

MORGANTON  
CULTURAL  
ARTS  
COMMISSION

SCULPTURE ON THE TOWN

2025

CALLING ALL  
SCULPTURE  
ARTISTS!

MORGANTON, NC

Due last Friday of January

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# ABOUT THE PROJECT

Morganton is located in western North Carolina along the Catawba River in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The Pisgah National Forest is nearby, and the area is abundant with scenic views and numerous outdoor adventure opportunities. It is within an hour's drive of neighboring mountain towns like Boone and Blowing Rock, as well as the nationally renowned city of Asheville.

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

Morganton cares deeply about the arts. Downtown's lively performing arts roster includes formal and informal activities with a wide range of participating organizations and establishments, taking place in a wide variety of public and private spaces. Morganton's investment in arts and culture is evident in its belief in and commitment to the fundamental role the arts play in building a community's sense of place.

The Morganton Cultural Arts Commission (MCAC) is launching new strategies that identify Morganton's creative community of artists, art stakeholders, and stewards. It provides educational programs highlighting public art as well as access to information in building grassroots support to ensure the implementation of policy recommendations. A top priority of the Morganton Cultural Arts Commission is to implement public art in public spaces. Hence the Call to Artists for large sculpture to be placed on 3 sites around town.

## SCOPE OF WORK

This project aims to increase community interest for public art and to offer artists a unique opportunity to showcase their original sculptural works. Artwork shall be uplifting and creative. Other aspects to consider might be: how the art visually engages and creates a sense of discovery, surprise, boldness or intimacy; how it uses kinetic devices, dynamic shapes or colors; how it celebrates movement or whimsy; how the art celebrates Morganton.

**A MAXIMUM OF TWO ENTRIES PER ARTIST MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION.**

*There are no fees for submittal.*

# SCULPTURE SPECIFICATIONS AND COMPENSATION

## Eligibility

The project is open to anyone 18 years or over who is able to complete the requirements as specified, including the designing, fabrication, delivery, installation and pick-up of the artwork.

Projects can be submitted by individuals or by an individual representing a group.

## Specifications

The Artist shall be fully responsible for installation and de-installation. The Artist is fully responsible for proper securement of the sculpture. The sculpture should be in scale with the space and safely conform to a circular concrete base of 10 feet in diameter and 12 inches thick, and its surroundings.

Minimum/maximum size for the sculpture is 10 feet - 15 feet. Each site's condition otherwise varies. Concrete bases are approximately 22 feet from the back of curb in all locations. Some sites may be accessed by pedestrians, while others only viewed from across the street or by the motoring public. If your piece is site specific and is not to be considered for other sites, please explain the reason in your sculpture description. The MCAC and city staff will review each design for safety, but ultimately the Artist shall be responsible for site and installation appropriateness.

Works shall be considerate of safety of the audience and its surroundings. All sculpture's shall be of a permanent nature and in the intended finished condition when delivered. Work shall be capable of withstanding adverse weather conditions (high winds, freezing temperatures, extreme heat, heavy rains, ice, snow, storms, and etc.). Work shall be fabricated and finished with non-hazardous materials. It is highly recommended that bronze and natural stone be sealed, steel be painted, or other appropriate measures be taken to protect works. Work shall be maintenance free for the duration of the exhibit.

All entries must be original work and artists are encouraged to be creative in their selection of materials while considering safety and environmental factors common to publicly accessible works of art. Artwork must be an original, one-of-a-kind artwork or limited edition series. If part of a series, the edition size of the series, quantity existing and location of all in the series shall be noted in the application. The artwork shall be appropriate for all ages.

## Compensation

An honorarium will be awarded to each artist whose sculpture is selected in the amount of \$3000, with 50% payable on execution of contract and 50% upon delivery and installation of the work. The Artist must submit a total "for sale" price. If a piece is not "for sale" then its a value of the piece shall be submitted and noted as NFS. The Artist shall be responsible for all transactions and installations for sales after the event has concluded. The MCAC is not taking commissions for sales.

The MCAC reserves the right of first purchase at time of selection and visual inspection at installation.

# SUBMITTING YOUR WORK

Submit proposals or inquiries to Sharon Jablonski at [morgantonart@gmail.com](mailto:morgantonart@gmail.com) or call **828-443-0886**

## PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

- Complete and include Submittal Form found on page 6.
- Artist contact information, to be used in press releases and public display.
- Name, mailing address, email address, phone number, and website.
- Sculpture photo, concept drawing, or scanned hand sketch (4 maximum). Acceptable files (.jpg and .pdf).
- Sculpture description. Include title, materials used, color schemes, dimensions, year created, and sale price or NFS value, if not for sale (one page maximum).
- Artist statement and description of work. This should describe the artist, the piece, and why it should be chosen for display in Morganton, NC (one page maximum).
- Brief portfolio. Include relevant work and bio outlining education, training, and project history (one page maximum).

## SELECTION PROCESS

A sculpture selection committee composed of the Morganton Cultural Arts Commission and staff will be responsible for selecting the individual pieces. Criteria will include artistic merit, public safety, appropriateness of the artwork and materials used. The committee will select up to three approved sculptures in February.

To see other MCAC projects visit our website at [WWW.MORGANTON.ART](http://WWW.MORGANTON.ART) or follow us on instagram at

[@MORGANTONCAC](https://www.instagram.com/MORGANTONCAC)



# SCHEDULE

## SEPTEMBER

Call to Artists, "first call".

## NOVEMBER

Call to Artists, "second call".

## JANUARY

Call to Artists, "last call".

## JANUARY

Submission Deadline - Submissions are due in hand by 5:00 pm on the last Friday of January. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

Time for staff to organize submittals into a single presentation for viewing and voting on by MCAC or other judges.

## MARCH

Award Selection and Notification - The selection committee will review all complete proposals at their February meeting and be approved by City Council at their March meeting. Award Notification announced to all applicants will be the first week of March.

## MARCH

Finalize Contracts - Artist contracts shall be finalized the first week of March or an alternate artist may be chosen.

## APRIL

Complete Installation - Sculptures shall be placed on a scheduled week day between 8am-5pm between April 1st and April 15th.

## FEBRUARY

Pick up Work - all work shall be scheduled and picked up the first two weeks of February the following year. All sale transactions are between the artist and buyer after the artist picks up work.

# SUBMITTAL FORM

Artist Name

Email Address

Mailing Address

Phone Number


Sculpture Title

Date of Sculpture Creation

Materials Sculpture is Made of:

Sculpture Size  
*(height, width, depth, and weight)*

Website

 Instagram Handle

Selling Price

If leased, the check should be made payable to:

**ATTACH PHOTOS, SCULPTURE DESCRIPTION (1 PAGE MAX), ARTIST STATEMENT (1 PAGE MAX), AND PORTFOLIO (1 PAGE MAX).**

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY:** As the submitting artist, you agree to hold the City of Morganton and appointed officers, volunteers, employees and all sponsors harmless from any and all claims, losses, fees or liabilities for any damage to sculpture. Further discussion regarding insurance will be held with artists chosen for Sculpture on the Town.

Signature

Date



## HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS CALL?

LIST CONTACT INFO FOR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO POST SIMILAR CALLS.

### REFERENCE SOURCES

City of Morganton  
[www.morgantonnc.gov](http://www.morgantonnc.gov)

Downtown Morganton  
[www.downtownmorganton.com](http://www.downtownmorganton.com)

Morganton Parks and Recreation  
[www.morgantonparksandrec.com](http://www.morgantonparksandrec.com)

Burke County Visitor's Center  
[www.discoverburkecounty.com](http://www.discoverburkecounty.com)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

To submit your completed proposal  
or request additional information, contact:

**Sharon Jablonski**

**Morganton Cultural Arts Commission**

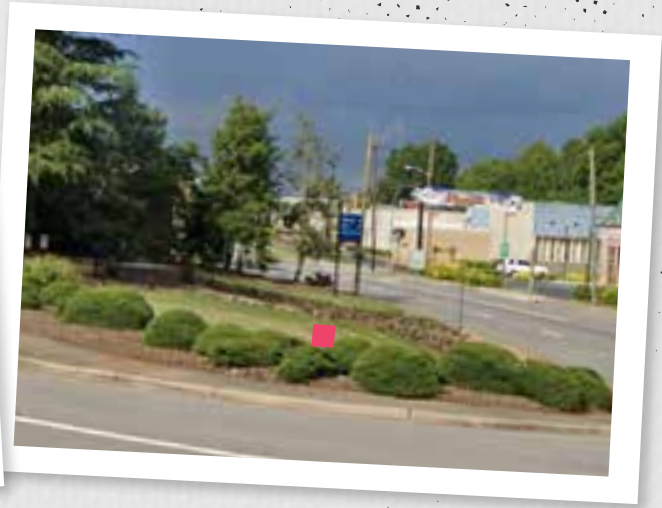
Email: [sjablonski@morgantonnc.gov](mailto:sjablonski@morgantonnc.gov)

Subject Line: **Morganton Revolving Sculpture Show**

Phone: **(828) 443-0886**

# SITE LOCATIONS

## SITE 1



\*Near 301 West Union Street.

## SITE 2



\*Near 520 North Green Street.

## SITE 3



\*Near 200 North Green Street.



# LAST YEAR'S EXHIBITORS

SITE 1



**BASICS #64**

by Mathias Neumann

\*Near 301 West Union Street.

SITE 2



**NEUTRON STAR**

by Hanna Jubran

\*Near 520 North Green Street.

SITE 3



**FOLIE A DEUX A  
SHARED MADNESS**

by Josh Brooke Coté

\*Near 200 North Green Street.

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**WWW.MORGANTON.ART**

**Instagram MORGANTONCAC**