artistic legacy and its significance in West Seneca's cultural heritage. The mural will serve as a visual testament to Burchfield's enduring influence on the town and will contribute to the local landscape by adding a vibrant and meaningful artistic expression.

**LOCATION: CHARLES E. BURCHFIELD NATURE AND ART CENTER (2001 Union Road, West Seneca, NY 14224)**

**Orchard Park:** Orchard Park has a rich history as a stop on the Underground Railroad in the mid to late 1800s. As one of the final stops before Canada, the town provided a pathway to freedom for enslaved individuals seeking refuge. The Quakers, who were the first religious society to speak out against slavery, played a pivotal role in the abolitionist movement and were active in forming organizations such as "The American Convention for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery and Improving the Condition of the African Race."

To commemorate this important chapter in American history, the Paint Your Town Buffalo project invites artists to create a mural on a fiberglass buffalo dedicated to the Underground Railroad. The artwork should capture the spirit of resilience, hope, and courage of the enslaved individuals who sought freedom in Orchard Park, as well as highlight the efforts of the Quakers and other abolitionists who provided assistance along the Underground Railroad. The mural will serve as a powerful visual representation of the town's history and promote awareness and understanding of this important chapter in American history.

Artists of all backgrounds and styles are encouraged to participate in this call to art. The selected artwork will be prominently displayed, inviting visitors to learn more about the town's heritage and the brave individuals who journeyed to freedom through the Underground Railroad. Through this artwork, Orchard Park will honor its heritage and contribute to a powerful visual narrative that promotes awareness and understanding of this important part of American history.



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**LOCATION: ORCHARD PARK LIBRARY (4570 S Buffalo St, Orchard Park, NY 14127)**

*Preference will be given to artists within each of the towns, however any Western New York artist is eligible to apply for any of the town buffaloes. Artists should apply for **ONLY ONE** town buffalo project.*

**The chosen work should:**

- Meet the town theme criteria;
- Fit within the dimensions of the fiber glass buffalo [8'(L) x 2.5' (W) x 5' (H)]. Artists may use all, or a portion, of the fiber glass buffalo space within the design. The buffalo weighs 200lbs (artist is NOT responsible for its transport to the final location);
- Be able to be applied to the fiber glass buffalo in an outdoor space, we encourage various types of mediums and materials (2 or 3 dimensional);
- Have an expected lifespan of at least 5 years unprotected from the elements.

**Budget**

A commission of up to \$2,000 is available for each of the chosen artists to create their work.

Artists are required to provide all supplies and materials to complete the work. The fiber glass buffalo in which the work will be placed will be provided for the artists. **Please include any and all supply requests in artist proposal. Artists should detail what assistance or materials are provided by his/her/them self and what may be required or needed by the property/location owners or others in their proposal (if applicable).**

**Timeline**

**Deadline to Submit: No later than 5 pm on Friday, August 25**

**September:** Selection of Artists

**September:** Public Announcement of Selections

**September:** Design implementation & Planning Meetings; completed and installed work (weather-dependent)

The timeline will adhere to artist's ability to apply the design to the fiber glass buffalo (in an indoor or outdoor location depending on timing); including factoring in proper weather conditions.

**Proposals should include:**

- Which town buffalo the artist is applying for;
- A description of the work including materials and dimensions;



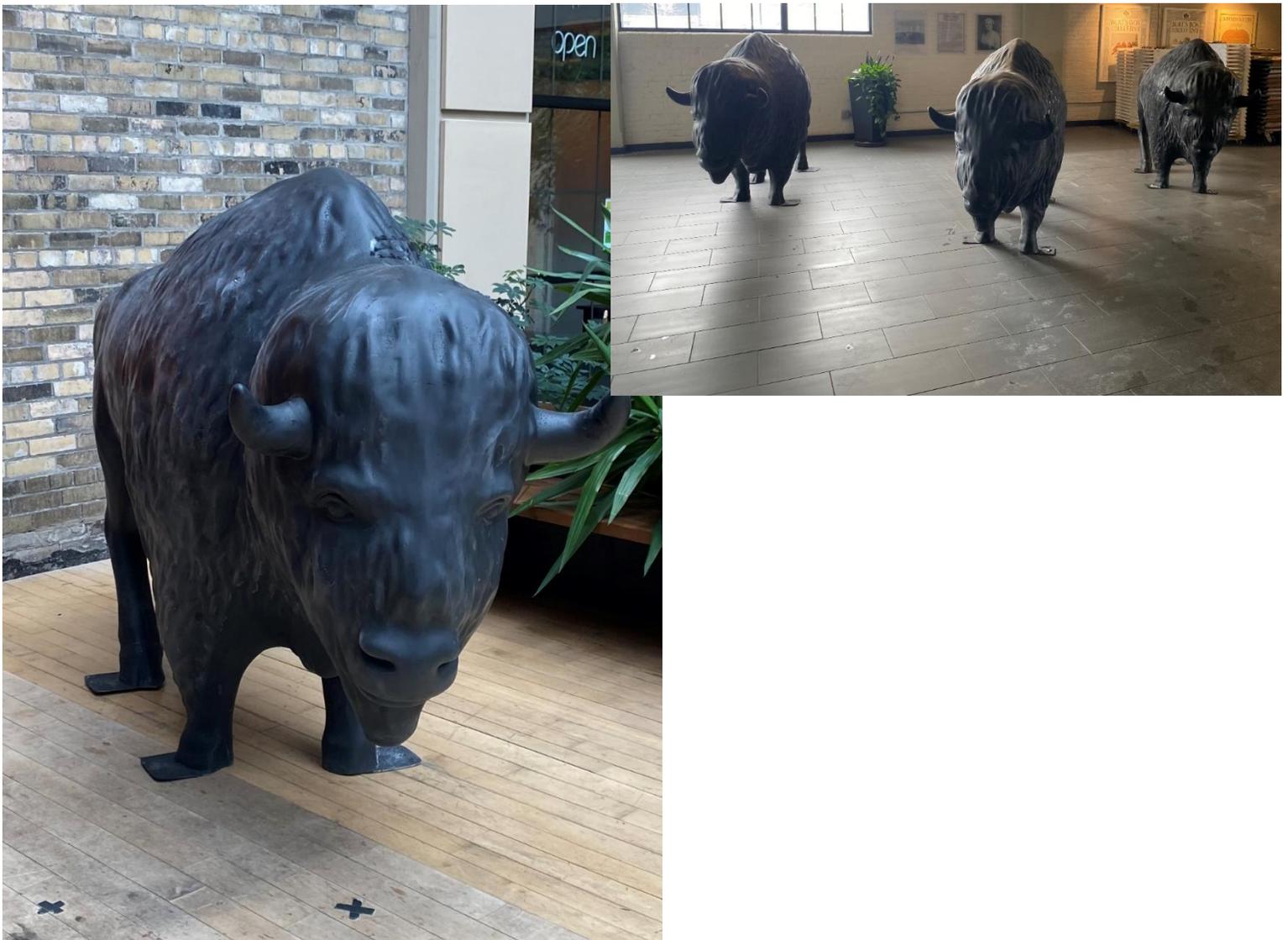
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- Sketches of the work;
- Links to examples of past work; and
- Contact information (including email, phone, and address).

Proposals should be sent electronically (in PDF form) to [info@asiwny.org](mailto:info@asiwny.org) with the subject line 'SPECIFIC TOWN NAME – Paint Your Town', as can questions. If necessary, artists can visit each property location for a perspective of where the fiber glass buffalo will be placed (please reference photos below). The sites are open and available to the public.

Proposals are **due no later than 5 pm on Friday, August 25**

**Photo Attachments Below:**



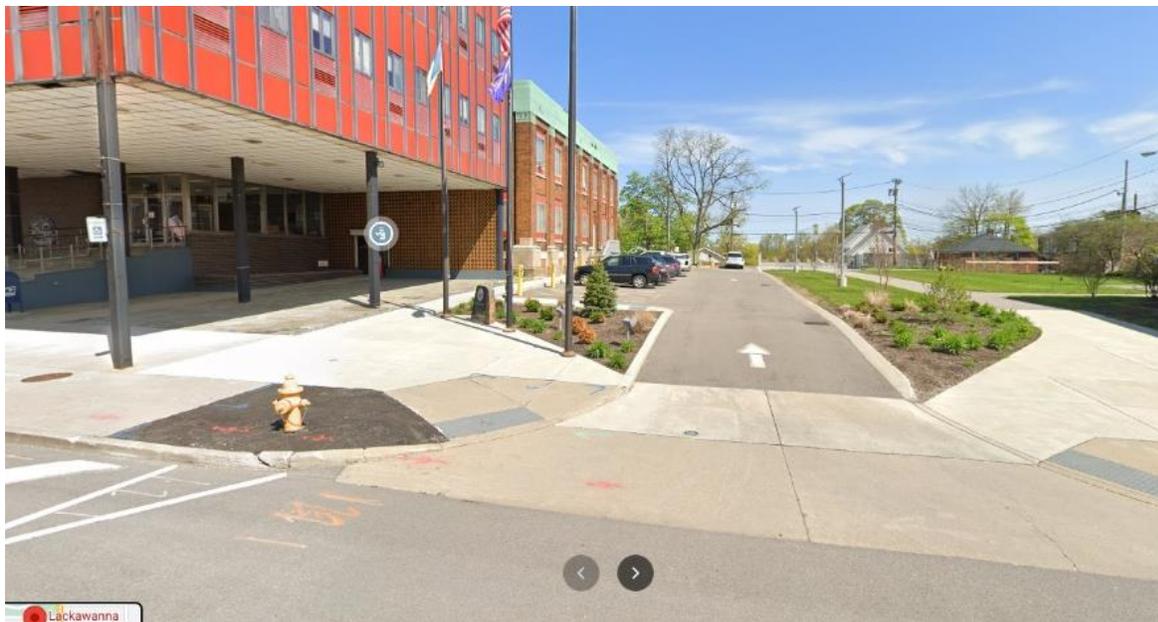


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**South Buffalo Location:** 821 Elk St. Buffalo, NY 14210 (Final Location May Change)



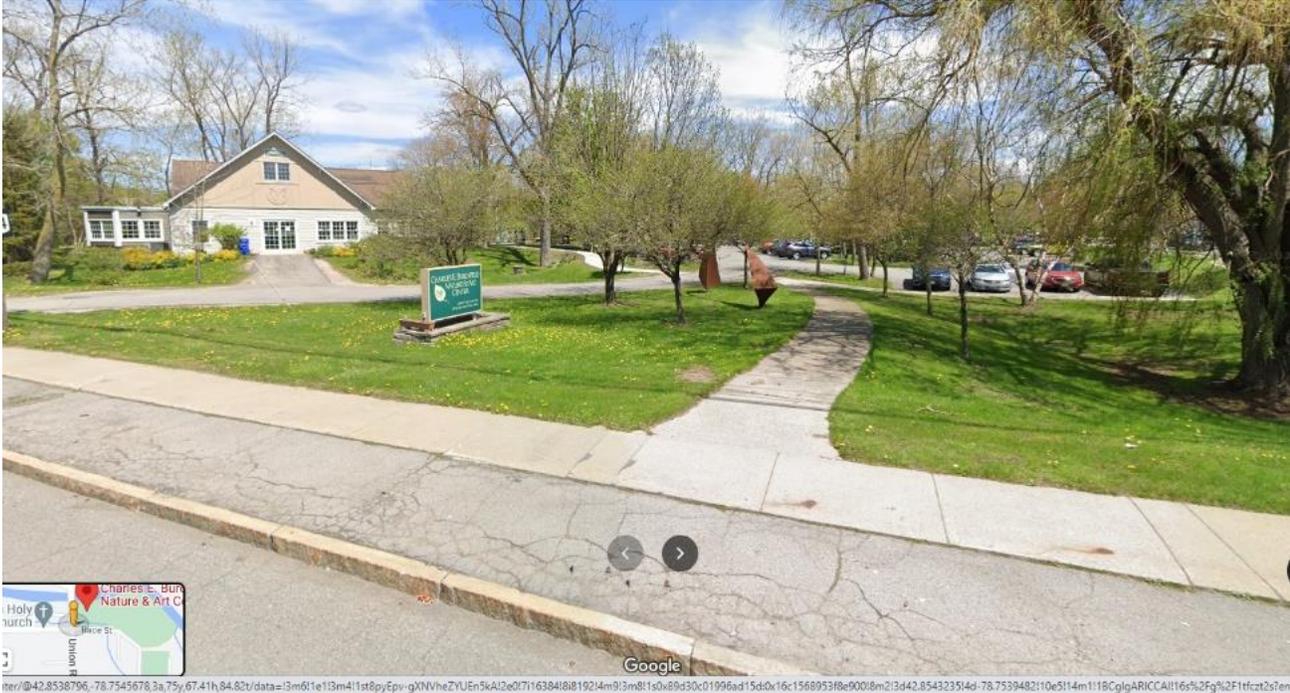
**Lackawanna Location:** 714 Ridge Rd, Lackawanna, NY 14218





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**West Seneca Location:** The Burchfield Nature and Arts Center, 2001 Union Rd. West Seneca, NY



**Orchard Park Location:** 4570 S Buffalo St, Orchard Park NY 14127



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