

## CALL TO ARTISTS

### PITTSFIELD BLACK LIVES MATTER ART PROJECT 2020

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#### Project Overview

The newly-formed Black Lives Matter Art Project, in partnership with the Berkshire County Branch of the NAACP, ROPE [Rites of Passage and Empowerment program] World, the City of Pittsfield, and Artscape, is seeking artists of color to install works of art in Pittsfield. The Black Lives Matter Art project aspires to promote equality and change. Artists are invited to submit their art proposals for artwork at or around Persip Park (see below for more location details) by September 15, 2020. The project is to be completed in the Fall of 2020. This new piece will be the second in a series of public art projects.

#### Process

- Up to 2 proposals/designs by each artist will be considered.
- Selections will be made by a jury selected by the Black Lives Matter Art Project.
- Submissions for Fall 2020 installation will be accepted through September 15, 2020.
- Artists will be notified if and when their designs are selected (expected by September 30, 2020).

#### Honoraria

There will be an artist stipend of up to \$2500, in addition to a supply stipend (amount to be determined).

#### Design Guidelines

- Artwork must be original.
- The following words were identified to inspire the designated art: *Empowerment, Education, Growth, Together, Black Excellence, Prosperity, Equality, Resistance, Truth, Non-Violence, Solidarity, Courage, Determination.*
- The committee believes it is important not only to list victims but also to focus on black lives that had a meaningful impact on the culture. Artists are encouraged to draw upon the richness of black history in the community, including local heroes and sheroes, i.e., the Rev. Samuel Harrison, Stephanie Wilson.

Designs may be representational or abstract but must respond to the community's context and be appropriate given the location and audience.

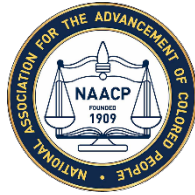
## Location

- We believe that a central location on North street (the “Main Street” / major thoroughfare) provides the greatest visibility and impact.
- We’ve identified Persip Park (including the fencing at the back of the park) as a possible location to have such an impact. [Click on the pictures for interactive Google Maps of the location.] Moreover, Persip Park is named after the one of Pittsfield’s most famous African American families. Alfred Persip was the first African American to enlist in World War I and Charles Persip was a charter member of American Legion Post 68. [According to [DPI’s History of Downtown Buildings.](#)] The Park was built in 1974 and dedicated in 1983 with the plaque pictured below [from [iBerkshires](#)]



- The art project could potentially activate Sotille Park, which is diagonal across the intersection of North Street & Columbus Avenue from Persip Park, and/or additional downtown wallspace, pending property owner approval.





## BLACK LIVES MATTER ART Application

Please submit up to 2 designs / proposals

Email completed application and appendices to: [BLMartPittsfield@gmail.com](mailto:BLMartPittsfield@gmail.com)

### Application checklist

- Completed Application with artist signature (2 page form)
- \*If you are unable to print the application due to Covid-19 restrictions, include your acceptance of terms in your email submission.
- Designs (up to 2), including materials list and cost estimate
- Artist statement of intent, description of concept and approach

### Other Items to Consider

- Only durable materials may be used in the creation of the artwork.
- Drop cloths should be used at all times while painting.
- Artists are responsible for protecting their work from the elements and possible vandalism with a protective varnish and coating of wax (Butcher's Wax may be applied manually and buffed to a finish, as appropriate.)
- Passage on the sidewalk for pedestrians must be at all times maintained. Blocking traffic or lanes of the street may only be done in coordination with the Committee, Artscape, and City officials.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Terms of Agreement

All artists selected for the Pittsfield Black Lives Matter Art Project must agree to the following:

- The work submitted by the artist is original, solely owned by the artist and reproduction will not violate the rights of any third party. Since the artistic designs leading up to and including the final design and dimension of the artwork are unique, the artist shall not make any additional, exact duplicate reproductions of the final design and dimension, nor shall the artist grant to a third party, the right to replicate the artistic designs and dimensions of the artwork, without the written permission of the Committee.
- The accepted artwork developed under this contract shall be the exclusive property of the Committee and its partners.
- The artist grants to the Committee and its partners, an irrevocable license to make reproductions of the artwork and the final designs to be used in brochures, media, publicity and catalogs or other similar, publications.
- The artwork may be removed and/or destroyed at any time without notification of the artist.

I understand that Committee, Artscape, and the City of Pittsfield have the right to paint over my design if, in the future, the appearance deteriorates due to weather or vandalism.

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Artist Signature

Date

Please contact [BLMartPittsfield@gmail.com](mailto:BLMartPittsfield@gmail.com) with questions.