Trucks of Art: Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI)
Art Challenge to Paint Collection Trucks with Zero-waste Materials

The NYC Department of Sanitation (“DSNY” or “the Department”) is seeking volunteer artists for Trucks of Art, a public art project to transform 46,000-pound collection vehicles into roving works of art. These heavy-duty machines offer nearly 400 square feet of “canvas,” and artists may leverage the trucks’ sides, front and back in their works.

The proposed artworks selected for Trucks of Art will honor New York’s Strongest, the workforce that keeps New York City clean, safe and healthy, and will highlight the importance of keeping New York City clean – while adding a bit of flair to neighborhoods as DSNY serves them. Because the Department encourages New Yorkers to send zero waste to landfills, artists are challenged with utilizing paints that would otherwise be discarded or recycled.

In selecting the artists who will participate, DSNY will prioritize proposed designs that celebrate DSNY’s Essential Workers or encourage New Yorkers to keep our streets clean by using litter baskets and recycling. To generate further public attention to the works of art, to the artists and to the DSNY workforce, the Department’s non-profit partner, the Sanitation Foundation, may opt to re-produce the final artworks.

This is the Department’s second Trucks of Art program. Learn more about the 2019 Trucks of Art [here](#).

**Project Overview**

- DSNY will review submissions and select artists, ideally from each borough.
- This is a voluntary project. Artists will not be paid, will retain rights to their designs, and shall give DSNY and the Sanitation Foundation the right to reproduce the designs. (Additional information below.)
- Participants will each be provided workspace, paint and tools. Vehicle painting experts will be available to provide guidance.
- Types of paints will vary dramatically, from donated household latex paints to spray paints. No colors or types of paints are guaranteed.
- Designs must be flexible to accommodate small areas of the truck that may not be painted.
- Each artist will have three 7-hour workdays to paint a collection vehicle.
• The trucks will be unveiled at a media event led by DSNY and will be on display for the public before they are assigned to routes.

• The artwork will be sealed with a clear coat and will remain on trucks for as long as the design withstands the elements.

**General Timeline**
Subject to change. Visit nyc.gov/truckart for updated information.

- **Through Sunday, September 18, 2022, 11:59 p.m.**: Expressions of Interest accepted
- **Mid-September**: Selected artists informed and provided times and location to paint
- **Late-September/Early October**: Paint days
- **Early to Mid-October**: Media event, public display(s)
- **October**: Vehicles begin routes

**Your “Canvas” and Materials**

- Photos, measurements and templates of the trucks are provided below.
- Artists will each paint one collection vehicle.
- These vehicles have the state-of-the-art sustainability and safety features.
- Painted collection vehicles will be used to collect garbage and/or recyclable materials.
- Space on each side will be reserved for legally required information and safety components.
- All works must be two-dimensional; no protruding objects may be affixed.
- DSNY will provide paint, paint sprayers and brushes.
- Because most paint will be diverted from recycling or landfills, no color or paint type is guaranteed to be available for use.

**Your Submission**

To apply, email your concept in PDF format to trasihtalk@dsny.nyc.gov by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, September 18, 2022. Your submission must include the following information:

- **Contact Information**: Your name, mailing address, email address and phone number.
- **Short Artwork Description**: Describe how your art encourages recycling or honors the DSNY workforce. This may be up to 250 words.
- **Your Motivation**: Explain why you’d like to participate in Trucks of Art. This may be up to 250 words.
- **Design Mock-ups**: Your artwork must be superimposed on the provided images of the truck, and you may also include images of your designs independent of the truck. If you create designs by hand, then you must photograph or scan your work and include it in your email.
- **Short Biography**: Help us get to know you!
Selection Process
At its sole discretion, DSNY will select artists. Priority will be given to artists whose designs clearly encourage keeping New York City clean or honor our workforce. DSNY may partner with an outside organization to promote this project and/or select artists.

Ownership Rights
Artists will retain ownership rights of their designs and will have the right to re-create their designs commercially. By participating in Trucks of Art, artists grant DSNY and the Sanitation Foundation the royalty-free, non-exclusive right to use and/or reproduce the designs for non-commercial and/or educational purposes. Should the Foundation choose to use the designs commercially, the Foundation and artist will enter a separate licensing agreement.

The Fine Print
1. Introduction
DSNY has issued this Request for Expressions of Interest (“RFEI”) to invite interested parties to suggest artwork for selected collection vehicles.

2. Purpose
This RFEI is issued to invite interested parties to submit artwork that will:

- Encourage New Yorkers to participate in DSNY’s many recycling programs; or
- Honor the important role DSNY’s workforce has in keeping New York City clean, safe and healthy.

3. Submission Process
All submissions must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, September 18, 2022. Email your submission to trashtalk@dsny.nyc.gov.

4. Inquiries
Any questions concerning this RFEI should be sent by email with the subject line “Trucks of Art RFEI Question” to trashtalk@dsny.nyc.gov. Questions and answers will be posted at nyc.gov/truckart.

5. Additional Information
5.1 This RFEI is not intended as a formal offering for the award of a contract or for participation in any future solicitation. This RFEI is not a procurement. Responding to this RFEI and/or participating does not afford any special access or consideration to DSNY, its officials, officers, agents or employees.
   
   5.1.1 Selected applicants are volunteering their time for this project. Artists will not be paid.

5.2 DSNY, the City of New York and their officials, officers, agents and employees make no representation or warranty and assume no responsibility for the accuracy of the information set forth in this RFEI.

5.3 No information contained in submissions shall be deemed confidential and such information may be shared with others.

5.4 Neither DSNY nor the City of New York shall be liable for any costs incurred by any respondent in the preparation, submittal, presentation or revision of its submission.

5.5 At its sole discretion, DSNY reserves, without limitation, the right to:
   
   5.5.1 Withdraw this RFEI at any time;

   5.5.2 Use the ideas and/or submissions in any manner deemed to be in its best interests, including but not limited to soliciting competitive submissions relating to such ideas.
and/or undertake the prescribed work in a manner other than that which is set forth herein;

5.5.3 Change any terms of the RFEI; and

5.5.4 Remove the artwork.

6. Waivers

Artists will work in an industrial setting in DSNY’s facilities and will be required to sign a liability waiver to participate.
2019 Trucks of Art + Artists

Bronx Truck of Art by Lady K-Fever
Brooklyn Truck of Art by Misha Tyutunik
Manhtatan Truck of Art by DISTER
Queens Truck of Art
by Students in Energy Tech High School’s Advanced Art Mural Class
Led by Teacher Alex Anastas
Staten Island Truck of Art by DSNY Sanitation Worker Jillian White