



CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

TEDDY
Public Art Event **TRAIL**

Teddy Trail Public Art Event is a community event brought to you by Danbury Hat Tricks and coordinated by ArtFul Visual Arts Initiative will commission artists to create unique designs on sculptures to be displayed in downtown Ridgefield and beyond. The statue forms include a 57" Teddy Bear Sculptures, a 3.5ft high Heart Sculpture, and 24" high Teddy Bear Sculpture. All statues are currently coated in a factory applied primer and await your creative vision to transform them into an original and vibrant work of art. Completed Sculptures will be displayed at an approved location. All completed Teddy Trail Sculptures will be included in the Teddy Trail Public Art Event and, according to the sponsorship levels, the sneaker sculptures will be auctioned off at the "Legacy of Love" Auction Event in the fall of 2027.

Artist Application:

Follow all instructions on the Artist Request for Proposal and Application Form. Be sure to include the signed application form, templates showing your original design(s), artist statement, and resume. Submit all documents to info@artful-gives.org

You may submit more than one design; however Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee reserves the right to select only one design per artist. Designs chosen for inclusion in Teddy Trail Public Art Event artist directory will not go into production until a sponsor has been secured for that design.

Project Rules:

Teddy Trail Public Art Event is a public art project brought to you by Danbury Hat Tricks and is coordinated by ArtFul Visual Arts Initiative to bring together Ridgefield's love of art and outdoor/athletic culture. We encourage designs of an original, vibrant, humorous, and uplifting nature. We strongly encourage creative representatives that honor our local artists and our beneficiaries. Designs that are overtly religious, political, violent, or sexual in nature will not be accepted. The use of corporate logos is discouraged; if used, the sponsor must have the express right to use the logo and it must be limited to a surface area of no larger than 4 x 4 inches. (Teddy Trail Public Art Event Sponsors and Artists will be acknowledged on signage at the base of the sculpture). Please keep in mind that many of the Teddy Trail Public Art Event Sculptures will be made available for auction to the public at the end of the project

and will serve as a representation of you as a sponsor and the artist. Teddy Trail Public Art Event evaluates all designs and retains the right to accept or reject any designs.

All designs must be received by Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee by 3:00pm on November 15, 2026.

Teddy Trail Public Art Event will approve design submissions. Design selection Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee does not guarantee a sponsor. All selected artists and designs will be compiled into an exclusive artist directory for sponsors to review.

Once selected by a sponsor, the artist and sponsor may elect to personalize a design according to sponsor's needs. If any changes are made to the approved design a copy of the final design must be submitted to Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee. If no changes are to be made from the original design, then a final design is not needed. Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee reserves the right to prevent the display of a statue if the final design was not approved.

As a selected Teddy Trail Public Art Event artist you will receive a flat artist fee of \$600.00 for a 57" Teddy Bear Sculpture and \$400.00 for a 3.5ft high Heart Sculpture and \$200.00 for a 24" Teddy Bear Sculpture. Any modifications or changes to an approved proposed design must be reviewed and approved by the sponsor. As the selected artist it is your responsibility to work directly with the sponsor for payment of any fees in addition to the flat artist fee prior to any changes and modifications.

Artists may alter the basic form of the fiberglass statue but cannot compromise its structural integrity. The contact points by which the Sculptures are attached to their bases cannot be altered or obstructed.

Artists may paint, sculpt, transform, and adorn the sculpture. Proposed additions to the fiberglass form must be made clear at the time of original submission. Any objects attached to the sculpture must be weather-resistant and must be affixed so that they cannot be easily removed.

Artists must develop designs that can withstand the elements and the public as the Sculptures will be placed in outdoor areas accessible to the public for several weeks. Artists should consider the weather and other elements, including sun, rain, wind, dirt, and human traffic.

A final protective clear coat must be added to the sculptures prior to their public placement. Upon selection, information will be provided to the artist to help them complete this step.

Production of Teddy Trail Sculptures:

Artists are responsible for producing their sculptures in their own studios or homes. Artists are responsible for transporting their sculpture to and from their workspace. Teddy Trail Public Art Event representative will notify the artists should public production space becomes available.

Specific dimensions for each of the Sneaker Sculptures:

57" Teddy Bear Sculpture

42" Heart Sculpture

24" Teddy Bear Sculpture

12" Teddy Bear Sculpture – These are not fiberglass, they are made of PVC

The manufacturer primes the surface of each sculpture; therefore, unless you have altered the form or exterior, you will not need to reapply a primer. In addition to surface decoration, items may be attached to the sculpture form. Further guidelines will be provided to artists as needed.

To complete the artwork, each sculpture must be finished with an automobile grade clear coat to ensure durability. This exterior sealer must be non-reactive, non-toxic, UVresistant, and waterproof. Sculptures which are returned unsealed or which are incorrectly sealed may not be exhibited.

Before a finished Sculpture is placed on exhibit, the sculpture must be inspected by a representative of Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee. A flat artist fee of \$600.00 for a 57" Teddy Bear Sculpture and \$400.00 for a 3.5ft Heart Sculpture and \$200.00 for a 24" Teddy Bear Sculpture will be released to the artist if it is determined that the artist has completed the sculpture in substantial conformity with the approved design.

Artists will not be responsible for the installation or removal of the sculptures. Teddy Trail Public Art Event will ask that the artist is available for any possible touch-up work that may be required once the exhibit is underway and before the sculptures go to auction. If the artist is not available for necessary touch-ups, Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee may ask another artist to perform the work (refer to copyright assignment agreement).

Projected Artist Timeline:

Application submission due date: November 15, 2026

Artist notification of approved design: December 15, 2026

Statues available: Mid February– Mid March 2027

Deadline for return of completed sculptures: May 1st, 2027

Eligibility:

Teddy Trail Public Art Event is open to artists of all ages and experience levels.

Contact:

For more information, please email info@artful-gives.org

Please email the artist application and designs to: info@artful-gives.org

You may drop off paperwork to an ArtFul representative at RPAC Art Center located at:

410 Main Street

Ridgefield, CT

Application Checklist

- Electronic file of written artist statement and description of proposed Teddy Sculpture design
- Electronic file of proposed design executed on provided Teddy Bear or Heart outline
- Electronic file of one-page artist resume
- **Original** and 1 copies of the signed Copyright Assignment
- **Original** and 1 copies of the signed Application Form
- **Signed** Artist Request for Proposal and Application Form
- Electronic files of previous work or link to online portfolio/Instagram page



Artist Request for Proposal & Application

Application Deadline: November 15, 2027

Artists should bear in mind that the audience will include all ages and designs should be appropriate for public display. Designs that are religious, political, or sexual in nature will not be accepted. Additionally, no corporate logos, corporate branding or advertising is allowed. As outlined below, designs will be evaluated by a planning committee to ensure they conform to these guidelines. Teddy Trail Public Art Event Planning Committee reserves the right to reject any design that, in its sole discretion, does not adhere to these guidelines. The Teddy Trail Public Art Event is brought to you by the Danbury Hat Tricks.

Name: _____

Your name for plaque, website, etc.: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone no: _____

E-mail: _____

Website URL: _____

Proposed title for your Sculpture (*limited to 40 characters, including spaces and punctuation*):

Artist Statement

Please attach a brief description of yourself and your design.

Teddy Bear or Heart Outline

Please complete your proposed design on a provided outline. Outlines may be enlarged if desired; however, please do not submit designs larger than 8.5" x 11". The more complete your design, the easier it will be for the planning committee and sponsors to review your submission.

Please note that all application materials become the property of ArtFul Visual Arts Initiative and Teddy Trail Public Art Event, and no materials can be returned to the artist. Please retain a copy of your application for your records.

Assurances and Terms

By signing this application, I agree to all of the terms of the Request for Proposals, and all such terms are hereby incorporated into this Application. I certify that all statements made in this application are true to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that ArtFul Visual Arts Initiative and the Teddy Trail Public Art Event are not liable for damage or loss of materials submitted.

Artist Signature: _____ Date: _____

Artist Request for Proposal & Application

Application Deadline: November 15, 2027

COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, _____ [artist name], an individual having an address of _____ ("Artist") is the author of the design and sketches (collectively referred to as the "Design") attached to the application submitted to ArtFul Visual Arts Initiative (ArtFul) and **Teddy Trail Public Art Event (TTPAE)** Planning Committee on the same date as the date of this Assignment;

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that, as part of the application process, it is intended that **ArtFul Visual Arts Initiative (ArtFul)**, a Connecticut nonprofit organization (501c3 status pending), with an administrative address of 410 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT own the entire right, title and interest in and to the Design;

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that, if the Design is approved, he/she shall apply that design to a sculpture provided by **TTPAE** thereby creating a "Finished Sculpture".

WHEREAS, Artist desires to transfer all his/her right, title and interest in and to the Design, including, but not limited to, all derivative works which are based on the Design to ArtFul and **TTPAE** ;

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that ArtFul and **TTPAE** shall continue to be the sole and exclusive owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to the Design, including, but not limited to, all derivative works based on the Design of the Finished Sneaker that is approved for exhibition, as described in detail in the Request For Proposals and application to TTPAE , and that in such case **TTPAE** shall pay to Artist an honorarium of \$600.00 for a completed 57" Teddy Bear Sculpture, \$400.00 for a completed 3.5ft Heart Sculpture and \$200.00 for a completed 24" Teddy Bear Sculpture within 30 days of the completion and delivery of their Sculpture.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and intending to be legally bound hereby, Artist hereby assigns to ArtFul and **TTPAE** all his/her right, title and interest in and to the Design, and to any derivative works based on the Design including but not limited to any rights it may have in the Finished Sculpture, together with any and all copyright applications and registrations therefore. Artist acknowledges and agrees that, due to the nature of the public display of the Finished Sculpture, ArtFul and **TTPAE** shall not be liable for any distortion, mutilation, modification or destruction of the Finished Sculpture by accident, act of God or person. Artist hereby waives his/her rights under the Visual Artists Rights Act ("VARA"), 17 U.S.C. '106A, as against ArtFul and **TTPAE** in the event of such distortion, mutilation, modification or destruction. Artist further acknowledges and agrees that if the Finished Sculpture is vandalized, damaged or otherwise modified and the Artist is unable or unwilling to promptly repair such alteration, ArtFul and **TTPAE** shall have the right to make, or have made, such repairs, even if the repairs would constitute a distortion, mutilation or modification under VARA. Artist hereby waives his/her rights under VARA in the event and to the extent ArtFul and **TTPAE** deems such repair necessary.

Artist Request for Proposal & Application

Application Deadline: November 15, 2027

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Artist represents to Teddy Trail Public Art Event that he/she is the sole author of the Designs and that the Design is an original work of authorship which does not infringe upon the copyright rights or any intellectual property rights of others, and that he/she has the unencumbered right to make this assignment. In the event the Design is not approved or selected for exhibition, as described in the application, ArtFul and **TTPAE** shall assign [and hereby does assign] back to Artist all its right, titles and interest in and to the Design.

ARTIST Signature (sign below):

Print Name: _____

Sculpture

Title: _____

Date: _____

Application Checklist

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- Electronic files of previous work or link to online portfolio/Instagram page (optional)





Artists' Materials

to create your vision

Paints- All professional-grade artist acrylic or oil paints will work. We recommend Liquitex Soft Body (medium- viscosity) Acrylics for ease of application, good color stability, and national availability in art stores. High-viscosity paints may be too "gluey" to manipulate with ease. Latex house paints are not recommended. You can also use oils but be prepared for much longer drying times. Do not varnish over oils.

Lascaux UV-1 Gloss Varnish - This is the best varnish we've found for protecting your artwork before the auto body clear coat is applied. You will need a 250 ml. bottle for forms up to the size of a large dog or cat, and a 500 ml. bottle for larger forms such as a horse or a moose. Available to order from Dick Blick (we recommend ordering early - as soon as you receive your assignment - as this product is often out of stock at art supply stores). THERE IS NO GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR LASCAUX. To use, dilute 4 parts varnish to 1 part water and filter through gauze. Use a nylon brush and have a large jar of water handy to immerse your brush if you have to pause while varnishing. It sets quickly, so if you do pause, don't begin again until the varnish is dry (about 15 minutes or so.) This product goes on slightly cloudy but dries crystal clear. Immediately remove any air bubbles by touching lightly with a brush. Lascaux UV-1 Matte Varnish can also be used if the Gloss is not available and your form will be clear coated by an auto body shop.

Bondo Body Putty – This is ideal for making small repairs (Bondo fiberglass body repair kit is recommended for larger repairs). Available at NAPA auto supply stores, Pep Boys, and some home improvement stores.

Golden Polymer Medium-Gloss – This product is effective for decoupage and is available at Dick Blick. Use full strength to immerse paper in medium, apply it to the form, and remove all air bubbles with your hands. Remove excess medium with an almost-dry sponge. Allow to dry for several days before varnishing. We suggest making color copies of any images that you wish to use on a computer printer or photocopier as the inks are more permanent and the copy paper is more durable than photographic or magazine paper.

MagicSculp Epoxy Putty - This putty is great for altering the form's surface or adding sculptural elements. Complete directions for use will be found on these websites, along with ordering information: www.magicsculp.com and www.restorersupplies.com. MagicSculp will best adhere to the form if you give texture to the surface and drill a few small holes to fill with product. It is non-toxic, allows a couple of hours of working time before setting, and once dry (12 hours) and can be sanded if necessary and painted with ease.



For questions or additional information contact us at:
info@artful-gives.org or call (475) 215-5740.