

Art in the Gardens | Shed Murals project Call for Artists

NYC Parks GreenThumb's Art in the Gardens is currently requesting proposals for artists to participate in the 2nd annual *Shed Murals* project.



Asha Hanna *Afro Clouds* | Shed Mural at Thomas Boyland Community Garden in Brooklyn

ABOUT GREENTHUMB

Established in 1978, NYC Parks GreenThumb is proud to be the nation's largest community gardening program, assisting over 550 gardens and over 20,000 volunteer gardeners on 100 combined acres of open space throughout New York City. GreenThumb's mission is to educate and support community gardens across the five boroughs while preserving open space. By providing free garden materials, technical assistance, educational workshops, and seasonal

programs, GreenThumb supports neighborhood volunteers who steward community gardens as active resources that strengthen communities.

ABOUT ART IN THE GARDENS

Art in the Gardens is a growing public art program within the [GreenThumb](#)¹ community gardening program. Art in the Gardens works with community gardeners, and neighbors, who are interested in creating public art in GreenThumb community gardens. Through both ongoing reviews of proposals, and targeted Requests for Proposals (RFP) - like this one! - GreenThumb supports the collaboration of garden groups and artists to bring more art to NYC community gardens.

ABOUT THE *SHED MURALS* PROJECT

The *Shed Murals* project is an annual initiative that has dual purpose - to provide sheds to gardens in underserved communities and enhance both new and existing sheds with beautiful artwork through cultivating collaborative relationships and partnerships between local artists and community gardeners.

GreenThumb is currently accepting proposals for artists interested in developing and installing mural art in the following community gardens:

- Clinton Community Garden (Lower East Side, MN)
- Jackson Forest Garden (Claremont Village, BX)
- Jardin de las Rosas (Fordham, BX)
- Hooper Grove (Williamsburg, BK)
- Nehemiah 10 (East New York, BK)
- Neighborhood Community Garden (Crown Heights, BK)

ABOUT THE SHEDS

The sheds are corrugated steel which allows for a mostly paint-based medium, though mosaic work will be considered. Shed walls measure: four walls at 10' L x 6'10" H each **–OR–** two walls at 5' L x 6'10" H and two walls at 8' L x 6'10" H.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants can range from professional artists to community gardeners with love of art-making. In an effort to cultivate deep-rooted local connections, preference will be given to artists from the gardens' surrounding neighborhoods – though all are encouraged to apply.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please provide detailed responses to the following prompts. In total, your narrative responses should be no longer than two (2) pages.

1. **Past Experience:** Please summarize your past experience designing and installing public art. Please include:

¹ nyc.gov/parks/greenthumb

- Artist's resume and/or a description of the sponsoring organization. Include the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.
- Up to ten images of the artist's previous work. All images must be clearly labeled with the name of the artist, title of the work, media, and dimensions.

2. History in the Community: Include the name of the community garden you wish to work with. What historical or current connection does you have to the selected community garden site or the neighborhood in which it is located?

3. Community Engagement Plan: Describe your plans for engaging the community garden group in the planning, development, and installation phases of public art? How will you ensure that the art is representative of the larger community?

4. Plan for Sustainability of the Art: Describe your plans for sustaining / preserving the public art displayed in select community garden site.

Deadline for submissions is March 11, 2019, 11:59 p.m.

Submit your proposal by email to Ariana Arancibia, GreenThumb Project Planner:
ariana.arancibia@parks.nyc.gov – Subject: Shed Murals 2019

or by mail to:

The Arsenal
Attn: GreenThumb | Ariana Arancibia
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10065

Proposal materials will not be returned and incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

SELECTION PROCESS

Once the deadline for submissions has past, the proposals will be reviewed by a panel composed of GreenThumb staff and members of participating community gardens, who will select artists based on the criteria listed below. Capacities will be judged on the basis of prior experience and plans for community engagement as demonstrated by the application submission.

Criteria	Description	Points
<i>Background Information</i>	<i>Application includes description of the artist/art organization, history with public art, and the community garden site selected by artist.</i>	<i>Up to 15 points for description of artist/art organization (applicant describes the mission and history of their work, and demonstrates relevant connection to community garden site selected in application)</i>
<i>Community Engagement Plan</i>	<i>Application includes vision for engaging the community garden group in the planning, development, and installation of the public art.</i>	<i>Up to 15 points for strategy for engaging the community garden group in all phases of the art installation, making sure that the art displayed is representative of community garden's vision.</i>
<i>Plan for Sustainability of the Art</i>	<i>Application includes a plan for sustaining the public art displayed in select community garden site.</i>	<i>Up to 5 points for description of sustainability plan for public art.</i>
Total		Up to 35 points

TIMELINE

A rough timeline, subject to change.

EVENT	DATE
<i>Release of Request for Proposals</i>	January 2, 2019
<i>Deadline for Proposal Submissions</i>	March 11, 2019; 11:59PM
<i>Community Gardens Review Proposals</i>	April 2019; Selection due April 30th
<i>Artist Site Visits & Meetings</i>	May - June 2019
<i>Deadline for Art Project Plan</i>	June 28th, 2019; 11:59PM
<i>NYC Parks Approval Process of Art Plan</i>	July 1st - July 12th
<i>Installation of Artwork!</i>	July - August 2019

GREENTHUMB'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & MATERIAL SUPPORT



Meg Minkely *Tropicana* | Shed Mural at Powers Street Community Garden in Brooklyn

Collaborating with a GreenThumb community garden is a great opportunity to deepening connections in your local community, while also displaying your art in a public open green space. Selected applicants may receive technical support from GreenThumb to help with coordinating garden group engagement, access to the garden site, and site preparation around the shed. When installation is complete, GreenThumb can facilitate outreach through NYC Parks Press Office about the artist and their work in the garden. This support is at GreenThumb's discretion and subject to available resources.

GreenThumb will provide the materials listed below:

- Self-Etching Primer
- Top Coat Epoxy
- Paint Trays
- Paint Cups
- Ventilator Masks
- Protective Goggles
- Rubber/Latex Gloves
- Drop Sheets

Other required materials and supplies are the responsibility of the artist. This opportunity does not provide a stipend.