

# THE RECORDER

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## Greenfield seeks artists to assist students with public projects

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GREENFIELD — The town's Recreation Department is looking for two artists who will work with Greenfield public school students to create more downtown public art. The artists will work with elementary and middle school students during school vacations in February and April.

Recreation Director Christy Moore said the artists will work with no more than 50 students each for two hours a day during the two upcoming school vacation weeks, and will eventually lead the students in installing whatever they decide to create. Each artist will receive a \$1,000 stipend.

Moore said some examples might be another creative crosswalk like the bee crosswalk on Court Square, a mural, parking meter painting, storm drain art or some sort of structural art.

"This fits right into the town's desire to create a cultural district downtown," said Moore.

Currently, there are at least three pieces of downtown art — the bee crosswalk and murals on the side exterior wall of Green Fields Market and in Veterans Memorial Mall.

"We'll be using a two-year grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council Adams Program," said Moore.

She said the town will receive \$18,062 a year from the program over the next two years. Greenfield will have to match the grant with money (\$14,450 a year) and in-kind donations (20 percent).

Moore said the project is being organized by the Recreation Department and Greenfield Public Art Committee, which will oversee the installations and provide supervision throughout the projects' lives.

The artists will guide students through the concept development phase of the projects, and also introduce them to different media, as well as lead them through brainstorming potential designs, said Moore.

Once students reach a consensus, the artists will assist them in creating preliminary sketches, which will need to be approved by the Recreation Department and Art Committee, she said.

According to Moore, installation of the project will begin in the spring, after students have created a supply list. The artists will then coordinate the installations.

“The projects will contribute to the vitality and attractiveness of our streetscape, and will deter graffiti,” said Moore. “We don’t know where they’ll go, yet. It will depend on what they are.”

Artists have until Jan. 8 to submit applications, which should include resumes and samples of work. The two artists selected will be subject to background checks.

Artists should submit all required materials to the Recreation Department, 20 Sanderson St., Greenfield, MA 01301. Selections will be made shortly after Jan. 8 and artists will be notified. A contract will be awarded by the end of January.

For more information, call the Recreation Department at 413-772-1553 or visit: [www.greenfieldrecreation.com](http://www.greenfieldrecreation.com).



Mural at Green Fields Market. Recorder Staff/Paul Franz



The "Bee" crosswalk at the Greenfield Town Common. Recorder Staff/Paul Franz