

CALL FOR ARTISTS

MTA Metro-North Railroad | Penn Station Access Co-op City | Morris Park | Parkchester/Van Nest | Hunts Point

Introduction

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is constructing four new ADA accessible stations in the East Bronx at Co-op City, Morris Park, Parkchester/Van Nest, Hunts Point.

MTA Arts & Design is commissioning site-specific permanent artwork for the four new stations and one substation. Interested artists can submit materials for consideration at mtaarts.submittable.com by **Friday, March 4, 2022**.

About Penn Station Access

The Penn Station Access project will connect Penn Station to Metro-North's New Haven rail line, drastically cutting down on commute times to the Bronx, Westchester, and Connecticut. This extension will transform our regional transportation system by improving reliability, reducing travel time, and expanding mass transit options for everyone.

As part of the project, four new ADA accessible stations in the East Bronx will be built at Co-op City, Morris Park, Parkchester/Van Nest, Hunts Point, among other upgrades. Artwork will be integrated with the project's architecture. Artists are invited to submit their qualifications for these exciting and unique opportunities. Funding is allocated for the design, fabrication, and installation of permanent artwork.

The Role of Art and the Project Components

Art integrated into the architecture of the Penn Station Access project should provide strong visual identity, reflect ideas about how users move through and orient themselves in transit spaces, have a strong site-specific connection to the station and the community context, and contribute to the overall experience and perceptions of the stations in a memorable and vital way.

As appropriate, art should function as wayfinders, bringing people through volumes of space and providing visual points of focus. Several key locations are specified for art, and the selected finalists will evaluate and create proposals for these spaces.

Traditional materials for artwork that have met the durability requirements of the MTA environment have included laminated glass, mosaic, lighting, and metal elements. Other materials can be used that meet the challenges of the transportation system, and this will be discussed with the selected finalists. Arts & Design will coordinate the installation of artwork with the architectural team.

Artist Qualifications

Arts & Design seeks images of previous work. Artist submissions will be reviewed by a selection panel comprised of arts professionals, the architect/design team, and Arts & Design. The panel will select four finalists per station to produce site-specific proposals. Eligibility is based upon the following minimum qualifications:

- Artistic merit as evidenced in previous work and exhibition history, awards, honors, and publications.
- Demonstrated proficiency and technical knowledge of the materials/techniques of the artist's typical practice.
- Availability to work in New York during the required design and construction period (see Project Schedule).

It is also preferred that the qualified artists have:

- Ability to understand the context of the unique characteristics and diversity of the East Bronx communities within which these stations are located, and to integrate these elements into the artwork.
- Experience working with community groups and making public presentations.

Submit Materials





Preliminary Station Design Renderings



Submit Materials



Artist Qualifications (continued)

All artists with applicable, relevant experience are encouraged to apply for these commissions. (Artists who have previously received and completed Arts & Design commissions are eligible to submit qualifications for this project.)

To Apply

All artists interested in being considered for projects must apply through the online program at mtaarts.submittable.com. Submit up to 20 images along with a short application form, a bio/CV, and brief artist statement.

Submissions must be complete by midnight EST on **Friday, March 4, 2022**. Please direct inquiries for MTA Arts & Design to arts@mtahq.org.

Selection Process

A selection panel comprised of arts and design professionals will select finalists to develop original art proposals. Finalists will be given site specifications and a detailed overview of the projects to create a proposal for site-specific artwork, for which they will receive an honorarium. Following the selection panel's review of proposals, one artist per station site will be selected to receive the commission.

The commissioned artists will create artwork that will be reproduced in the durable materials such as laminated glass, mosaic, lighting, and metal elements. Because approved fabricators will translate the selected artwork, artists' experience with this material will not be taken into consideration when reviewing artists.

Project Schedule

The final design phase for the four stations is expected to commence in Q1 of 2022. Station construction is likely to commence in Q4 2023 with project completion in 2027. Artists chosen for these stations must be available for meetings with the architectural/engineer team and Arts & Design, in person or virtually, through 2027.

About MTA Arts & Design

MTA Arts & Design encourages the use of public transportation by providing visual and performing arts in the metropolitan New York area.

MTA Arts & Design commissions dynamic contemporary art for subway and commuter rail stations, creating memorable and lively environments for travelers. The permanent Percent for Art program is one of the largest and most diverse collections of site-specific public art in the world, with more than 350 commissions by world-famous, mid-career and emerging artists. Arts & Design produces Digital Art, Graphic Arts, Photographic Lightbox, as well as live musical performances in stations through its MUSIC (Music Under New York) program, and Poetry in Motion program in collaboration with the Poetry Society of America. It serves the millions of people who rely upon MTA subways and commuter trains and strives to create meaningful connections between sites, neighborhoods, and people.

Visit

<https://new.mta.info/projects/penn-station-access> for more information about the Penn Station Access.

See

<https://new.mta.info/agency/arts-design> for comprehensive information about Arts & Design. Follow us on Social Media [@mtaartsdesign](https://twitter.com/mtaartsdesign).