



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

About YMPJ and The Soundview Economic Hub

Who is YMPJ?

The mission of Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice (YMPJ) is to rebuild the neighborhoods of Bronx River and Soundview/Bruckner Boulevard in the South Bronx by preparing community members to become prophetic voices for peace and justice. Please checkout our website ympj.org and our socials (IG: [official.ympj](https://www.instagram.com/official.ympj)) for more information about us.

What is the Soundview Economic Hub?

Once fully activated, The Soundview Economic Hub (SEH) will be an innovative space activation to give South Bronx residents, entrepreneurs, and food growers a community-oriented space to manufacture goods and offer services that provide resources, employment, and educational opportunities. The SEH space will stimulate the local economy by providing incubator spaces and classrooms for food manufacturers, vendors, and service providers, while also serving as a nexus for wholesale food and urban agriculture.

About the Space Activation

Who is sponsoring this activation?

This temporary space activation is sponsored by the Local Center, an initiative led jointly by Urban Design Forum and the Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development (ANHD)

What is the Arterventions program?

As part of the Arterventions initiative, NYC DOT Art invites “Partner Organizations” to exhibit temporary artwork such as murals, sculptures or other interventions on NYC DOT property in collaboration with professional artists. Partner Organizations may request necessary permits to display temporary artwork that is newly commissioned or relocate existing artwork currently on exhibit in a gallery, alternative art space or in a storage facility to NYC DOT-owned sites.

Why are we doing this through the Arterventions program?

Art cannot be displayed on NYC DOT property without the proper permitting. Arterventions is the program best suited for YMPJ to sponsor public art in this space on this timeline.

Is this RFP available only to visual artists?

The Arterventions program covers only visual artists. We will likely have opportunities to engage performing artists (e.g., music, poetry, dance) during this space activation, but we will procure through a different process. Stay tuned!

How many artists will you select to participate?

How many artists we select depends on the scale and ambition of the proposals we see. We will select at least one artist/artist team, possibly multiple artists.

This is a DOT Plaza?

By the time the art is up for display, it will be. YMPJ is simultaneously working with NYC DOT to convert a portion of this space into a pedestrian plaza and one of the Bronx's newest public spaces!

Will my work be accessible to the public?

Yes, NYC DOT pedestrian plazas are required to be accessible to the public 24/7, with programming held during daylight hours. We can lock up smaller items at night, but please take under consideration the inherent risks of displaying art in a public location in your proposal.

How long will my art be up for display?

Artwork in NYC DOT pedestrian plazas typically remains on display for three to six months. Interested artists will have the opportunity to extend their exhibitions up to 11 months.

Will there be future opportunities to submit proposals?

Yes, we plan to continue activating the space beyond 2024 as we move towards realizing the full SEH vision. There is more to come!

The Space

Where is the space?

The space is located underneath the Bruckner Expressway facing Bronx River Avenue and nestled between the northern and southern parts of Bruckner Boulevard

What are the basic space characteristics?

The space is 7,500 square feet of concrete surface between Bronx River Avenue and the first row of columns under the Bruckner Expressway. A black metal fence currently separates the space from its borders on Bronx River Avenue and Bruckner Boulevard.

Which types of art will work within the space?

We can assure NYC DOT will allow the following types of interventions:

- Vinyl adhesives
- 3-D art/sculpture
- 2-D art (e.g. photography, painting on display panels)
- Vinyl banners and fence design interventions
- *Light projections/digital displays

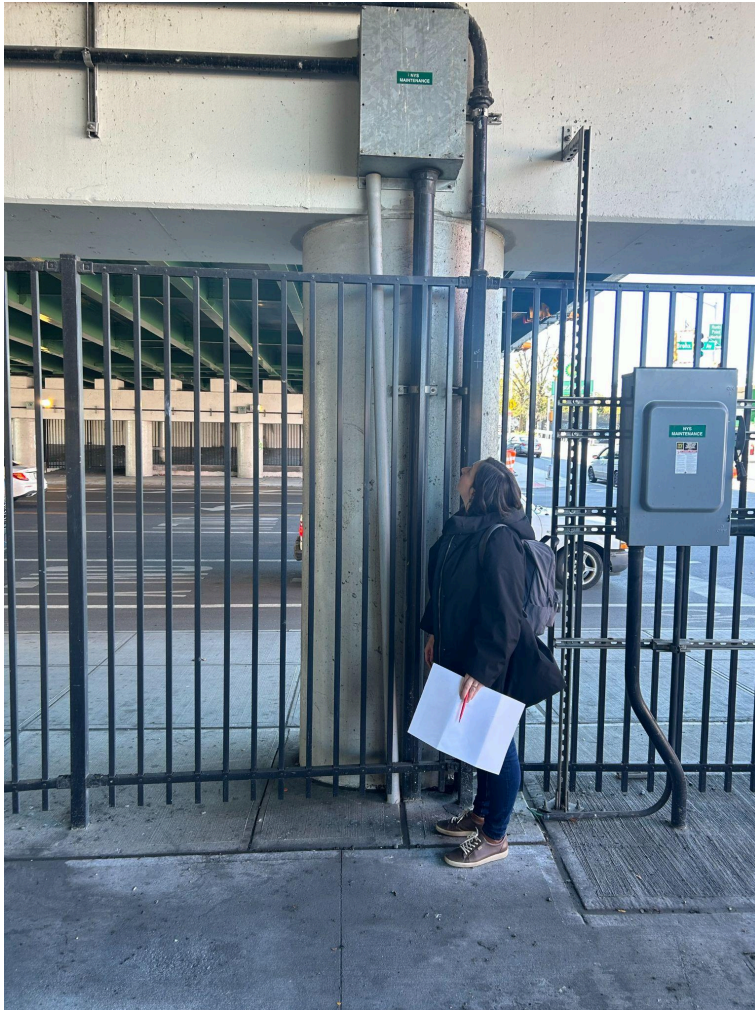
*Depending on pending access to a power source

We recommend that artists take a look at the [NYC DOT Arterventions Flickr page](#) for comparable projects. Please keep in mind that any proposals should take durability and exposure to the elements under consideration.

Which parts of the space can I consider for my proposal?

Proposals can engage with any of the following sites within the space at scales you feel are appropriate and feasible:

- The ground (for vinyl adhesives): 7,500 sq ft
- The area reserved for free-standing sculpture: 15' x 30' x 9' (tall)
- Black metal fence: 70' wide x 8' tall (per side)



- 16 Marine-grade plywood panels - can be painted as mural or art can be hung: 6' wide x 8' tall



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- Shipping container: 20' wide x 8' tall

Can we paint the ground?

Unfortunately NYC DOT will not permit artists to paint directly onto concrete surfaces. We encourage anyone proposing to design the ground to instead consider [vinyl adhesives](#).

Can we paint the columns?

We don't know yet. The columns are owned by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT). We are determining whether we have permission to paint these. If so, we will release an addendum that explicitly includes columns as part of the activatable space.

Can we paint the panels?

Yes! We welcome proposals that incorporate our existing art panels!

Can we install photography or other printed art?

Yes, but again, please consider the durability of your materials in your proposal.

Submission Guidelines

Who is eligible to apply?

This call is open to artists, designers, artist teams, and community groups led by professional artists. Arts and design students will also be considered. Community groups must submit their application in conjunction with a professional artist or designer who meets the eligibility requirements.

Will more than one artist/artist team be considered?

Yes. Depending on the scale and complexity of the proposals submitted, we may select more than one team.

I grew up/once worked in the Bronx but no longer live there. Can I still apply?

Absolutely! Our primary goal is to showcase the artistic talents of Soundview and the Bronx. If you have Bronx roots, we encourage you to apply and demonstrate that in your proposal.

Can I submit an existing piece of art?

We *encourage* existing pieces that are a good fit for the space! If it's an existing piece, please be sure to include any key information on materials, dimensions, weight, etc.

Are there opportunities to submit proposals outside of the Arterventions program?

Likely yes, and we will follow up on this. Depending on feedback from NYS DOT, we might have opportunities to paint the columns. We will also have a shipping container that can be painted.

How do I submit?

Applicants must prepare and submit the RFP requirements via email (zip file) to madhur@ympj.org and jhochman@publicworkspartners.com by **11:59 PM (EST) on March 6th, 2024**. As long as the requested components are within the zip file, you can combine into one PDF or submit separately.

What happens if I have an incomplete submission?

We cannot consider incomplete submissions: Everything we ask for will ultimately be used to submit to NYC DOT for Arterventions program approval. If you are unsure of how to fulfill an application requirement, please reach out to Madhur or Joel for assistance.

What is your budget for the entire installation?

We have a preliminary figure, \$10,000, set aside for the art installation. The final budget will be determined according to the selected proposals.

What are the components of the budget we are required to submit?

Please include basic cost estimates for the following:

- Materials, including special hardware/equipment
- Fabrication/printing (if applicable)
- Transportation
- Installation
- De-installation

Will YMPJ cover artist fees in addition to materials costs ?



Yes! We intend to compensate you for your labor. Depending on scale and complexity of the proposal, we will reserve between \$500 and \$1000 per individual artist

Fabrication, Installation and Deinstallation

When can I expect to install?

Submitting our joint interventions proposal to NYC DOT in April will allow us meet the required 90-day lead time to install in July 2024. NYC DOT reviews submissions on a rolling basis and will give decisions to us quickly, typically within 1 month. The 90 day requirement allows for artists and partner organizations to finalize key details for approved installations (e.g., materials lists, installation plans, final budgets, etc.).

Are artists responsible for applying for the permits?

No, YMPJ will apply for permits as part of the joint Artervention application. If selected, please expect to be available to coordinate with YMPJ in the leadup to official submission to NYC DOT

What am I responsible for?

- Submitting a complete application to us
- Coordinating with YMPJ for proposal submission to NYCDOT Artervention program by April 2024 and finalizing project details
- Fabricating/printing (or procuring existing pieces)
- Transporting and installing pieces under YMPJ's supervision
- De-installing at end of exhibition
- Storage plan in case of emergency

What is YMPJ responsible for?

- Submit any relevant applications, permits, insurance documents
- Incurring any costs associated with permitting and government approvals
- Providing you stipend that includes your artist fee and your materials/installation costs
- Supervising your installation of piece
- Maintaining and securing art during installation period
- Returning art back to you upon completion of the temporary exhibition