

You are invited to submit a proposal for

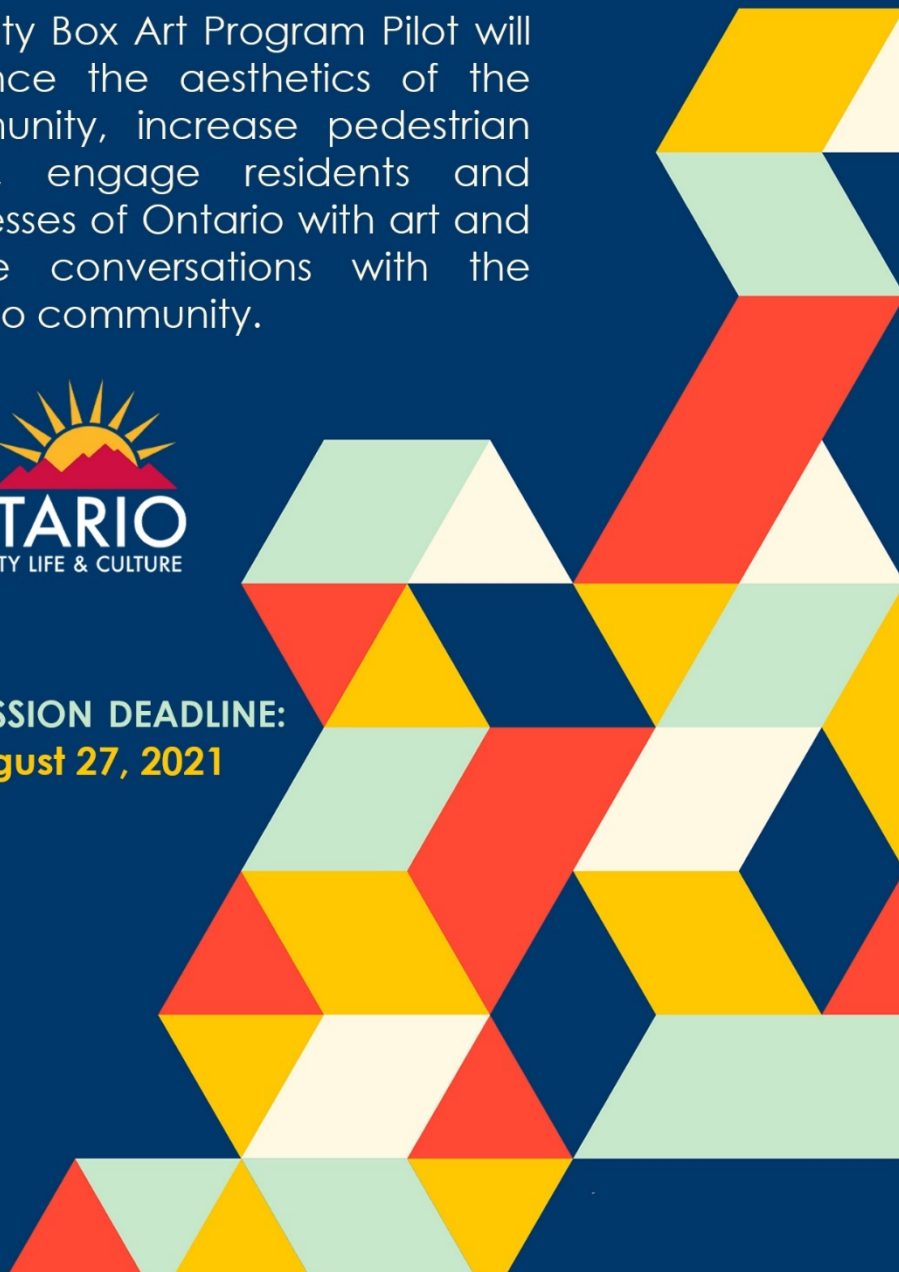
# CELEBRATE ONTARIO

UTILITY BOX ART PROGRAM PILOT

The Utility Box Art Program Pilot will enhance the aesthetics of the community, increase pedestrian traffic, engage residents and businesses of Ontario with art and create conversations with the Ontario community.



**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**  
**August 27, 2021**



## Celebrate Ontario Utility Box Art Program Pilot

### Purpose

The Utility Box Art Program Pilot will beautify the City of Ontario and enrich the cultural landscape in our communities.

The City is dedicated to enriching and preserving Ontario's artists, cultural heritage as well as continuing to foster the creativity of the community. The Ontario Plan is a blueprint and dynamic framework for sustained community building that will shape the City as it moves into the future. The Community Development Policy Plan includes the following:

- High quality design will be applied citywide to achieve distinct neighborhoods, districts and urban centers. This approach ensures all physical improvements (...) will help achieve vibrant places, enhanced value and livability throughout the City.
- CD2-2 Neighborhood Design: We create distinct residential neighborhoods that are functional, have a sense of community, emphasize livability and social interaction, and are uniquely identifiable places.
- CD2-5 Streetscapes: We design new and, when necessary, retrofit existing streets to improve walkability, bicycling and transit integration, strengthen connectivity, and enhance community identity through improvements to the public right of way such as sidewalks, street trees, parkways, curbs, street lighting and street furniture.

The Utility Art Box Program Pilot incorporates elements of the policy plan to create distinct and unique street furniture that will be placed throughout the City. This pilot is the first step in what we envision to be a five-year project that will result in the production of fifty public art murals throughout the City.

Through these murals we will complement and enhance community aesthetics, increase pedestrian traffic, engaging residents and businesses of Ontario with art and creating conversations with the Ontario community.

### Facts & Figures

This program is supported by the Community Life & Culture Agency, which has identified four (4) utility boxes that will be painted and display original artwork inspired by the theme "Celebrate Ontario." Up to four (4) local and regional artists will be commissioned to create a beautiful piece of public art.

Theme: Artwork submitted should embrace the theme, "Celebrate Ontario" and reflect the fauna, flora, landscape and history of the City.

Where: The four (4) utility boxes have been identified in Downtown Ontario and artists will be assigned a box at random.

Eligibility: The City will be inviting local and regional artists in Southern California to submit proposals. Preference will be given to artists who reside in Ontario. Artists who have previously submitted may submit a proposal, but priority will be given to artists who have not participated in the program.

Artist Stipend: Artists selected will receive a stipend of \$750 which will cover all expenses associated with the commissioned utility box art project, including design development, production and execution, as well as any required presentations.

Acrylic paint will be provided by the City. The artist is expected to obtain any tools or supplies necessary. The City will additionally prime the boxes.

### Timeline

These dates are subject change due to evolving protocols.

- Invitation to Artists: August 2 – 27, 2021
- Deadline: August 27, 2021
- Submission Review: August 30 – September 10, 2021
- Finalists Announced: Week of September 13, 2021
- Final Design Due: October 1, 2021
- Painting of Utility Boxes: October 18 – 29, 2021

### Submission Process

- A conceptual rendering along with all required supplemental information is required by 4 PM on August 27, 2021. All materials should be sent as a single package to [OntarioArts@OntarioCA.gov](mailto:OntarioArts@OntarioCA.gov). Incomplete or late submissions will not be accepted.

### Guidelines

- Artwork must be suitable for viewing by all ages.
- Artwork should cover all exposed sides including the top of the utility box.
- Artists may include their signature, but it should measure no more than 5 x 7 in.
- The City will be applying coats of protective anti-graffiti coating on the finished murals. If the artwork is tagged before the anti-graffiti treatment is applied the artist will be asked to repaint their assigned box at no additional cost to the City.
- Artists should take no more than 5 days to complete their hand painted designs.

### Requirements

- Sizes of the boxes vary – please be prepared to adjust artwork to the size of the assigned box.
- Boxes may have signage, vents, locks and control panels that need to remain free of any art image.
- Artists will be responsible for keeping at least four (4) feet of the sidewalk open for pedestrians in compliance with ADA requirements.
- Artists must adhere to social distancing and health and safety guidelines as required by Local and State orders at the scheduled painting time.

## Selection Criteria

Artist(s) will be evaluated based on the design submitted and adherence to the theme. Artistic expression, quality of the art and originality will be reviewed.

All applications will be pre-screened by Community Life & Culture Agency staff to assure completion, adherence to guidelines, appropriateness of subject matter and quality of submission before being presented to the selection committee for review.

The selection committee composed of members from the Arts & Culture Working Group will use the following criteria when analyzing proposals:

- Artistic merit, visual impact, technique and graphic strength of the proposed design;
- Contribution to aesthetic and cultural atmosphere of Ontario and the neighborhood which the box is in;
- Appropriateness of subject and concept for public space.

Artwork will be deemed inappropriate if it violates copyright or other known legal ownership interest, profanity, obscenity, indecency, violence, pornography; discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or nationality; and defamation or personal attacks.

## Additional Information

- The artists name and photo of the artwork may be featured on the City of Ontario website and other marketing materials.
- Artwork will remain on display as long as the condition of the paint and materials last.

## Design Template Sample

A utility box diagram representing the four sides and top can be found on page 4. Please use it to complete your proposed rendering.

Unique colors and bold graphics work well, along with bright imagery that can be seen from a distance. Dark colors over large areas should be avoided.

Please remember that utility boxes vary in size shape and have various vents, seams, doors and handles. Be prepared to adjust artwork to fit a unique utility box.

## Submission Checklist

A complete submission must include:

- ✓ Proposed design which is to be completed on the template provided.
- ✓ Description (approx. 200 words) about the design and how it connects to the theme.
- ✓ Artist statement (no more than 300 words).
- ✓ Contact Information: Name, mailing address, telephone number and email.

