



## **RFQ: Esperanza Health Center Parking Garage: 2023-24 Fall - Spring**

**Application deadline:** October 6th, 2023 11:59 p.m.

**Timeline:** October 2023 to April 2023

**Pay:** \$14,000 (\$2000 per month)

Contact:

Emily Crane, Porch Light Project Manager

[emily.crane@muralarts.org](mailto:emily.crane@muralarts.org)

[Submissions will be accepted through this link](#)

## **Introduction:**

Mural Arts' Color Me Back (CMB) program is seeking artists to apply for a project to take place over the Fall-Spring 2023-24, October to April 2023.

The goal of this position is to engage the CMB program staff and participants in the creation of a new public art project at the Esperanza Health Center Parking Garage (860 E. Westmoreland Street). For this project, we want to encourage artists who think outside of the box. The location is prone to regular graffiti and a frequent site for other neighborhood challenges. Our goal is to transform the space and add something beautiful to the neighborhood while also increasing feelings of safety and belonging when arriving at the site for services. The artwork could be a mural, but is not limited to that medium.

As part of the application, artists should write a short statement of no more than 500 words about their interest in this project. While applicants are welcome to use this section to suggest possible projects, it is not required. Applicants are encouraged to discuss why this project is of interest to them, and how it may fit with their work.

The project will take place for about seven months and will be based at the CMB Kensington Studio.

## **Background (full project description):**

Since April of 2019, Mural Arts' same day work and pay program, Color Me Back (CMB) has completed 10 large mural projects between both our Kensington and Suburban Station locations. The program is currently seeking artists to apply for a seven month project with the Color Me Back program in the Fall-Spring 2023-24.

After the close of application period, each application will be reviewed by the Porch Light team members and a selection of staff and participants from CMB. Next a short list of candidates will be contacted for short interviews before the decision is made. The decision will be announced by October 16th, 2023.

The goal of this project is to engage the CMB program in the creation of a new public art project in Kensington while also beautifying the Esperanza Health Center Parking

Garage and adding to feelings of safety. The artist's responsibilities will be to develop and facilitate a series of workshops with CMB program participants geared towards teaching art-making skills and gathering content to inform a mural design.

The artist(s) will design a mural and present it to the MAP Design Review team including representatives from Esperanza Health Center. Details about what to include in the presentation will be provided by the program manager.

The artist will work directly with the CMB program participants and assistant artists to produce the mural. Installation will be completed by CMB program staff. Interested applicants should be secure about working with participants who are experiencing homelessness, food insecurity, mental health challenges and substance use challenges. Mural Arts and DBH staff will also be on hand to work directly with participants and support the project.

The project is slated to begin in Fall 2023 and be completed by Spring 2024. The artist will receive \$2,000 per month with the expectation of being on-site at the Kensington Studio a minimum of two days during program hours (Monday-Thursday 8-12pm).

### **Scope of Work:**

The artists' responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- Developing a plan to engage the CMB program participants in art-making experiences geared towards teaching different techniques/skills and use that engagement to inform the design of a mural/public art project.
- Develop a design that takes into account the following challenges:
  - Consistent graffiti on the lower sections of the walls
  - Consistent drug activity (both dealing and using) around the entire location
  - Fencing (chain link gate & other sections with metal screens)
  - Points of access for clients, staff, and community members
- Prepare for the Mural Arts design review process which will include representatives from Esperanza Health Center.
- Engage the Esperanza Health Center and surrounding community in the project (Minimum 4-6 public events) -
  - 2-4 workshop with Esperanza Health Center ahead of the mural that helps to inform the project
  - 2 Paint Days after the design is approved
- Working with Mural Manager, Mat Tomezsko to oversee the day-to-day work of

producing the mural with CMB program participants who are responsible for the majority of the painting. This includes teaching participants fabrication techniques required as part of the design and being flexible about working in challenging environments and with individuals with minimum experience.

### **Artist Fee and Budget - \$14,000**

Payments will be \$2000 per month for 7 months

- \$2,000 for 4 weeks of engagement workshops w/ CMB program  
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m. (October 2023) (Minimum of 2 days per week)
- \$2,000 for the design phase (November 2023)
- \$2,000 per month to oversee production and installation process to completion (December 23 - April 2024 ; roughly 4 months)

### **Selection Process**

All applications will be reviewed by the Color Me Back program manager, Emily Crane and the Porch Light Program Director, Nadia Malik. Short phone interviews will be scheduled with the top 4 candidates.

### **Timeline:**

- September 8th, 2023 : Application released
- October 6th, 2023 : **Application deadline**
- October 9th, 2023 : Applications reviewed and top 4 selected
- October 10-12th, 2023 : Applicants contacted for interviews
- October 16th : Applicants will be notified of decision
- Project begins late October 2023
- 2-4 Engagements with Esperanza Health Center (TBD)
- Dec. 2023 - Design Review (TBD)
- January - Production begins
- February - 2 Paint Days with Esperanza Health Center (TBD)
- April 2024 - Completion / Dedication event

### **Qualifications**

We are looking for artists with the following qualifications:

- Availability two days per week, Monday to Thursday, between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m., to facilitate workshops and oversee production with the CMB program beginning in October 2023
- Experience in designing, planning for the production of, and painting large-scale murals in challenging environments
- Experience working in a hands-on way with program participants such as those in Color Me Back
- Experience working in Kensington preferred.

**Application:**

Applications must include the following to be considered:

- Contact Information:
  - Name
  - Email address
  - Telephone number
  - Mailing address
- Artist Interest Statement (no more than 500 words) explaining what you hope to achieve with this project
- Work Samples and a Work Samples Description List (Website may be submitted as supplemental material)
- CV/Resume

[Submissions will be accepted through this link](#)

Any questions should be directed to Emily Crane at [emily.crane@muralarts.org](mailto:emily.crane@muralarts.org) before 11:59 p.m. EST by October 6, 2023.