



Waterbury Arts Announces New Grant Program for Public Art

Up to \$3000 Available Annually for Projects in Village and Center

WATERBURY, VT. (August 1, 2024) – Waterbury Arts, a volunteer-led committee of art enthusiasts, has announced it will provide up to \$3000 in grants to support public art in Waterbury Village and Waterbury Center, Vermont.

Money will continue to be earmarked in Waterbury Arts' budget each year for grants to support public art. The grants are intended to support specific projects and will be awarded by the committee on a rolling basis throughout the year. Organizations, collaborations, and individual artists who appreciate the role public art plays in building community are encouraged to apply at www.waterburyarts.com

“Public art, by definition, is free and accessible to the public and encourages community engagement,” said Laura Parette, Chair of Waterbury Arts. “We believe public art adds to our collective experience and helps build a thriving and welcoming community.”

Parette added public art can also be defined by what it is *not*: “It becomes part of our public history, rather than something that promotes an individual point of view or commercial interest,” she said. “It can be thought-provoking, but because of the public nature of the placement and process of approval, it tends to be inclusive instead of divisive.”

One example of public art supported by Waterbury Arts is the two-story “[Phoenix Rising](#)” installation on the side of the historic building at 5 Stowe Street in downtown Waterbury. The contemporary art piece composed of aluminum panels and vinyl was dedicated in 2021 as part of the 10-year anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene and commemorates the community’s resilience in the wake of that devastating flood. (See attached PHOTO.)

More examples of public art in Waterbury can be found on the Art Tour featured on Discover Waterbury’s [website](#).

For more information, please contact:

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