

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NORFOLK, Va. – (July 2023) – The NEON District is seeking an artist or artists to complete one large-scale mural before this year's NEON Festival, on October 19 and 20, 2023. Located at a highly visible site at the corner of Granby Street and Brambleton Avenue, the project will add to existing art and infrastructure at the southern entrance of the NEON District. It is a primary gateway into Norfolk's designated arts neighborhood from downtown, with more than 40,000 vehicles passing by a day, creating a significant opportunity for a large-scale public art piece, akin to the nearby Bob's mural.

The wall is located at 707 Granby Street, at the intersection of Granby Street and Brambleton Avenue, on the south facing wall of 711 Granby Street. Last winter, the iconic original artwork on the wall, *NFK Arts* by Elliott Addesso, was decommissioned due to unrepairable wear and tear and safety concerns. Other significant works at the intersection over the years have included the NEON Cube, the mural *New Energy of Norfolk* by Richard Nickel and Clay McGlamory, the vinyl *NEON Fence Gallery* and temporary painted crosswalks. The property owner and NEON Public Art Committee are seeking designs that take inspiration from all of these past works while looking ahead to a vibrant and energetic future.

The open call went live Friday, June 30, and submissions are due by Sunday, July 23 at 11:59pm for a selection process by the NEON District Public Art Committee and property owners. Artists can review the prospectus here. The selected artist(s) will be announced in August with work to be completed by September. The NEON Festival is scheduled for October 19 and 20, 2023.

For more information and to apply, visit https://neondistrict.submittable.com/submit/265934/neon-district-call-for-artists-summer-2023.

All artists are encouraged to apply. Application fees can be waived for any artist in need.

Norfolk's first official arts district, NEON (New Energy of Norfolk), is home to long-time cultural institutions like the Chrysler Museum of Art and Harrison Opera House as well as studio-based ventures like d'Art Center and the Rutter Family Art Foundation, all providing artists a place to make, create and show. Within a few short blocks you can see a muralist at work, take in an improv comedy performance at Push Comedy Theater, watch a live glass-working demonstration, shop for unique home goods, get a tattoo or dine out at an eclectic restaurant.

Learn more at www.NEONNFK.com and follow along on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at @neonnfk.

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