



Call to Artists

Chelsea Painted Box Project

The Chelsea Cultural Council invites artists to paint city utility boxes, as site-specific works of art.

Project Overview

The Chelsea Painted Box Project is designed to recognize and celebrate artists and public art. Through Chelsea Painted Box, artists are asked to paint city utility boxes with original designs. Once professionally painted, these utility boxes in neighborhood business districts will contribute to the vitality and attractiveness of the urban streetscape and recognize and celebrate local artists.

Process

- Up to 3 designs by each artist will be considered
- **Deadline to submit designs is July 20, 2018**
- Selections will be made by the Chelsea Cultural Council
- Submissions will be kept on file for future consideration
- Artists will be notified if and when their designs are selected
- All work must be completed by October 1, 2018



Stipend

Artists will receive a \$300 stipend from the City of Chelsea upon completion of their box. Artists must supply their own paint and equipment.

Design Guidelines

- Artwork must be original.
- Artists must avoid dark palettes in order to prevent boxes from overheating in the sun.
- Designs may be representational or abstract but must respond to the urban context and be appropriate given the location and audience.
- Utility box size may vary; selected artists must be willing to adjust designs to their particular box.



For more information:

Chelsea Cultural Council
617-466-4090
<https://www.chelseama.gov/ccc>
culturalcouncil@chelseama.gov

Important Details:

Note that dark colors absorb heat, which can potentially overheat a utility box. Ideally any dark color must be used sparingly and fluorescent paints should be kept to a minimum.

Also because these are operational boxes, hinges, handles, locks and keyholes can't be painted over.

Once your application is received we will contact you within a few weeks. **Do not start your box prior to the receipt of an official notification letter from the Chelsea Cultural Council.**

Process:

- Selections will be made by the Chelsea Cultural Council.
- Submissions will be kept on file for future consideration.
- Once approved, artists will notify Chelsea Cultural Council of the specific dates when they will paint their box. Painting of the box must be completed within 2 weeks of start date. Project deadline is Monday, October 1, 2018.
- Artists will receive a \$300 stipend from the City of Chelsea upon completion of their box.

Design Guidelines:

- Artwork must be original.
- Artists must avoid dark palettes in order to prevent boxes from overheating in the sun.
- Utility box size may vary; selected artists must be willing to adjust designs to their particular box.

Other Items to Consider:

- The utility boxes must be scraped, cleaned and primed before they are painted. We suggest taping over functional areas before priming and painting.
- Artists must supply their own paint and equipment.
- Drop cloths should be used at all times while painting.
- Applied paint must not interfere with the operation of the box's hinges, handles, vents, locks, keyholes or any cautionary text on the box.
- Passage on the sidewalk for pedestrians must be at all times maintained. Blocking traffic or lanes of the street needs to be reviewed with the Chelsea Cultural Council in consultation with the Department of Public Works.

Terms of Agreement:

- The artwork submitted by the artists is original, solely owned by the artists and reproduction will not violate the rights of any third party.
- The accepted artwork developed under this contract shall be the exclusive property of the City of Chelsea.
- The City of Chelsea has the right to paint over my design without notification to the artists if, in the future, the appearance deteriorates due to weather, vandalism or utility box replacement.
- The artist grants the City of Chelsea an irrevocable license to make reproductions of the artwork and the final designs to be used in brochures, media, publicity and catalogs or other similar publications.

Signature _____

Date _____

Chelsea Painted Box Project Application:

Artist or Organization Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Website URL: _____

The Chelsea Cultural Council will individually match each artist with a utility box of our choosing. Each decision is based on several factors including the need and visibility of the site, and the best fit between concept and location.

The selection of electrical boxes to be painted, and the matching of a box to artist, will be made at the discretion of the Chelsea Cultural Council. However, if you have a preference for a particular utility box please list it below, using the street and cross street of each box. Please list up to three, in order of preference.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

- Please attach your resume to this application.
- Describe your concept for each proposed utility box. Detail how it relates to the site or community in which it is location. Use extra pages if necessary.

- Please include a full color sketch of your proposed utility box design. A template is provided at the end of this application.

Application checklist:

- Resume
- Signed application for Chelsea Painted Box program
- Full color design - up to three accepted

Please submit completed applications:

Chelsea City Hall
500 Broadway, Room 100
Chelsea, MA 02150

Please use this utility box template to illustrate your design proposal in color. Sketches must be submitted electronically or on standard 8 ½” x 11” paper.

The dimensions of the template do not accurately represent all utility box dimensions; therefore, the proposed design must be adjustable.

Artist name: _____

Title: _____

Materials: _____

Proposed: _____

Please feel free to include a photograph of the proposed box.

Preferences for specific boxes and/or neighborhood will be considered but cannot be guaranteed.

TOP

The diagram shows a large rectangle divided into four equal quadrants by a vertical line and a horizontal line. The quadrants are labeled as follows: 'TOP' is centered in the upper-left quadrant; 'FRONT' is centered on the right edge of the upper-right quadrant; 'SIDE' is centered on the right edge of the lower-right quadrant; and 'BACK' is centered on the right edge of the lower-left quadrant.

SIDE

FRONT

SIDE

BACK