



## Virtual Community Artist Application

### Porch Light and the Kensington Hub

Porch Light is a partnership between Mural Arts Philadelphia and the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services. At our storefront at 2774 Kensington Avenue (“The Kensington Storefront”), Porch Light is working with the New Kensington Community Development Corporation and Prevention Point to make a community space where neighbors can create art and connect with resources to live a better, healthier life.

Kensington Storefront Virtual Community Artists (VCAs) will create bold new structures for engaging the Kensington community virtually (or through safely-conducted outdoor programming), using the arts. During this intense time, trauma awareness and collective meaning-making is more important than ever. VCAs will provide programs (offered to all community members free of charge) where they will be able to reflect on their experiences, build relationships with their neighbors, and learn a new modality in the arts. We are especially interested in public engagement that uses the arts to help participants reacclimate to busy schedules after the stay-at-home order, and to redefine “normal” life. Out of this public engagement, VCAs will create a work of public art in Kensington based on their community engagement, with the aim of improving and beautifying the neighborhood. All modalities welcome: music, theater, dance, photography, mixed mediums, storytelling, etc.

### Teaching Artist Responsibilities

- With support from storefront and Porch Light staff, Virtual Community Artists will:
  - Engage the community in remotely-led (or safely-conducted, outdoor) arts-based experiences that encourage individual creativity, improve health and wellness, and create community connection. To this end, provide 10 consecutive weekly workshops or similar weekly opportunities for engagement.
  - Produce a local work of public art out of this community engagement

### Application Requirements

**A complete application should include:**

- € Application form (see next page)
- € Typed responses to application questions (see next page)
- € 5-10 images or examples of your artwork
- € Current resume or bio

**Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until further notice.**

*If you have any questions, please contact Pamela Draper at [pamela.draper@muralarts.org](mailto:pamela.draper@muralarts.org)  
For more information about the Porch Light Program, go to [www.muralarts.org/porchlight](http://www.muralarts.org/porchlight)*



Please email your application to [pamela.draper@muralarts.org](mailto:pamela.draper@muralarts.org) with the subject "Kensington Teaching Artist." Or mail to:

Mural Arts Philadelphia  
c/o Pamela Draper  
1727-29 Mt. Vernon Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130

*If you have any questions, please contact Pamela Draper at [pamela.draper@muralarts.org](mailto:pamela.draper@muralarts.org)  
For more information about the Porch Light Program, go to [www.muralarts.org/porchlight](http://www.muralarts.org/porchlight)*



## Application Form

Name:

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Address:

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Phone Number: (       )

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Email (optional):

Website (optional):

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**Please type your responses and attach to the application. Each response should be a maximum of one to two paragraphs long.**

**1. What is your experience or history with the Kensington area?**

Describe your relationship with the Kensington area and with Philadelphia in general. Artists who have knowledge about and experience in the Kensington area are preferred.

**2. Describe your community engagement plan and budget.**

Indicate what kind of program or event you will offer, and what participants will do. The goal should be to engage and excite the community about your project. Include a short itemized budget, including your artist fee and public art production costs, with **a maximum of \$2250**. There is an additional \$250 available for workshop supplies.

**3. Describe what public art you would like to produce from your community engagement.**

Briefly describe the project. Include how it will be developed out of your community engagement, where it will be located, and the effect that you see it creating on the Kensington community.

**4. Do you have any experience addressing behavioral or mental health challenges through art?**

We do not expect you to be a trained professional, but it would be helpful to learn more about any experience you may have related to mental or behavioral health. This can include personal or family experiences that relate to your public engagement and project goals. Please describe any resources that might be helpful to you.