

## Call for CT Artists

### Central CT State University – Burritt Library Annex

New Britain, Connecticut

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#### **About the Art in Public Spaces Program:**

Connecticut's Art in Public Spaces program was established in 1978 and requires 1% of the cost of construction or renovation of publicly accessible state buildings be allocated for the commission or purchase of artwork as part of the building's construction project. The [Connecticut Office of the Arts](http://ct.gov/arts) and the Department of Administrative Services jointly administer the Art in Public Spaces Program. Visit the [Art in Public Spaces](http://ct.gov/arts) program webpage for further information about the program and to view past installations throughout the state.

#### **Project Summary:**

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) and [Central Connecticut State University](http://ccsu.edu) (CCSU) are currently seeking to purchase artwork by Connecticut artists for the new library annex on the CCSU campus in New Britain. The committee may consider a variety of new interior acquisitions including two-dimensional art and three-dimensional sculptural pieces with a focus on two-dimensional wall mounted works of art.

**Budget:** Approximately \$100,000 is available to purchase artwork by Connecticut artists.

**Call for Art Deadline:** on or before 11:59pm on **February 25, 2025**

Note: submissions and art will be reviewed and selected on a rolling basis as soon as the Call for Art is posted.

#### **Eligibility & Submission Process:**

Connecticut Artists may submit up to six (6) digital images of artwork that's currently available for purchase. The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) is accepting submissions through COA's e-grant portal <https://ctofficeofthearts.smapply.org/> and submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Additionally, COA may utilize NEFA's [CreativeGround](http://creativeground.org) database as a tool to find artists for this opportunity.

- **COA's e-grant portal:** create a new account or log into your existing account. Then select **1% Art - Call for Art: CCSU Burritt Annex Library** and begin your submission.
- **CreativeGround:** developed and managed by the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA). COA utilizes CreativeGround as an Artist Directory when seeking artists for a variety of opportunities.

## About the Burritt Library Annex at Central Connecticut State University

The Burritt Library is at the heart of the CCSU campus and the annex project provides much needed space to meet the needs of students and faculty on campus. Classroom space in the library was at capacity and the new annex provides support for an expansion of class schedules and adds new laboratory facilities to a central location on campus. The new facility provides space for collaborative and research-driven learning in addition to office space for faculty and staff.

A few details about the new building along with images are noted below:

- Program: (5) Physics labs, conference rooms, collaboration space, and faculty offices.
- The Annex building (3 stories, 12,000 sf) is attached to the Campus library (Elihu Burritt Library) which houses 8 levels of bookstacks, study spaces, classrooms, and a quiet study floor.
- Entry into the Annex is through the library.
- The building is the first CLT (laminated Timber) structured building on the Central Campus, and in the CCSU college system
- Immediately adjacent to the Annex is the AIH building (Applied Innovation Hub) which offers a number of engineering, computer and technology offerings.



## Project Description:

Construction is now complete and the public art committee for the CCSU project is interested in purchasing artwork from multiple Connecticut artists that fit the aspirations and learning environment within the new site. The project can best accommodate two-dimensional art within the interior of the building such as paintings, prints, photographs, and other framed works of art. Interior wall reliefs and sculptural works may be possible depending on ADA egress requirements, and exterior locations for the placement of sculptural works may be considered.

The committee has outlined several qualities and characteristics they hope to achieve through these acquisitions.

- Represent diverse thinking and perspectives.
- Inspirational and able to evoke critical thinking skills.
- Pleasing environment that encourages a positive and welcoming experience for students and staff.
- Complement the architecture and assist with wayfinding.
- Connects to sustainability and net zero goals.
- To serve as a teaching tool.
- Embrace a range of cultural experiences.

The goal of the project is to include a range of new work by more than one artist. It's anticipated that between 5 and 15 new works may be acquired within the budget by 5 to 10 artists.

## Selection Process and Timeline:

The Central Connecticut State University Burritt Library Annex 1% for Art project is administered as a Call for Art. Therefore, artists interested in this project must submit an application and portfolio of up to six (6) available works of art for consideration through COA's [e-grant portal](#). Additionally, artists registered in [CreativeGround](#) may be invited to submit artwork for consideration.

The selection committee will review submissions on a rolling basis, and they will begin the review as soon as the first submission comes in through the e-grant portal. The goal is to acquire a wide range of artwork that will enhance the learning environment and be suitable for a heavily used university facility.

COA will contact artists who are selected by the committee for further review and consideration, and additional artworks may be requested and reviewed.

COA will initiate a purchase contract with selected artists which will be administered by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). Contracts can only be administered between DAS and the artist, contracts cannot be issued with a gallery representing the artist, an estate, etc. Once the contract is fully authorized, COA will arrange for the transportation and installation of the artwork.

The overall timeline is fluid and CCSU anticipates purchasing several pieces early in the process followed by additional pieces at later stages. New acquisitions will be purchased and installed on an ongoing basis and until the 1% for Art project funds have been expended.

The new acquisitions at Central Connecticut State University will be added to the [Art in Public Spaces Collection Tour](#) which features a range of work on display in publicly accessible locations across Connecticut.

ALL questions related to the Art in Public Spaces program and the Central Connecticut State University, Burritt Library Annex opportunity, please contact: Tamara Dimitri, Art in Public Spaces Program Specialist, Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA), [tamara.dimitri@ct.gov](mailto:tamara.dimitri@ct.gov)