



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - 2024 PROJECT



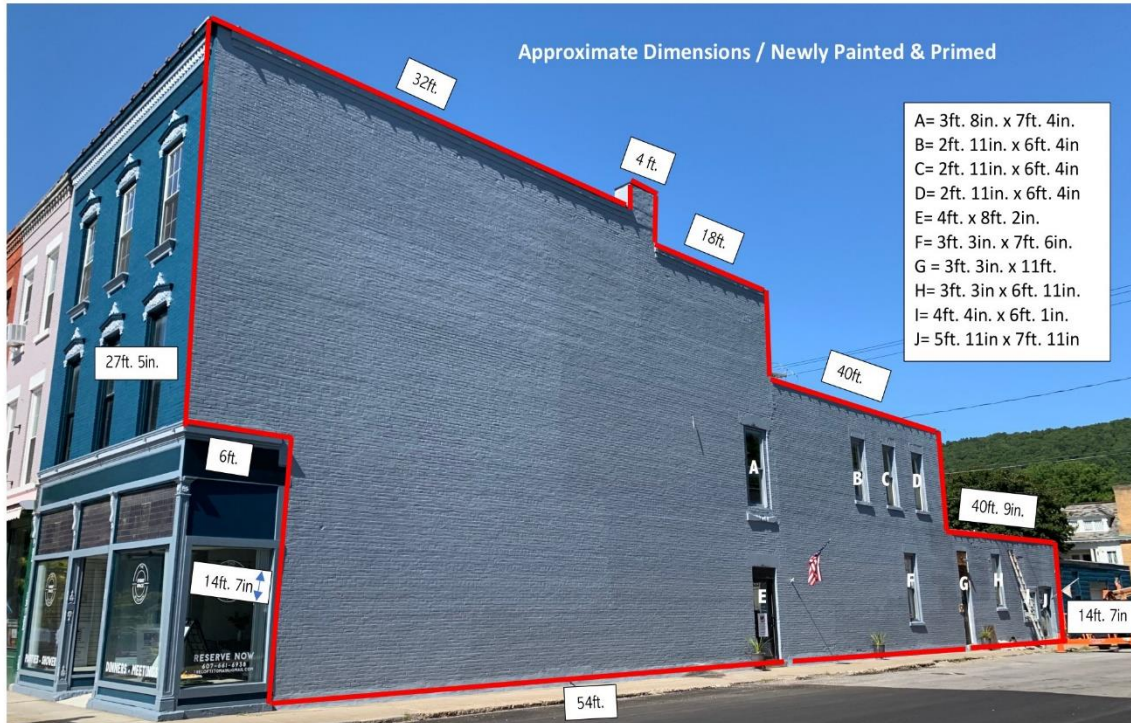
MURAL ART FOR HISTORIC DANSVILLE, NY

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2023

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – Mural Art for historic downtown Dansville, New York, US

PURPOSE

As Project Manager for the Village of Dansville, Dansville ArtWorks Inc., a 501©3 community arts organization based in Dansville, New York, is seeking a professional muralist and/or muralist team to submit their interest and qualifications to design from a provided concept and paint an exterior mural on a selected commercial building in downtown Dansville, which resides on New York State's historic register. The mural will be painted on an exterior painted brick wall (see image and dimensions below). The mural may cover the entire surface of the wall (preferably) or only a portion of the surface, depending on the artist and design selected. This is a 2024 installation.



ELIGIBILITY

Open to professional muralists and muralist teams, over the age of 18, who have demonstrated ability to execute a public art project of this scale.

PROJECT BUDGET

The all-inclusive budget for this project is up to \$8,000 to include artist's/s' fee and travel. A retainer of \$2,000 will be paid to the selected artist when contracts have been executed, approximately January 31, 2024. Project Manager will secure local lodging (one room/double occupancy) at the Village of Dansville's expense for up to 14 days for artist OR upon contract execution, artist may opt to accept a \$1,400 lodging stipend and arrange for artist's own lodging. A lift will be rented for this project at the Village of Dansville's expense. Paint and painting supplies (the supply budget) stipulated by artist will be purchased by the Village of Dansville at a cost not to exceed \$2,000. Any overage in this supply budget will be deducted from the final artist payment. The final payment to the artist will be made upon completion of the mural and approval from the grantor, Livingston County Economic Development, of the project completion.

BACKGROUND

The Village of Dansville, New York, sits at the southern border of Livingston County. It is on the western edge of the state's Finger Lakes region and is home to the county's only airport and hospital. Founded in the 1790s, the community has strong roots in health and wellness.

Dansville ArtWorks has been active for the past ten years in driving and growing arts and culture in the community. In 2022, ArtWorks served as the community's organizing entity for the Dansville Mural Festival, which celebrated Dansville's first large scale exterior wall mural, painted by Arlin Graff and organized by Livingston County.

Dansville ArtWorks is currently partnering with the Village of Dansville and serving as its Project Manager to oversee another public art project in the form of a second downtown mural. Livingston County is also involved, providing funding through its First Impressions Village Edition grant.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Earlier this year, Dansville ArtWorks formally created its Mural Committee to lead efforts towards creating additional village murals. The committee inventoried potential mural sites throughout the downtown, assessed building conditions, and surveyed building and business owners about interest in public art in the form of a mural as well as preferred mural concepts from a list of local historical references. This process resulted in the selection of 170 Main Street, with plans to paint its south facing wall along Ossian Street. Ossian and Main is the central intersection in downtown Dansville. The mural may cover the entire space (preferably) or only a portion. The chosen artwork will be required to withstand the outdoor environment with very limited maintenance.

The selected building was purchased in 2022 by JD Panda Properties, who has converted the upper floors into lodging (The Loft at 170 Main) whose entrance is on the Ossian Street side of the building. The lower commercial spaces are divided into an event center facing Main Street and a small professional service business in the back of the building accessed from Ossian Street.

The concept selected by the building owner and approved by the Mural Committee is Clara Barton and the American Red Cross. A creative brief is enclosed documenting Barton's time in Dansville, which includes establishing Dansville as the first Chapter of the American Red Cross. In fact, the Chapter House is just steps from 170 Main, sitting at the intersection of Ossian and Elizabeth Streets. Dansville ArtWorks and the Village of Dansville envision the design will be representative of Barton's involvement locally first and nationally second, in order to encourage a greater understanding of her importance and contributions.

The muralist or lead muralist and team members must commit to a public muralist talk/presentation and participation in the mural dedication ceremony. Dates are listed below.

SELECTION PROCESS

Dansville ArtWorks' Mural Committee will review all proposals and select an artist. The building owner has agreed to the design concept, will review the selected rendering and may have limited input, which will be passed on to the selected artist. Dansville ArtWorks' Mural Committee may also have input on the rendering. The artist may withdraw from consideration or incorporate the input.

Dansville ArtWorks reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, waive technicalities and informalities, change the scope of the work, and amend the Request for Proposals as it desires.

TIMELINE

September 1, 2023: Request for Proposals announced

November 1, 2023, 5:00pm EST: Proposals and renderings due

November 27, 2023: Artist or semi-finalists selected

December 30, 2023: Renderings finalized if necessary

January 15, 2024: Artist selected from semi-finalists if necessary; contract issued and must be executed by selected artist by January 30, 2024

Spring/Summer 2024: Work begins

Exact date TBD: presentation by muralist/muralist talk hosted by Dansville ArtWorks for the community

August 10, 2024, 10:30am: Mural dedication

APPLICATION

Please submit the following items in a single pdf document, emailed to dansvilleartworks.mural@gmail.com with the subject line Dansville Mural Proposal by **5:00pm EST on November 1, 2023**.

1. Cover page with contact information: full name of muralist and if applicable, team members; address of muralist or lead muralist; telephone number; email; website
2. A minimum of 3 references including telephone and email for projects completed within the last 3 years of similar scale and scope
3. Renderings or design concepts of the 3 projects listed above in #2 and of up to 3 additional projects of your choice
4. Artist bio and resume/CV
5. Letter describing your interest in this project and approach to the concept
6. Initial rendering of your interpretation of the design concept
7. Total package not to exceed 20 pages on 8.5x11" paper.

QUESTIONS

Julee Acomb, Chair-Mural Committee; dansvilleartworks.mural@gmail.com

RESOURCES

www.dansvilleny.us Village of Dansville

www.dansvilleartworks.com Dansville ArtWorks Inc.

www.visitlivco.com Livingston County Tourism

<https://www.visitlivco.com/things-to-do/inspirations-trail/livco-walls/> 2022 county-wide mural project

Some historical information follows regarding 170 Main Street, Dansville, New York.

DOWNTOWN — In 1854, a devastating fire wiped out business establishments on Dansville's Main Street from Paradise Alley north to, and including, the structure now occupied by Wilcox Auction. Just a few months later Merritt Brown erected this building at the northeast corner of Main and Ossian Streets. It then became Brown and Grant Hardware. When this photo was taken in 1875, it housed Edwards, Kern and McCurdy Hardware on three floors. Tinsmiths fabricated a variety of items, from cookware to eave troughs, on the second and third levels. Over the years hardware operation passed through several ownerships including Edwards, Kern, and Miller; Kern and Miller; George E. Kern. In 1987, the block became a home for Bob Wolfanger's store featuring an extensive line of footwear for ladies, men and children. The retail area at front carries the name "Wolfanger's" while an operation in the rear is "Wolfanger's Shoe Repair." (Wilfred J. Rauber)



1875, 170 Main Street



170 Main Street, George E. Kern Hardware

170 Main has also been home to Andersen Jewelers and in the most recent past, a dojo on the commercial level and residential space on the second and third floors.

CREATIVE BRIEF FOR DANSVILLE, NY MURAL

Brief overview of Clara Barton's life leading her to Dansville, NY

After the Civil War ended, Clara Barton was paid by the US Government to search and account for missing soldiers and notify their families. She accounted for over 25,000 soldiers and provided closure for their families. In an ongoing effort to fund her Office for Missing Soldiers, Clara Barton launched a lecture tour circuit. This brought her first to Dansville in 1866 where she spoke to 400 people. Barton, having worked tirelessly enduring the Franco-Prussian War and its aftermath, returned to Dansville to refresh and recuperate at the Jackson Sanatorium (known now as the Castle on the Hill). She liked the area so well that she made Dansville her "Country home" from 1876-1886. Her house (which no longer exists) was located on Health Street, just across from the Jackson retreat.

Clara's vision was to organize a national headquarters for the American Red Cross with smaller offices in every state and local chapters in every city and town. The organization would prepare for possible war time service as well as all types of natural disasters and other emergencies like fires, floods, epidemics, tornados, and droughts. The American Red Cross would be the channel through which the public's generosity and support would be directed toward human needs whenever they arose.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Dansville (which still stands today) is where the local Red Cross Society first met with Clara Barton on August 22, 1881 and formed the historic 1st Chapter of the American Red Cross. Fifty-seven members signed the charter, including Emma Hartman Noyes and her husband. The Noyes children subsequently donated their childhood home to the National Red Cross, Washington DC, in memory of their mother. This house became the first Chapter house and is currently a museum. It is located immediately to the east of the building where the mural will be painted.

Upon Barton's exodus in 1886 to Washington DC to create a National Headquarters of the American Red Cross, she gave a speech at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Her parting words were, "It must never be forgotten that Dansville was the first child of the American Red Cross."

Clara Barton was 60 years old when she founded the American Red Cross and led it for the next 23 years.

Your creative interpretation of the following components (which in some way must be included in the mural) and preceding text is welcome:

1) Home of Clara Barton on Health Street “Country Residence” (as this no long exists)



2) Clara Barton - portrait or full figure



Clara Barton as she looked when the Dansville Red Cross Society was formed.
From a photograph by E. J. Betts of Dansville in 1881.



3) Clara Barton's parting words as she left Dansville to go to Washington DC / Red Cross symbol:



**“It must never be forgotten that
Dansville was the first child of the
American Red Cross.”**

4) If needed, the White Dogwood tree is very relevant to Dansville.