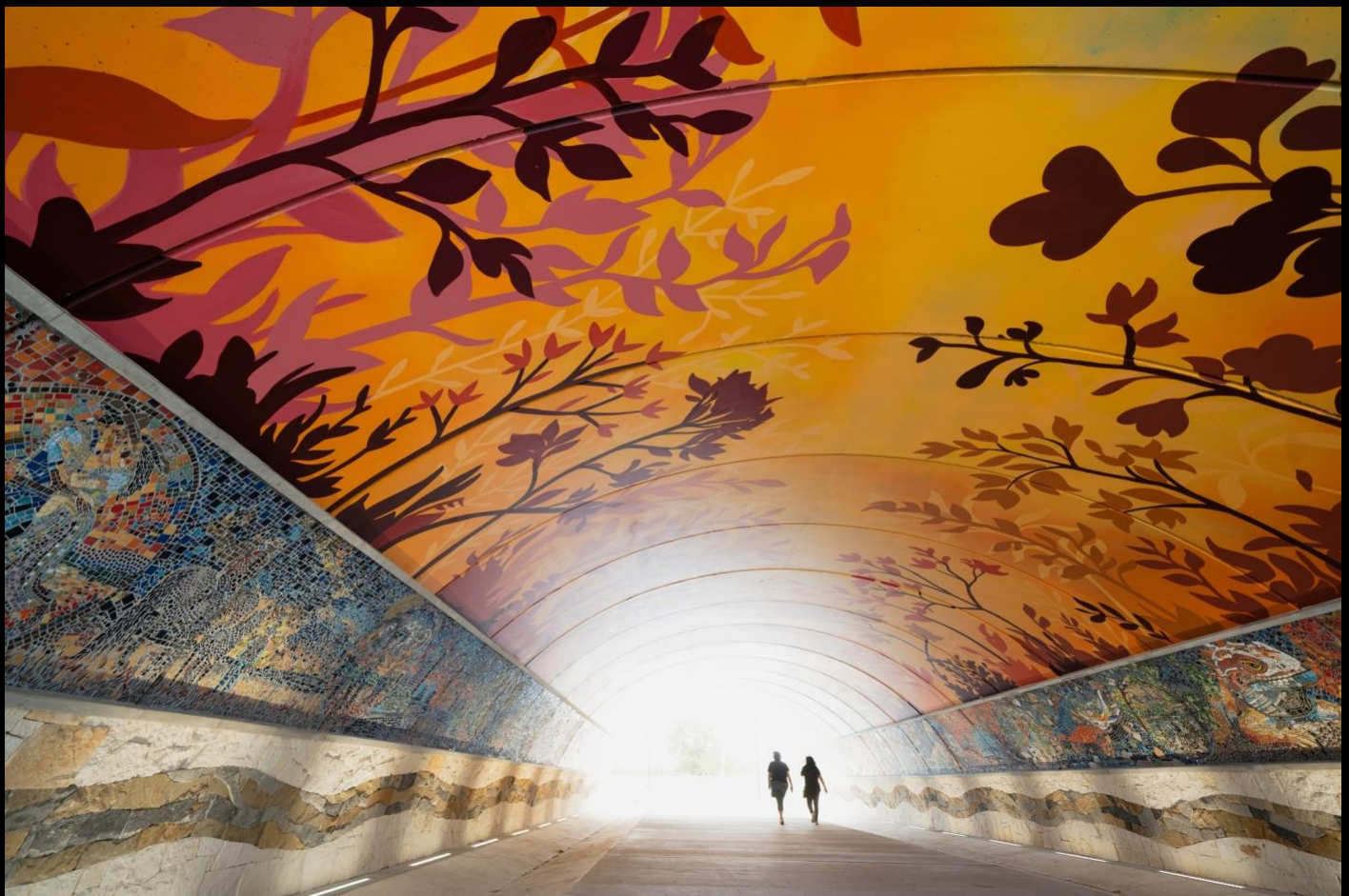




Precedent Image: "Unity Tunnel" by artist Reginald Adams. Image courtesy of Lauren Slusher for The City of Austin's Art in Public Places program.

Greenway Tunnels Artist Call

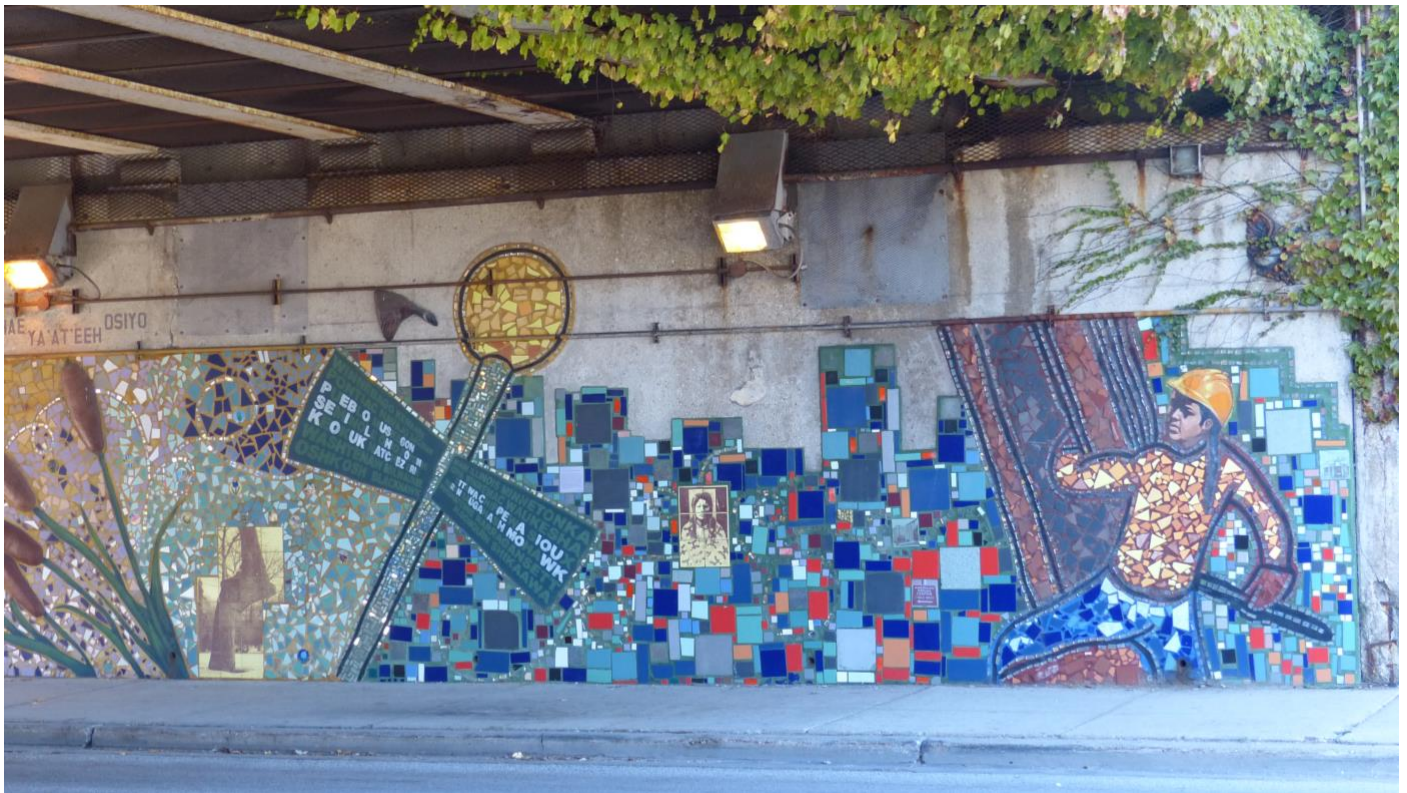
Durable Public Art Installations on Tunnels along the Raleigh Greenway

raleighnc.gov/arts



Raleigh
Arts

Greenway Tunnels Artist Call



Precedent Image: "Indian Land Dancing" by artists Cynthia Weiss, Tracy Van Duinen, and Todd Osborne, located in Chicago. Image by Steve Silverman, shared under a Creative Commons BY-NC-ND 2.0 license.

Summary

- The City of Raleigh is seeking three (3) artist/artist teams to create durable public art on tunnel entrances or wing walls along the Raleigh Greenway.
- Three projects will be funded at three separate locations for \$30,000 each.
- The artist selection panel will select up to six (6) semi-finalists to submit a detailed project proposal for an honorarium of \$250.
- Artwork may consist of ceramic or mosaic art, fabricated metalwork, or similar installations with long-lasting materials. While paint can be proposed as part of the artistic treatment, proposals that are solely murals will not be considered.
- Applications are due **November 20, 2026, at 11:59pm.**
- Submit online at:
<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/91770>

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Precedent Images: Moorings Drive Underpass by artist Olin Russum for Public Art Reston in Reston, Va.

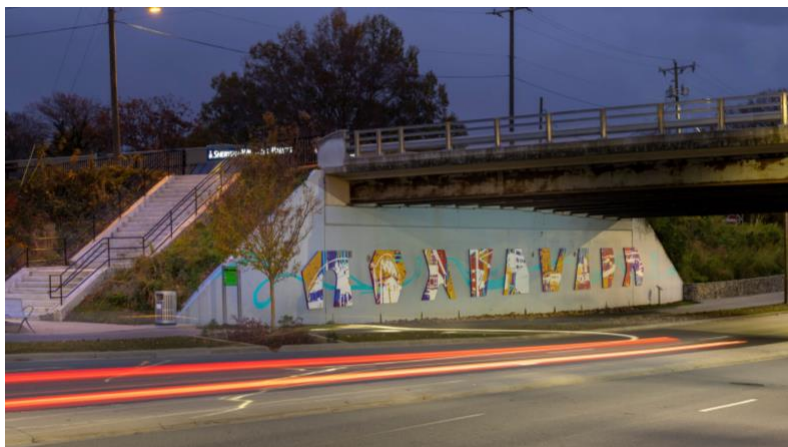
Eligibility

- This opportunity is open to individuals and teams who **live or work in North Carolina**.
- Applicants must be legally authorized to work in the United States and have unexpired documents that establish employment eligibility.
- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
- Applicants must have at least a three-year history of professional practice.
- Applicants must have demonstrated experience in design through the creation of high-quality work.
- Lead applicant cannot be enrolled in an undergraduate course of study in the visual arts as of January 1, 2026.

Budget

Each selected artist/artist team will have a budget of \$30,000 for their artwork. This is inclusive of design, artwork fabrication, taxes, travel, and fees.

Raleigh Arts will hold separate funding to cover community engagement expenses and accessibility accommodations for the project. These funds will be administered by the arts office and can cover things like public meetings, creative input gathering events, working with Greenway users, and hiring local artists to help with outreach. Artists will work with Raleigh Arts to create an engagement plan.



Precedent Images: “Modern Love” by artist Sharon Dowell, a part of Greensboro’s Public Art on the Downtown Greenway program. Images used with permission of the artist.

Project Overview

In January of 2020, the City of Raleigh’s Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department began a two-year process to update the [Capital Area Greenway Master Plan](#). Now complete, the plan addresses the growing needs of a city that’s experienced extraordinary change in the last 30 years. It prioritizes investment in existing trails, including opportunities for public art.

In 2022, the City of Raleigh Parks Bond was passed, allocating funding for implementing public art along the Greenway system. In 2025, the public art team, working with local nonprofit Oaks and Spokes, hosted a series of public bike rides to help identify what locations and type of art were desired to make the greenway more vibrant, welcoming, and reflective of the Raleigh community.

Public Art Goals and Opportunities

- Public art on the Greenway should help create welcoming and safe environments along the trail and provide unexpected moments that make daily walks, runs, and bike rides more engaging.
- Community engagement surveys highlighted tunnels as a top area of interest for public art. Focusing efforts specifically on tunnel entrances and wing walls can create

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highly visible art opportunities, while also avoiding potential maintenance issues that come with tunnel interiors.

- Art should be durable and made of materials that will last outdoors with minimal maintenance. Possible solutions could include ceramics/mosaics, cut metal panels, or wall-mounted sculptures. Some surface painting could be proposed as part of the artwork, but stand-alone murals will not be considered.
- Art should not impede pathways or create hazards for trail users.
- Artwork themes will be informed through a community engagement process, but earlier surveys showed interest in art focused on nature, native plants and wildlife, and cultural histories and storytelling.
- Artists could consider opportunities for co-creating the art with community members and/or Greenway users. Collaborative mosaics or sculptures can give residents a greater connection to the trailways, to nature, and to their community.



Possible Art Locations: Left, Tunnel under South Saunders Street on Walnut Creek Trail. Right, Tunnel at Lake Boone Trail on the House Creek Trail. Final locations will be provided by Raleigh Arts to semi-finalists for their proposals.



About Raleigh's Greenways

This year, Raleigh celebrates the 50th anniversary of the [Capital Area Greenway System](#). This vibrant network of public trails and open spaces connects communities, supports recreation, and enhances the quality of life across Raleigh. Open daily from dawn to dusk, the Greenway is perfect for walking, cycling, or using a wheelchair or scooter. The trails connect to many of Raleigh's beautiful parks and other destinations throughout the city and are used by citizens to commute to work or school, enhance their physical health, and let them experience nature.

Proposed Project Timeline

Application Deadline	November 20, 2026
Semifinalists Selected and Notified	December 2026
Semifinalist Interviews	December 2026
Project Awarded	January 2027
Contract Finalized	February 2027
Community Engagement and Concept Design	Spring 2027
Final Design	Summer 2027
Fabrication and Installation	By End of 2027

Selection Criteria and Application Process

Applications submitted in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by the City of Raleigh Public Art Director, who will then forward all complete and eligible applications received by the deadline to the Artist Selection Panel. The Panel may include a member of the Public Art and Design Board, community, artists and arts professionals, Greenway users, and other stakeholders.

The Artist Selection Panel will evaluate the qualifications of artists based on three criteria: artistic merit and innovativeness of portfolio and appropriateness for the project. Six semi-finalists will be selected to submit proposals for an honorarium of \$200 each.

Those wishing to be considered must submit the following materials:

1. Statement of Interest

A statement, outlining your interest in this project and your experience working on public art projects, or relevant art experience. Include how your work and experience will complement this project specifically and how you might engage this site. This can be submitted as:

- A written statement of 300 words or less.
- Or a two minute or less audio or video clip. We will only play the first two minutes of audio for the panel.

2. Biography

A biography of no more than one page that includes information regarding your practice, experience, and education. If applying as a team, submit a single file containing separate biographies for each team member.

3. Three Professional References

Contact information for three references should be submitted, including name, title and affiliation, phone number and email address. References should be able to speak to your ability to provide services for a public art project or artwork of a similar scope.

4. Previous Work, Digital Images

Eight digital images of recent previous work (created within the past ten years) Each image should include: image number, artist's name, title, year, media, location, project budget, dimensions, commissioning agency, and collaborators or design professionals (if applicable).

Submission and Deadlines

Applications should be submitted through SlideRoom:

<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/91770>

All RFQ materials must be received no later than **November 20, 2026, at 11:59pm.**

Incomplete or late submittals will not be considered.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The policy of the City of Raleigh is, and shall be, to oppose any discrimination based on actual or perceived age, mental or physical disability, sex, religion, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial or marital status, economic status, veteran status or national origin in any aspect of modern life. The City of Raleigh Arts Commission strives for a diverse representation of voices, life experiences, views, and interests to reflect the collaborative community we have and wish to serve.

Additional Information

For questions or if you need accommodations in applying, please contact Raleigh Arts Public Art Project Manager, Kelly Marks, at kelly.marks@raleighnc.gov. For relevant information regarding the project, visit the Raleigh Arts website at raleighnc.gov/arts/services/public-art/greenways-public-art.