



Request for Proposals: Public Art Mural at the Manchester Riverwalk Pedestrian Bridge

Issued by: FPHC, LLC in partnership with the Manchester Riverwalk Association (a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization)

Issue Date: December 6, 2025

Submission Deadline: February 1, 2026

Decision: March 1, 2026

Mural Completed by: July 1, 2026

1. Overview

FPHC, LLC, in collaboration with the Manchester Riverwalk Association, invites artists or artist teams to submit proposals for the design and execution of a public mural on a concrete wall approximately 63 feet x 8 feet located adjacent to the Manchester Riverwalk pedestrian bridge in downtown Manchester Center, Vermont. This mural will serve as a visual focal point celebrating the community's historical connection to the Battenkill River, local heritage, and the natural beauty of the riparian landscape in the heart of the Green Mountains. The project aims to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the Riverwalk while engaging residents and visitors through public displays of artistic vision.

2. Site Description

- **Location:** The exact location of the mural 'canvas' is directly behind the Union Underground restaurant on Main Street in downtown Manchester Center.
- **Wall Dimensions:** 63 feet wide × 8 feet high (painted concrete surface)
- **Condition:** Smooth concrete, suitable for mural application
- **Visibility:** Prominent pedestrian pathway with public access
- **Lighting:** The wall is naturally lit during the day with limited nighttime lighting.

3. Eligibility

This opportunity is open to individual artists, artist teams and students at surrounding area schools. While experience in large-scale murals or public art projects is helpful, it is not a precondition for consideration. Artists based in Southern Vermont are encouraged to apply. Submissions from the broader New England region will also be considered. Emerging artists or students are welcome to submit proposals if they demonstrate the capability to complete a project of this scope. Voting will be weighted in favor of more local artists and those willing to engage with students on the project.

4. Project Goals

- Celebrate the ecological, cultural, and historical identity of Factory Point in downtown Manchester Center and the Battenkill River.
- Foster a sense of community pride and connection to the Riverwalk and to the Battenkill River corridor.
- Enhance the Riverwalk as a destination for recreation, reflection, and civic engagement.
- Integrate durable materials and weather-resistant techniques suitable for Vermont's climate. This mural may incorporate the use of paint, steel, wood, or other materials that will withstand the elements and provide a lasting impression for the community with little or no maintenance or upkeep.

5. Proposal Requirements

Submissions should include the following components:

- A. Artistic Concept – Written description (1–2 pages) outlining the inspiration, theme, and intended impact of the design. Include a color rendering or sketch of the proposed mural.
- B. Cost Proposal – Estimated total cost, including design, materials, labor, equipment, and installation. If proposing to donate time or materials, indicate that clearly.
- C. Artist Background – Resume or summary of relevant experience, 3–5 examples of previous projects and optional references or letters of support.
- D. Timeline – Estimated schedule for design finalization, surface preparation, painting, and completion.

6. Budget

Artists may submit proposals with either a fee-for-service cost estimate or a proposal to donate work or materials in full or in part as a contribution to the Manchester Riverwalk. FPHC, LLC and Manchester Riverwalk reserve the right to allocate funds or seek supplemental grants/donations to support the proposal.

7. Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated on artistic merit and originality, relevance to the Riverwalk’s mission and community values, feasibility and durability of materials and budget clarity and cost-effectiveness. Final selection will be made by a joint committee representing FPHC, LLC and the trustees of the Manchester Riverwalk

8. Timeline

Milestone	Date
RFP Issued	December 6, 2025
Submissions Due	February 1, 2026
Review & Selection	March 1, 2026
Artist Notification	March 3, 2026
Project Completion Target	July 1, 2026

9. Submission Instructions

Please submit all materials electronically (PDF preferred) to: infor@manchesterriverwalk.org

Subject line: Manchester Riverwalk Mural Proposal – (proposer name(s))

If submitting physical materials, mail to:

Manchester Riverwalk Association
PO Box 1622
Manchester Center, VT 05255

All submissions must be received by February 1, 2026.

10. Contact Information

For questions or site visits, please contact:

Manchester Riverwalk Association
Email: info@manchesterriverwalk.org
Phone: 802-558-4289

11. Legal and Administrative Notes

The selected artist will enter into an agreement with FPHC, LLC and Manchester Riverwalk specifying scope, payment (if applicable), and intellectual property terms. The owners and the nonprofit reserve the right to reject any or all submissions. All submitted designs remain the property of the artist but may be used in selection and promotional materials.

The Mural Wall below the Union Underground Restausnt deck (A) and from the Riverwalk Bridge at the Manchester Town Green (B).

A



B

