



Call for Trompe l’oeil Muralist “Peering Through the Window of Time”

APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 8, 2025

ARTIST PROJECT BUDGET: \$20,000

- Budget includes artist’s time, materials, mural installation, and any necessary equipment needed for installation.

The City of Mount Vernon Arts Commission is seeking proposals from experienced artists and muralists to design and sketch a Trompe l’oeil mural featuring the theme “Peering Through the Window of Time”. The selected artist or artist team will need to present their final design to the business owner, City of Mount Vernon’s Arts Commission, and Mount Vernon City Council.

The site location for this project is in the historic downtown area of Mount Vernon, Washington on the south-facing back wall of the Hansen Survey Office building at 603 1st Street. The wall that would display the art is 30’ high x 50’ wide and the wall calls for a horizontal design.

For questions about submissions or to schedule a site visit, please contact Rashel O’Neil at mvparks@mountvernonwa.gov, 360.336.6215.

Eligibility

This opportunity is open to all mural artists with ties to Washington State, who are 18 years of age and over, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, or physical or mental disability. Artist teams are eligible to apply. Mount Vernon Arts Commission members as well as selection panelists and their immediate families are not eligible for participation.

Purpose

To create a full-color realist depiction of the bustling history of Mount Vernon in the Trompe l’oeil technique of mural art.

Proposed Project Timeline:

- Project Open for Submissions – April 23, 2025
- **Accept Submission through – June 8, 2025**
- Committee reviews & make recommendation – June 9-13, 2025
- Artist is notified & contract presented– June 23-27, 2025
- Mural Approved at City Council – July 9, 2025
- July/August/September mural is installed and completed

This timeline is intended to provide applicants with a loose framework or project phase expectations. The timeline, with exceptions to dates relating to the call-for-artists, is subject to change based on the approval process and needs of the overall project.

Mural Selection:

The Arts Commission Sub-Committee members will narrow the submissions to the top 2-4 entries and bring them to the Arts Commission for the final recommendation to City Council. Approval of submission depends on compliance with the design guidelines. The City Council approves the final project selection.

Copyright/Intellectual Property:

For any submission which uses or incorporates an image(s) of a person which is recognizable, you must be prepared to provide a model release from the subject or, in the case of a minor, the subject's parent or guardian upon request. **A sample Model Release form is included in this packet.**

Similarly, entrants who depict other people's work (such as sculptures, statues, paintings, and other copyrightable works) must be prepared to provide a release from the rights holder to the City upon request. **A sample Art Release form is included in this packet.**

If the entrant is unable to provide all required releases, the City in its sole discretion reserves the right to disqualify the submission, seek to secure the required releases, or permit the submission to remain in the contest.

Any submission that violates or infringes upon another person's rights, including but not limited to copyright, is not eligible.

You retain your rights to your submission; however, by applying to the Call for Artist, you grant the City of Mount Vernon (and those authorized by the City of Mount Vernon) a royalty-free, world-wide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to publicly display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or later developed, for any purpose, including, but not limited to, advertising and promotion of the City, any publications (e.g. Mount Vernon City magazine) and its website, exhibition, and commercial products. The City may provide attribution or credit as feasible in the event of a reproduction of the submission; however, entrants into the contest must knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waive any rights to attribution. The City shall not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such uses.

General Submission Guidelines

The Arts Commission Review Sub-Committee reserves the right to determine whether a design is eligible for acceptance under these guidelines:

- Ideas could include representations of a bustling historic downtown Mount Vernon in the Trompe l'oeil muralist style.
- The selected proposal must show artistic quality and compatibility with the location.
- The selected proposal must be produced from durable material able to withstand the outdoor location.
- The selected proposal must be family-friendly, suitable for public viewing, and appropriate for all ages and audiences, and must not have any objectionable imagery.
- The submission must be original and one-of-a-kind.
- Art submissions shall not be used for commercial advertising or display of personal messages or used to promote political or religious organizations or issues or viewpoints. Business names, logos, branded tags, acronyms, or trademarks are prohibited.
- Think bold, bright, and understandable, proportional and realistic.

- The artwork will serve as a background that will encourage visitors to take selfies and photos to share on social media.
- All design entries must be horizontally oriented, no larger than 30' high x 50' wide and no smaller than 20' high x 40' wide.
- If your design is selected, you must submit original artwork.

You may submit multiple entries. (Max. of 3)

Submission Requirements

- Letter of Interest
 - Include a one-page letter addressing why you are interested in this opportunity and your related experience or qualifications. Describe how you or your team would approach a project of this scale and complexity. Explain your ability to deliver the level of quality desired within the project's timeframe.
- Current Resume/Prior Experience
 - Include a detailed, one-page resume of your qualifications and past experience particularly pertaining to your experience with mural design and execution.
- Images of Previous Work.
 - Images should be either digital or hard copy photos, with detail listing of location, date and description, if appropriate.
 - Provide (3) examples of your completed artwork that demonstrate your ability to best meet the desired outcomes of this Call-for Artist.
- Design Proposal; including drawing, material to be used, and any other information relevant to the project. The proposal may be hand drawn or digitally produced.
 - Provide a visual concept and a detailed written description for your artwork idea. Provide just enough to illustrate the proposed artwork, bolstered by a detailed description.
 - Descriptions must include all intended material, working title, and any other pertinent information, including appropriateness for outdoor public display, tourism, and marketing potential, and compatibility with project vision.
- (2) References
 - Applicants must provide at least (2) current references who are familiar with the quality of the artwork created by the Applicant. References must be able to verify Applicant's ability to comply with the requirements of this application.
 - Failure to provide references may be grounds for disqualification.
 - Before a contract is awarded, the City will conduct reference checks as is necessary to evaluate and determine the performance record and ability of the top ranked Applicant(s) to perform the size and type of work to be contracted.
 - By submitting an application, you authorize the City to conduct reference interviews as needed.
- Self-addressed stamped envelope if you want material returned.

Every effort will be made to ensure the safe handling of submitted material. However, the City of Mount Vernon will not be responsible for any loss or damage.

Specific Technical Specifications:

1. Submissions received without a completed entry form and waiver/release may be disqualified.

2. Submit only horizontally oriented images to cover a maximum wall surface of 30' high x 50' wide and/or a minimum wall surface of 20' high x 40' wide.
3. Submissions received without all the required contact information may be disqualified.

Submissions:

- Electronic Submissions – email your Entry Form, artwork, and Image Waiver Form to mvparks@mountvernonwa.gov
- Drop-off Submissions – Entry Form, artwork, and Image Waiver Form may be dropped off to the Parks Office at 1717 S. 13th Street, Mount Vernon, WA, Monday – Friday from 8am – 4:30pm.

Design Requirements:

- Cover a brick wall that is approx. 30' high x 50' wide
- Trompe l'oeil style mural – creating a realistic optical illusion, making a two-dimensional surface appear three-dimensional that deceives the eye and embraces the theme.



“Peering Through the Window of Time”

City of Mount Vernon Arts Commission Trompe l’oeil Mural Call-for-Artist

Artist Entry Form



The “mural wall” is on the southern wall of the Harmsen Land Surveyor’s office, 603 S. 1st Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. It is in the alley west of Harmsen’s between Myrtle St. and Pine St. Any questions please call the Parks Department. 360.336.6215

Artist First and Last Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Artwork Description – *please provide a brief statement about the artwork and how your artwork relates to the purpose and goals of the project. Use additional paper if needed.*

Submit your artwork to: MVParks@mountvernonwa.gov

OR

Drop off: Monday – Friday, 8am – 4:30pm

Hillcrest Park Admin Office, 1717 S. 13th Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Reference the guidelines for submission requirements. At the time of submitting your artwork the “Statement of Authorized Use of Image Waiver” must be completed and submitted.



“Peering Through the Window of Time”

City of Mount Vernon Arts Commission Trompe l’oeil Mural Call-for-Artist

Statement of Authorized Use of Image Waiver

By submitting artwork to the MV Arts Commission “Peering Through the Window of Time” Call for Artist, the Applicant understands and agrees that it grants the City of Mount Vernon, WA (and those authorized by the City) a royalty-free, world-wide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to publicly display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of the artwork, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or later developed, for any purpose, including, but not limited to, advertising and promotion of its website, exhibition, and commercial products, including but not limited to City of Mount Vernon publications.

The City of Mount Vernon will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such uses. The City may provide attribution or credit of authorship in the event of a reproduction of the submission; however, the Applicant hereby agrees to waive its rights to attribution and waive its rights of integrity for the “Peering Through the Window of Time” artwork submitted preventing the City of Mount Vernon from modification of the artwork, restoration, modification of its use, or removal and has done so knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily.

Applicant represents and warrants that any artwork submitted to the MV Arts Commission for the “Peering Through the Window of Time” Call for Artist is the original products of the Applicant, and does not violate any intellectual property rights, or any other rights of any kind enjoyed by any individual or entity, nor do any of Applicant’s submissions feature artwork or intellectual property created or owned by another individual or entity.

Applicant agrees to execute such other documents and to take such other action as may be reasonably necessary to further the purposes of this Agreement.

Applicant agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City against all claims, damages, lawsuits, losses, liabilities, liens, costs, citations, penalties, fines, and expenses, including but not limited to attorney’s fees, arising out of, or resulting from the submission of Applicant’s submitted artwork.

Time is of the essence with this Agreement, as well as every term, covenant and condition contained herein.

If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of the Agreements shall, nevertheless, be construed, performed, and enforced as if the invalidated or unenforceable provision had not been included in the text of the Agreement.

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature (not required of minor): _____

Age (if minor): _____ Printed Name of Parent/Guardian of minor: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian of minor: _____



An “Art Release” form or “Model Release” form is needed in the event a third party has intellectual property interests being used by an entrant. The release will need to come from those whose likeness is being used or those whose creative work is being used as part of the submission.

If this is needed for your proposal, please complete the appropriate release(s) below and include along with your submission paperwork.

The “Art Release” form and the “Model Release” form are not required unless your submission is not your original art and/or you are using the likeness of someone in your submission. Please read each form to determine if these are needed with your submission.



“Peering Through the Window of Time”

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON Trompe l’oeil Mural Call-for-Artist

ART RELEASE

I, the undersigned, own the rights to the _____ (the “Work”) that is depicted in _____ by _____. I give _____ permission to use my Work in their entry to the City of Mount Vernon, WA “Peering Through the Window of Time” Call for Artist.

I hereby give the City of Mount Vernon, WA a royalty-free, nonrevocable, world-wide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to publicly display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of that entry including my name and likeness (including but not limited to any photographs of the Work), in whole or in part, in any media now existing or later developed, for any purpose, including, but not limited to, advertising and promotion of the City of Mount Vernon, WA and its website. I understand that I shall not receive any compensation for these uses and that the City of Mount Vernon, WA is under no obligation to use the entry in any way. I waive any and all claims including all rights of action arising out of the uses described in this release.

Print Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

If Artist is under 18: I, _____, am the parent/legal guardian of the individual named above, I have read this release and approve of its terms and conditions.

Print Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



"Peering Through the Window of Time"

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TROMPE L'OEIL MURAL CALL-FOR-ARTIST

MODEL RELEASE

I understand that I appear in a photograph or photographs taken by _____ or my likeness is being used by _____ for the following work _____. I knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently give _____ permission to use my name, and that likeness (including but not limited to any photographs identified above) in his or her entry to the Mount Vernon "Peering Through the Window of Time" Call for Artist.

I hereby give the City of Mount Vernon, WA a royalty-free, nonrevocable, world-wide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to publicly display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of that entry including my name and likeness (including but not limited to any photographs identified above), in whole or in part, in any media now existing or later developed, for any purpose, including, but not limited to, advertising and promotion of the City of Mount Vernon, WA and its website. I understand that I shall not receive any compensation for these uses and that the City of Mount Vernon, WA is under no obligation to use the entry in any way. I waive any and all claims including all rights of action arising out of the uses described in this release.

Print Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Siganture: _____

Date: _____

If Model is under 18: I, _____, am the parent/legal guardian of the individual named above, I have read this release and approve of its terms and conditions.

Print Name: _____

Mailing Addresss: _____

E-Mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Siganture: _____

Date: _____