HOUSATONIC
MUSEUM OF ART

For Immediate Release

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Call for Art: $275,000 in Available Funding to Acquire Regional Artwork for the Housatonic Museum of Art

ARTISTS FROM CONNECTICUT, NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY INVITED TO SUBMIT UP TO SIX WORKS BY DECEMBER 15, 2026, AHEAD OF THE MUSEUM'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

BRIDGEPORT, CT – The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) and the Housatonic Museum of Art (HMA) are inviting regional artists to submit artwork for consideration as part of a $275,000 acquisition opportunity for Beacon Hall at CT State Community College Housatonic in Bridgeport.

The initiative will expand the Museum's permanent collection while bringing new works by Connecticut, New York and New Jersey artists into a public educational setting. The acquisitions will also coincide with the Housatonic Museum of Art's 60th anniversary in 2027, marking an important milestone in its longstanding commitment to making art accessible to students and the broader community.

"This is an exciting opportunity to showcase the extraordinary talent of artists throughout our region while expanding a collection that has been part of the educational and cultural experience in Bridgeport for nearly 60 years," said Jennifer Reynolds-Kaye, PhD, Director of the Housatonic Museum of Art. "We're especially interested in works that reflect the communities we serve, inspire meaningful connections and create opportunities for learning and engagement."

Artwork and Selection Criteria

The committee is considering two-dimensional wall mounted works of art that are not light-sensitive (i.e., not works on paper and certain textiles). Interior sculptural works may be considered.

The public art committee is seeking artwork that connects to the Museum's existing collection, the college curriculum, and the Bridgeport and Fairfield County communities. Artworks with two or more of the following characteristics are strongly encouraged:

- Extends the Housatonic Museum of Art collection into the 21st century, especially through digital art, experimental processes, and forward-thinking frameworks.
- Serves as a teaching tool for CT State Housatonic programs
- Represents experiences of the Bridgeport and Fairfield County communities
- Creates a pleasing environment that encourages a positive and welcoming experience
- Promotes community collaboration, especially with students, faculty and staff on campus

The Museum also encourages connections between community college students and artists. Artists who are available to present their work through classroom learning opportunities, public presentations or panel discussions following an acquisition will be of strong interest to the committee.

Eligibility and Application Details

- Artists from the following counties may submit art for consideration:
- Connecticut: all counties

- New York: Westchester, Bronx, New York, Queens, Kings, Nassau, Richmond, Rockland, Putnam, and Suffolk
- New Jersey: Bergen, Hudson

Artists may submit a portfolio of up to six available works of art for consideration. Artwork does not need to be framed, but applicants must indicate the framing status of each piece.

The selection committee will review submissions on a rolling basis, with the goal of acquiring a wide range of artwork from multiple artists. Artists selected for further consideration will be contacted by the Connecticut Office of the Arts, and additional artwork may be requested.

Submitted artwork does not need to be held exclusively for this opportunity. Artists may continue to pursue other exhibition opportunities and should notify COA if a submitted piece becomes unavailable.

Submission Deadline: December 15, 2026, at 11:59 pm ET

Submission Limit: Six works of art per artist

Total Acquisition Budget: Up to $275,000 in total funding is available to purchase a variety of artworks from multiple artists.

Application Information and Submission Portal

A dedicated webpage has been established with comprehensive information about the Call for Art, including artist eligibility, artwork requirements, selection criteria, application guidelines and submission instructions. Artists are strongly encouraged to review all information on the webpage before applying.

Applications must be submitted through the online portal available at:
https://www.artworkarchive.com/call-for-submission/connecticut-office-of-the-arts/call-for-art-ct-state-housatonic

Questions About the Application

For additional questions regarding eligibility, submission requirements, application procedures or terms, artists should contact Tamara Dimitri at the Connecticut Office of the Arts at tamara.dimitri@ct.gov or (860) 500-2377.

All application-related inquiries must be directed to the Connecticut Office of the Arts, not the Housatonic Museum of Art.

For more information specifically about the Housatonic Museum of Art, visit HousatonicMuseum.org.

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About the Housatonic Museum of Art

The Housatonic Museum of Art (HMA) holds one of the largest art collections of any community college in the United States with over 7,000 artworks. The focus of the HMA is modern and contemporary American and European art, including Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, Romare Bearden, Cindy Sherman, and Jenny Holzer. The collection also includes artwork from Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Unlike most campus museums, the HMA displays selections of its collection throughout CT State Housatonic. Visitors also enjoy the special exhibitions and programs offered in the Burt Chernow Galleries. Free and open to the public. For more information, visit HousatonicMuseum.org.