

TO ARTISTS



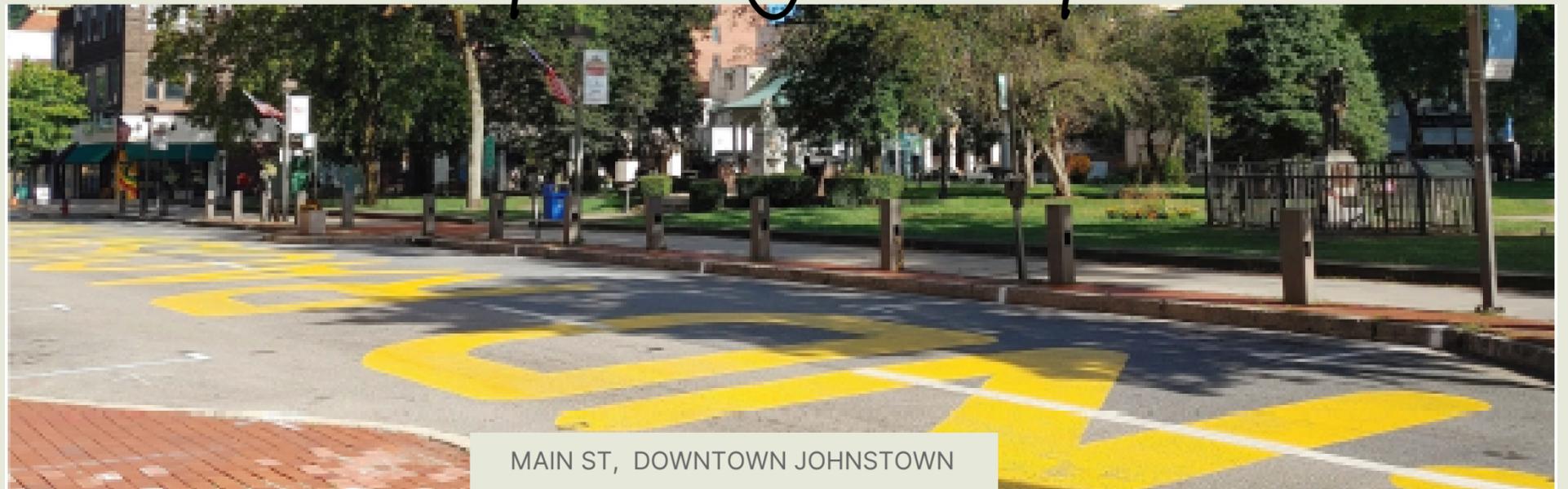
JOHNSTOWN, PA



CONNECTING PUBLIC ART

to Infrastructure Enhancement in Johnstown

Johnstown, PA is investing in future-ready infrastructure to foster growth, with a focus on **redesigning Main Street and Central Park**. Funded by a federal RAISE grant, the project will enhance the 0.61-mile stretch of Main Street by rebuilding curb lines, adding a bicycle lane, planting new greenery, and installing amenities like benches and lighting to improve accessibility and livability. Central Park will also be revitalized, with upgraded walking paths and ecological infrastructure, creating a vibrant hub for community events. This revitalization will encourage outdoor activities while fostering social connections, supporting local culture, and [enhancing the environment through improved green spaces](#) that contribute to **biodiversity** and [urban sustainability](#). In partnership with its citizens, SCAPE Landscape Architecture DPC, and a team of consultants, the City is committed to promoting **inclusivity, sustainability, and social justice** through this initiative. The goal is to foster a **cohesive environment** that celebrates local culture and encourages community engagement. For more information, visit johnstownpa.gov/raise-project.



*To complement this transformative infrastructure project funded by the federal RAISE grant, the City of Johnstown is also seeking to **integrate public art that reflects the aspirations and values of our community**. This public art initiative will serve as a **vital extension of the Main St and Central Park redesign**, enhancing the visual landscape and **promoting a sense of identity and connection among residents and visitors alike**.*

We are

UNITED FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE FUTURE

OUR VISION

Inspired by Johnstown's commitment to **inclusivity, equity, and resilience**, the public art in downtown should embody our city's dedication to fostering a vibrant and **interconnected** community. This artwork will serve as a symbol of our **collective journey** towards **sustainability and equity**.

When we gaze upon this artwork, let us envision a city where every resident thrives—where *pathways are not just physical*, but also opportunities for **growth and connection**. We aim to acknowledge and rectify **historical inequities** through innovative ideas and transparent governance.

The public art should celebrate our diversity and unity, reflecting our shared prosperity and commitment to social justice. They should remind us that *by investing in sustainable infrastructure and equitable transportation solutions, we pave the way for a healthier environment and a more cohesive community*.

Together, let us build bridges—both literal and metaphorical—that span generations, connecting us to a future where every Johnstown resident feels valued, connected, and hopeful. With gratitude to the RAISE grant, we embark on this journey towards a resilient city where all can flourish.



OUR COMMUNITY



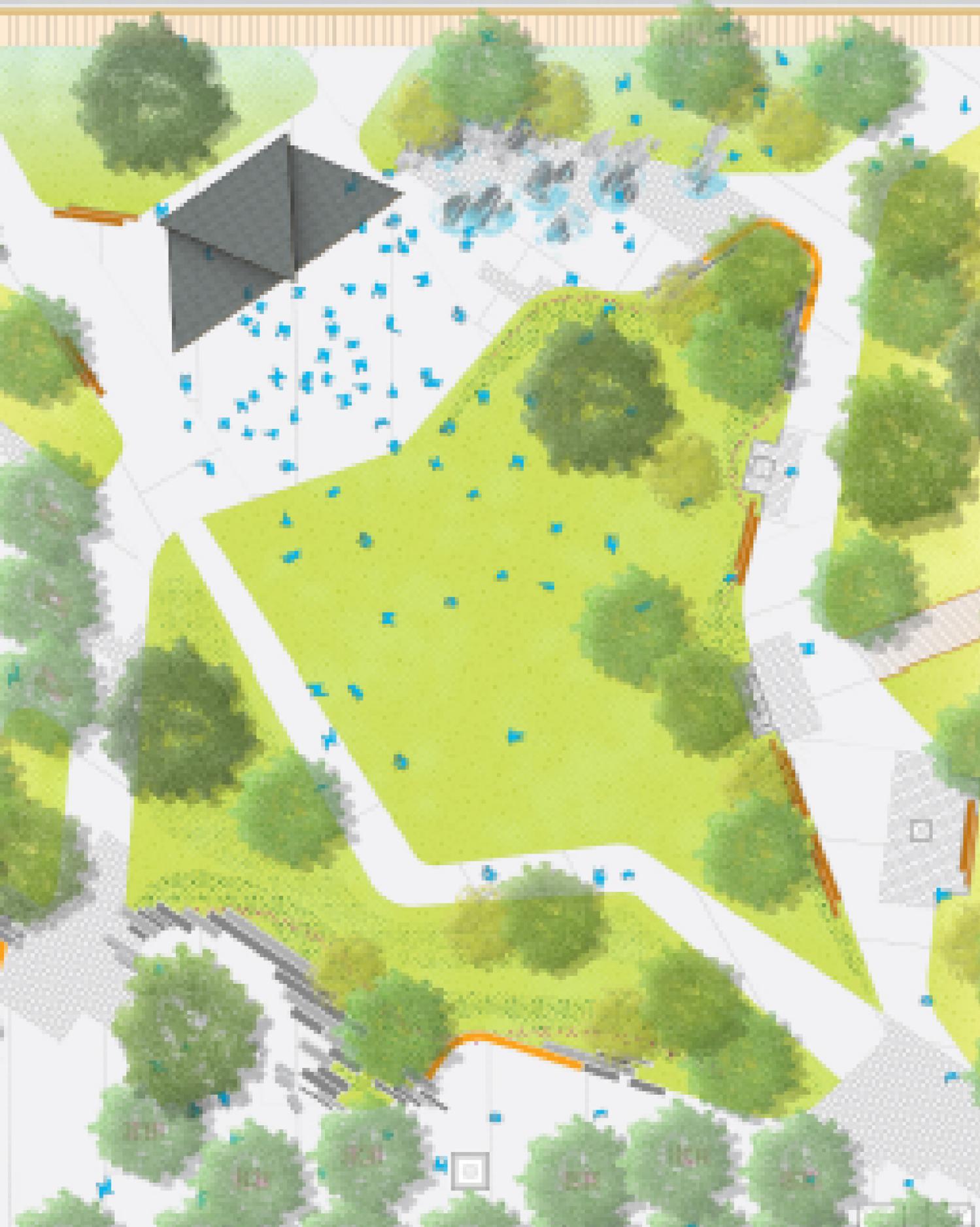
& vision MISSION

Public Art **MISSION STATEMENT**

Johnstown's Public Art Project is committed to fostering an inclusive, equitable, and resilient community through creative expression. We aim to address historical inequities by leveraging art as a tool for education, unity, and empowerment.

Our project seeks to celebrate diversity, promote social and environmental justice, and inspire a sense of connection and hope among all residents. By investing in innovative and collaborative art initiatives, we strive to build a city where every individual feels valued and engaged, contributing to a vibrant, cohesive community rooted in mutual respect and shared prosperity.





ABOUT RAISE

The RAISE grant from the US DOT aims to fund projects that foster **environmental sustainability, equity, and healthier, more cohesive communities** across the United States. These grants prioritize initiatives that:

- Promote equity and inclusion
- Incorporate sustainable practices
- Support economic development
- Promote sustainable transportation options, such as public transit, biking, and walking infrastructure.
- Utilize innovative approaches to planning and infrastructure development

▶▶ "EQUITY IS A CENTRAL PILLAR OF THE RAISE PROGRAM, ADDRESSING HISTORICAL DISPARITIES BY ENSURING UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES HAVE ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES."

By supporting projects that **enhance connectivity, reduce congestion, and create safer environments**, RAISE grants help build resilient communities where residents can thrive both economically and socially while minimizing environmental impacts. The City of Johnstown, by embracing these goals, not only improves its infrastructure but also reinforces its commitment to sustainability, equity, and community well-being. The project objectives—such as **inclusivity, accessibility, health promotion, and ecological sensitivity**—align with Johnstown's vision of becoming a more inclusive, equitable, and resilient city, creating a blueprint for sustainable growth and social justice.



About JOHNSTOWN



Johnstown, Pennsylvania, once a steel production hub, now faces challenges common to post-industrial cities, such as population decline, economic stagnation, and aging infrastructure. With its population dropping from over 60,000 in the mid-20th century to approximately 20,000 in 2020, city must evolve to remain competitive and attract new residents. Prioritizing innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability through projects like the redevelopment of Main St. and Central Park, while fostering a diverse economy and supporting local entrepreneurship, is crucial for revitalizing Johnstown and ensuring a vibrant future.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This RFQ is open to a diverse range of artists, including but not limited to: **Visual artists, sculptors, installation artists, multimedia artists, community artists, mural artists, ceramicists and mosaics artists, and cultural artists.**

While a formal education in art is not mandatory, artists with degrees or certifications in visual arts, design, or a related field are encouraged to apply.

Artists with experience in creating public art installations are encouraged to apply.

Artists with experience in engaging with local and diverse communities in their artistic practice are highly encouraged to apply.

Prior experience with public art projects is preferred, including familiarity with site-specific art.

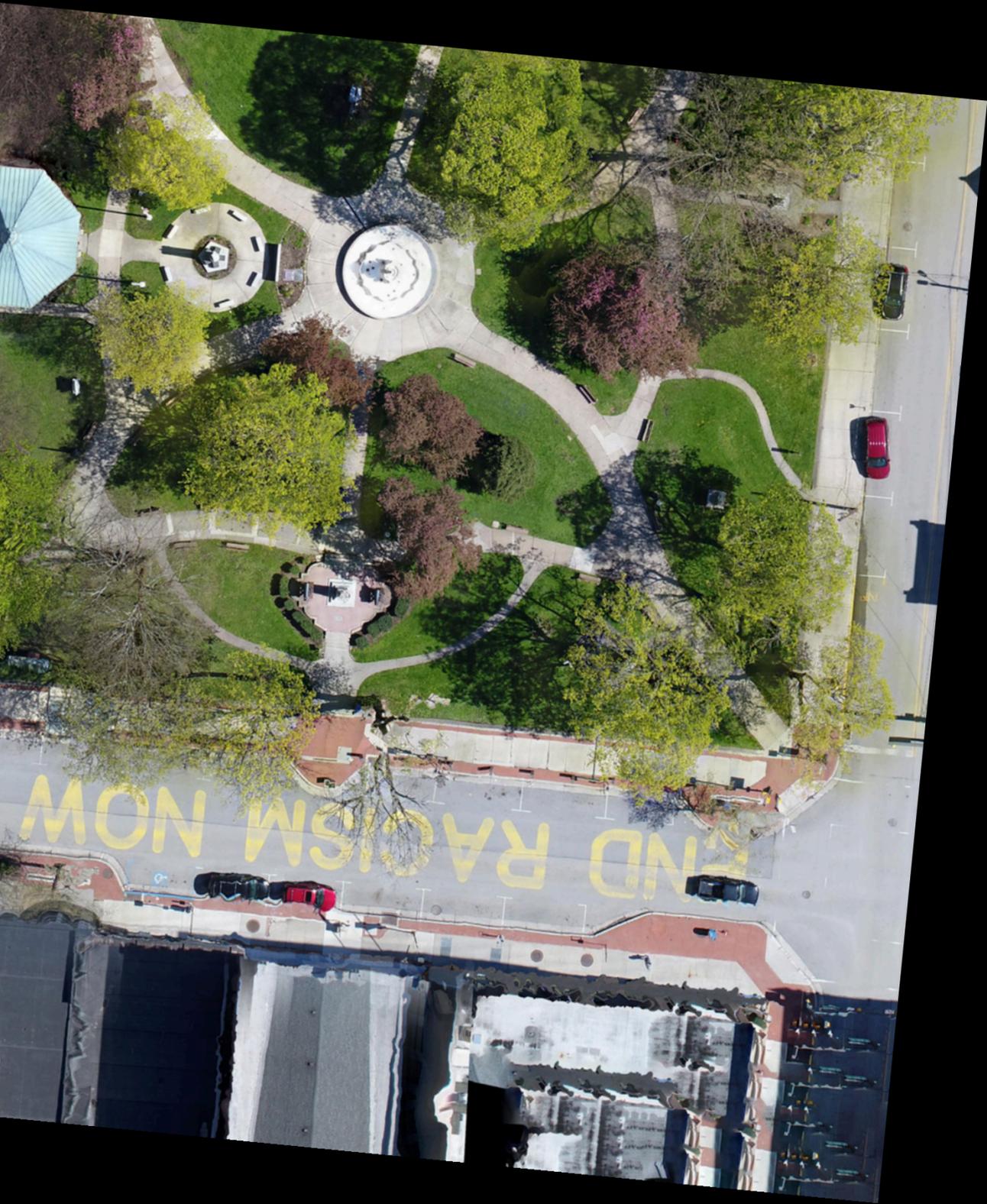
Applicants must show a clear understanding of the project's theme and objectives and how their artistic vision aligns with the community's needs.

BIPOC artists and artists from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented communities are encouraged to apply, as *we aim to reflect the rich cultural tapestry of our community.*

Preference may be given to artists who demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity and community engagement in their work.



The City of Johnstown has dedicated a budget of \$400,000 to potentially fund multiple public art projects. Detailed budget allocation for individual projects will be determined in the Request For Proposal (RFP) stage.



Artist SUBMISSIONS

All submissions must include:

- **Artist Resume/CV** (include contact info)
- **Artist Statement of Interest**
- A **narrative** – Articulate your vision and approach to art, points of inspiration, thoughts on materials, discuss the durability of your artwork and any plans for maintenance or future sustainability.
- **Artist Portfolio** showcasing relevant projects. Include details of size, material, cost, completion date, location and team (if applicable)
- **Professional websites** and/or **social media** accounts
- **Professional References** (up to five)
- Description of any **community engagement** experience

Format

- Submissions should be in PDF format.
- Documents should be 8.5"x11" or 11"x17", portrait or landscape orientation.
- All submission requirements should be clearly organized, titled, and labeled – with **artist initials** and **description of document**. (e.g.: AB _Public_Art _Submission)

Email Submissions to: 
Forms@Johnstownpa.gov

Please send all inquiries and questions via email to



Nina Ndichu
Director of Planning, Community & Economic Development
nndichu@johnstownpa.gov

[View existing public art in Johnstown and potential new sites here! \(map\)](#)

Note: Finalized public art locations will be in the RFP.

Submission

DEADLINES

★ **Deadline to Submit Questions: October 11th, 2024**

Responses to Questions will be released: **October 25th, 2024**
(two weeks after the question deadline)

★ **Final RFQ Proposal Submission Date: November 8th, 2024**
(two weeks after responses to questions)

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