



### ***Connecting the Arts with the Community***

Volunteers who live or work in Norwalk serve on the Arts Commission. As an advisory group, the Commission offers guidance and responds to requests from the Mayor and members of his administration about how best to use the City's resources, with a focus on public art and other cultural assets. The Mayor appoints Norwalk residents who reflect our rich diversity to serve as voting members for three-year terms. Non-voting members need not live in Norwalk, and include creative professionals – visual artists, musicians, writers, poets, dancers, and performers --- as well as representatives from area arts organizations, arts-related businesses, and city employees. Norwalk area residents also serve as volunteers with specific Commission-sponsored projects. The Commission receives funding from the City of Norwalk and sometimes through grants. The Commission has participated as a sponsor or partner in a variety of arts cultural events and public installations including public art. Current efforts include expanding awareness of the City's WPA mural collection in partnership with the Norwalk Public Library History Room, the Historical Commission and the Historical Society; developing docent programs, expanding digital heritage resources, and creating a public art inventory. The Commission meets monthly.

#### **Arts Commission Member Roles & Responsibilities**

- Advocate for the arts in Norwalk
- Cultivate and support partnerships.
- Actively participate in or lead at least one Commission-sponsored or partnership project each year.
- Increase public awareness of and celebrate Norwalk artists past and present and their contributions in the fields of drama, literature, music and the visual arts.
- Create and maintain public art and cultural asset inventories and digital resources.
- Recommend, promote and become involved in public art best practices which
  - Enhance Norwalk's image locally, regionally and nationally;
  - Promote our community's identity and celebrate our diversity;
  - Set the standard by engaging qualified and experienced artists;
  - Create exciting, appealing spaces by integrating public art into architecture, urban design and public space planning.
- Attend monthly meetings.
- Promote and participate in Norwalk arts and cultural events and activities.
- Respond to funding opportunities available to local governmental arts organizations based on community priorities and needs.
- Partner with city departments and local arts and cultural organizations on programs, services, networking opportunities and capacity building.
- Provide a user-friendly interface between artists, arts and cultural organizations and City government.

## APPLICATION FORM

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Arts Commission. To help us get to know you and your interests, please answer the following questions and attach a resume or bio if available. Please return your application to: Norwalk Arts Commission, Attn. Mayor's Office, 125 East Ave., Norwalk CT 06856

1. Are you interested in serving as a voting member or ex officio member?
2. If ex officio, what group or organization do you represent?
3. Why do you want to serve?
4. What strengths, expertise, special skills, and experiences would you bring to the Commission?
5. Have you reviewed the roles and responsibilities and are you able to make a commitment to these expectations?
6. Please describe your current and prior community service and volunteer experience. Are you a member of any arts organizations?
7. The Commission is currently revisiting its monthly meeting day and time. What is your availability? Please note your preferences and any limitations i.e., days, times that don't work.  
 Weekday mornings (8:30 - 10 AM)  
 Weekday early evenings (4:30 - 6 PM)  
 Weekday evenings (7:00 - 9:00 PM)  
 Other:
8. Anything else you would like to share?