

## Request for Proposals

### Downtown Bethesda Signal Box Public Art Project

The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District and Bethesda Urban Partnership are seeking artists for the second phase of the Signal Box Public Art Project. Fifteen signal boxes located throughout downtown Bethesda were adorned with artistic vinyl in November 2024. **Ten additional boxes will also be covered with a vinyl treatment based on original artistic designs.**

Artists must be 14 years of age or older and residents of Washington, D.C., Maryland, or Virginia. Artists are asked to submit a resume along with previous examples of their artwork.

The Signal Box project will showcase the work of 10 selected artists, including high school artists. Interested artists are invited to submit previous images of their artwork along with the proposed artwork for the signal box for review. Each artist will be paid \$650 for the license to use their image. If selected, artists will need to provide a high-resolution file for the image of their artwork to be printed on one of the selected boxes.

To submit your qualifications for consideration, please complete the online application <https://bethesdaarts.submittable.com/submit> . The deadline for submission is April 30, 2026.

Questions? Call 301-215-6660, ext. 120 or email [artist@bethesda.org](mailto:artist@bethesda.org)



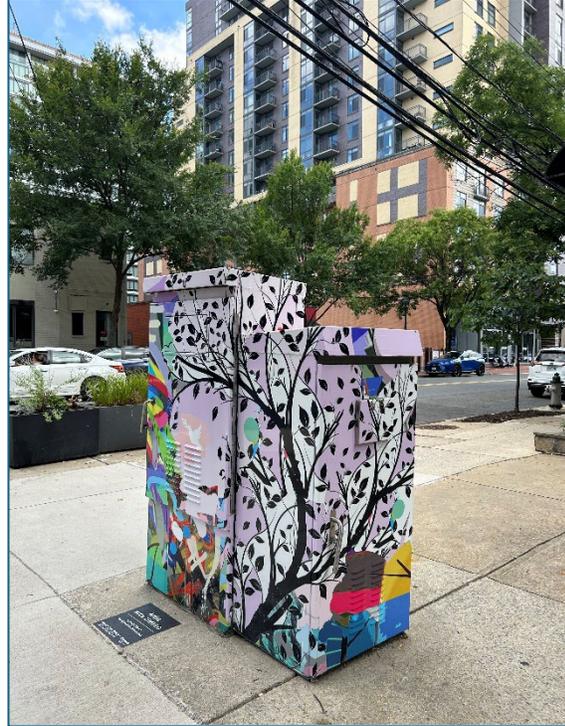
Artist: Alexis Limpiado

Location: Woodmont & Bethesda Avenues, Bethesda, MD

## Sample Signal Boxes in Bethesda from Phase 1



Artist: Lea Craigie-Marshall  
Location: Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD



Artist: Nick Zimbro  
Location: Norfolk Avenue, Bethesda, MD

### **Artwork requirements:**

- Artwork must be original, and created by the artist submitting to the project.
- The art may be representational or abstract but may not contain advertising, religious art, sexual content, negative imagery, or convey political partisanship.
- The artwork cannot include any form of advertisement or copyright-protected images.
- If selected, final artwork will need to meet the printer's digital requirements.

There are two sizes of traffic boxes. You can view the sizing information in **Attachment A**; you will only need to submit one size in your application. Final artists may be asked to make sizing adjustments.

### **Anticipated Timeline**

- Application due by Thursday, April 30, 2026.
- The selected artists will be announced on or before May 29, 2026.
- If selected, final artwork designs and digital files will be due by Wednesday, July 1, 2026.
- Artwork will be installed in Fall 2026.

### **Budget**

Selected artists to create final designs will receive a \$650 stipend per traffic control box design. The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District will pay for the printing and installation of the vinyl wraps.

## **Selection Process**

The selection committee will select up to 10 artists to finalize their original designs for the vinyl printer. Each artist will be recognized on or near the Signal Box, as well as on our website and in social media.

## **Project Partners**

The mission of the **Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District, Inc.**, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is to create and implement arts and entertainment projects that contribute to the artistic, cultural and economic growth of downtown Bethesda. From award-winning theatre to independent films, downtown Bethesda's Arts & Entertainment District is filled with inspiring artists and art venues. The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District is managed by the Bethesda Urban Partnership, Inc., and is the producer of The Trawick Prize: Bethesda Contemporary Art Awards, Bethesda Painting Awards, Bethesda Fine Arts Festival, Bethesda Film Fest and more.

Established by Montgomery County in 1994, **Bethesda Urban Partnership, Inc. (BUP)** is a downtown management organization that markets and maintains downtown Bethesda. The BUP team works in marketing, maintenance, transportation and administration to produce cultural events and community festivals and attend to landscaping and maintenance needs. BUP also manages Bethesda Transportation Solutions (BTS), the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District, and the Bethesda Circulator as well as the non-profit art spaces, Gallery B, Studio B and the Triangle Art Studios. For a closer look, please visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).