

# Call for Mural Artist



Artists are encouraged to apply for a two-part mural to be installed inside at Robert Smalls Townhomes, Spartanburg, SC. The townhomes are being constructed by Colliers International and should be ready for mural installation in the spring of 2022. This mural will be located in the clubhouse, which will serve the needs of the tenants and will be open as a meeting place for local groups and clubs. The purpose of the murals is to commemorate the life of Robert Smalls and educate the community as to his amazing feats of bravery and daring and his service in the SC government.

This project is being managed by Chapman Cultural Center. Please contact Melissa Earley if you have any questions. [mearley@spartanarts.org](mailto:mearley@spartanarts.org), 864-278-9685

## Theme & Vision:

Roberts Smalls was born into slavery in Beaufort, but during the Civil War, while serving as a deck hand, he commandeered a Southern warship docked in the Charleston harbor and used it to transport his family and several other slaves to freedom in the North. He served in the Union Army and went on to become one of the first Black men to serve in the SC General Assembly and in the SC State Senate.

In the clubhouse, there are two walls beside each other open for your vision for how best to tell the visual story of Robert Small's life and works. The mural(s) should be appropriate for all ages and audiences, as the clubhouse will be available to serve the whole community. Words, phrases, dates, quotes, etc. may be incorporated into the mural in order to help tell the story.

Preference will be given to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) artists, and to Spartanburg County artists, but all artists with a vision and passion for this project are encouraged to apply. All applicants should familiarize themselves with the life story of Robert Smalls, and the following links will help get you started:

<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/african-americans-many-rivers-to-cross/history/which-slave-sailed-himself-to-freedom/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Smalls](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Smalls)

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/thrilling-tale-how-robert-smalls-heroically-sailed-stolen-confederate-ship-freedom-180963689/>

If you have an idea that you would like to discuss, feel free to reach out to Melissa Earley: [mearley@spartanarts.org](mailto:mearley@spartanarts.org), 864-278-9685.

## Areas to be painted:

Mural will be painted inside the clubhouse, in a hallway that runs between the main assembly room, past the offices and bathrooms, to the exercise and computer rooms. This will be a high traffic area. You may choose to do one long mural, using the left and right walls to tell one story, or you may do separate images to tell separate stories on each one.

- **Left side wall: 10.5' wide x 10' tall**
- **Right side wall: 13' wide x 10' tall**

## Items to include in your proposal:

\_\_\_\_ CV or artistic resume

\_\_\_\_ up to 10 images of completed works, preferably murals or very large scale 2-D projects

\_\_\_\_ rough sketches or basic design layout for your suggested imagery on at least one of the two walls

\_\_\_\_ Time frame estimate (How long will work take to complete both walls? Will you prefer to work at night, when the facility is closed?)

\_\_\_\_ Budget (must include all items below: if any are not applicable, please make a note of that)

\_\_\_ Your fees for design and implementation of both walls (Please note that our standard contract requires artist to be available to repair or touch up mural for a period of five years after installation is complete.)

\_\_\_ Cost of any assistant(s) you may need to hire to help with installation

\_\_\_ Cost of paint, brushes, drop cloths, rollers, transfer items, sealants, and any other materials

\_\_\_ Miscellaneous (travel, equipment rental, and any other cost we didn't specify here)

\_\_\_\_ Idea and project narrative (What is your overall proposal for the project? What do we need to know about your work process? Will you paint both walls at the same time, or complete one area before moving on to the next?)

\_\_\_\_ Requirements from building owner (Will you need a ladder, fans, extra lighting, or other basic equipment to be provided for you?)

\_\_\_\_ Safety and health (If working nights and weekends, will you require security when you come and go? Are your materials certified as non-toxic? Should the staff expect that there will be fumes while the project is in process?)

\_\_\_\_\_ Project longevity and maintenance estimates. How long do you estimate the murals will last without significant fading? Will staff be able to clean mural with traditional chemical cleaners? (Please note: our standard contract requires that the artist be available for a period of five years to handle basic repairs and touch ups for indoor murals with no added fee.)

**Please address each of the items above in your proposal and send proposal to Melissa Earley at [mearley@spartanarts.org](mailto:mearley@spartanarts.org). No hard copy packages will be accepted. Proposals are due by 5pm, January 6, 2022.**

