

# Muralist(s) Wanted for Centertown Park Bedford Project

**Location: 112 S. Bridge Street, Bedford, Virginia 24523**

**Earliest Application Acceptance Date: April 15, 2024**

**Submission Deadline: June 1, 2024**

**Projected Award Date: July 1, 2024**

**Mural Completion Date: No later than September 15, 2024**

## INTRODUCTION:

[Bedford Get Together, Inc.](#), is seeking a mural artist(s) to create a community mural on the north-facing wall of the Radford and Wandrei, P.C. building at 112 Bridge Street overlooking Centertown Park in Bedford, Virginia.

Bedford Get Together is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed in 2017 to bring all members of the community together. Our vision is a community united through understanding, trust, kindness, and respect. Our mission is to create opportunities for all current and future community members to enhance their awareness, open-mindedness, and respect. One of our new projects is to sponsor this mural to evoke our vision and mission.

## MURAL CONCEPT:

The mural we envision will pay tribute to the many contributions made by Bedford's diverse military members, including African-American and female military members, and will have a focus on the ideal that those who serve, regardless of race, national origin or sex, are looking out for each other—and for our community as a whole. It is our intention that, when viewing the completed mural, people will experience appreciation and a heightened understanding, respect, and pride in the accomplishments of our diverse community, including those on the home front. Bedford Get Together is seeking muralists who are interested in sharing their vision of what best portrays this theme. ***For additional information, see BACKGROUND at APPENDIX A.***

## THE MURAL SPACE:

The building owner has approved the placement of the mural. The painting site is located on the upper north side of the building at 112 South Bridge Street and is currently a painted brick wall. Bedford Get Together will be responsible for removing as much of the existing peeling paint as possible and will have the surface washed and finished with a basic high quality brick primer. The muralist(s) will be responsible for any additional desired surface preparation. All artworks must be able to be tempered to this surface and able to withstand both temperature

and weather fluctuations. The muralist(s) will apply an acceptable finish coat on the mural when completed. The site-specific work must:

1. Demonstrate artistic excellence;
2. Enhance the building with a distinctive aesthetic and positive experience for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and passersby;
3. Portray and celebrate the diversity of the Bedford community;
4. Be an original artwork appropriate for long-lasting outdoor installation on brick;
5. Be able to stand up to all weather and temperature conditions; and
6. Consider site limitations for both close-up and distant viewings.

***For additional information about the space, with photos, see DETAILED MURAL SITE INFORMATION at APPENDIX B.***

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ARTWORK:**

1. The artwork must reflect the project concept and intent as reflected in this Call.
2. Specifically, the artwork must incorporate the story/message of the racial and gender diversity of the Bedford community and its importance to the community.
3. Artwork must be original to the muralist(s).
4. The artwork must be capable of being displayed in good condition for at least 10 years.
5. No offensive wording or images, including nudity and violence as judged by the Selection Panel, are allowed.
6. Promotion of specific businesses and products is not allowed.
7. The Bedford Get Together Board of Directors and the property owner retain the right to reject any artwork for any reason.
8. Muralist(s) signature(s) must be included in the mural.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

1. This call is open to experienced muralists who live in Virginia.
2. This call is open to both single muralists and muralist teams.
3. Muralist(s) must be able to demonstrate prior experience working in public settings.
4. Muralist(s) must fully complete the proposal containing all elements. If working in a team of two or more, submit one proposal that supplies the names and résumés of each team member.

***For all required proposal elements see DETAILED REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION at APPENDIX C.***

**DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS:** Proposals must be submitted **no later than 11:59 p.m. June 1, 2024.** *PLEASE NOTE: Proposals will not be accepted before April 15, 2024.*

**DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF THE MURAL:** The mural must be fully completed, and all materials and equipment removed from the alley workspace, **no later than September 15, 2024.**

### **SELECTION PROCESS:**

The Selection Panel will consist of members of the Bedford Get Together Board of Directors and others of their choosing. A 2-step process will be used:

1. Initial eliminations based on failure to include all required elements of the proposal and/or the Panel's constructive evaluation of all proposals.
2. Each muralist chosen to move on to Step 2 will meet individually with the Selection Panel to elaborate on their proposal and artistic process, ask any questions, and answer any questions the Panel poses.

**THE AWARD:** Bedford Get Together intends to make an award by July 1 and reserves the right to reject any proposal for any reason. Bedford Get Together will pay 50% of the contract price at the time of contract execution, and the remaining balance after full completion of the mural.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Any award is contingent on sufficiency of funding at the time of award. This mural relies heavily on donations, grants, governmental contributions, and other applicable sources of funding. Bedford Get Together began fundraising in Summer 2023 and will continue to use its best efforts to fully fund any proposal selected for the award.*

### **QUESTIONS?**

If you have any questions, please email [bedfordgettogether@gmail.com](mailto:bedfordgettogether@gmail.com) or contact Bill Mosley of the Bedford Get Together Board of Directors at 540-874-4840.

**Proposals must be submitted no earlier than April 15, 2024, and no later than 11:59 p.m. June 1, 2024.**

**[SUBMIT PROPOSAL HERE](#)**

## APPENDIX A ~ BACKGROUND

More than 20 years ago Bedford was chosen as the site for the National D-Day Memorial, honoring the troops that landed on the beaches of Normandy France on June 6, 1944, and eventually defeated the German Army, ending World War II in Europe. Bedford was chosen in part due to the fact that Bedford suffered more casualties per capita than any community in the U.S. Bedford Get Together was approached by a local Marine veteran of WWII and the Korean conflict and longtime D-Day Memorial volunteer who shared a WWII Normandy Beach image he suggested be painted as a mural.

Due to the laws and policies of racial segregation operating at the time, all of the “Bedford Boys” were Caucasian, and consequently almost all of Bedford’s military history has, for many years now, focused on the bravery and sacrifices of its white male troops.

The reality is that many Black soldiers from Bedford also served honorably in WWII, in both the European and Pacific fronts. More significantly, since the desegregation of the armed forces after WWII, Bedford’s African-American community has sent its men and women to serve in every conflict in which the U.S. has engaged, from Korea to Vietnam to Iraq and Afghanistan. After much discussion, Bedford Get Together concluded that any mural we sponsored would need to portray the diversity of the military as it has existed following WWII and up to the present.

As a way to engage our entire community and honor those who have served in the military over many years, Bedford Get Together intends to add to the visual landscape of the community’s current heroes through sponsorship of this mural.

## APPENDIX B ~ DETAILED MURAL SITE INFORMATION



The rectangular dimensions of the wall marked in this photo are 33' wide x 13' high; the dimensions of the space above the rectangle are shorter and vary in widths and heights. The entire space may be used, but there is no requirement to do so. The completed mural must be entirely and clearly visible from Main Street and Centertown Park, necessitating the use of ladders, scaffolding, and/or a lift to reach the mural space. The workspace pictured below is an enclosed alley located between Centertown Park and the mural wall, measuring approximately ten (10)' wide.







In the photos shown above, please note that the window on the mural wall can be either covered or incorporated into the mural. The vents toward the top of the wall cannot be covered but may be incorporated into the mural. If requested by the muralist(s), Bedford Get Together must first seek approval from the Town of Bedford to reroute the electric cable; otherwise the cable may be incorporated into the mural.

***Muralists are strongly encouraged to view the wall and alley workspace in person prior to submitting a proposal.***

## APPENDIX C ~ DETAILED REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

1. A fully completed proposal submitted at [Bedford Get Together](#) with all required text boxes completed, and all documents described below submitted by email as instructed.
2. A pdf that presents and describes the entire budget for the project, containing:
  - a. The amount and exact location of the available wall surface to be used for the entire mural;
  - b. The type and cost of equipment needed to reach the mural wall, including ladder(s), scaffolding, and/or a lift;
  - c. The type, amount, and cost of each of the following materials: additional wall preparation, paint, and clear protective finish coat;
  - d. The labor cost for each of the following: wall preparation, painting, and applying the clear protective finish coat; and
  - e. Total cost of project.
3. A pdf of the liability insurance declarations page and any other pages necessary to determine the name of your insurance company and your agent's name, and your agent's contact information (including phone number). **The muralist(s) must agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Bedford Get Together, Inc. Board, its Directors, and the property owner from and against any and all claims, losses, damages, costs, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from or in connection with the creation and installation of the mural.**
4. A JPEG or PNG image depicting the initial artwork sketch. This must be an original design, include a color scheme, and be detailed enough that the Selection Panel can have a clear idea of what the finished painting will depict. **If not selected for this project, all original artwork remains the property of the muralist(s), and Bedford Get Together has no rights to its use.**
5. A pdf of each muralist(s)' individual resumé combined into one file. Resumés must not exceed two (2) pages per muralist.
6. A pdf containing contact information for three (3) professional references who are familiar with the work and working methods of the muralist(s).
7. A pdf of no more than ten (10) work samples for each muralist. If applying as a muralist team, in addition to individual work samples joint work, if any, must be included.

**[SUBMIT PROPOSAL HERE](#)**