



Joseph T. Simpson Public Library

16 N. Walnut Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

www.simpsonlibrary.org

Beautify the Barriers for Simpson Summer Learning Program 2024 Application

Background

Joseph T. Simpson Public Library (the “Library”) is housed in a stately historic building and wishes to maintain the beauty of its surrounding property. At the end of the parking lot, a line of concrete jersey barriers marks the eastern property boundary. This project aims to beautify these barriers by transforming them into public art for everyone to enjoy as they visit the Library.

Project Scope

The Library annually sponsors a Summer Learning Program that encourages all members of our community to read and learn during the summer months. To maintain a more vibrant exterior and support local artists and community, the Library seeks applications from artists (“Applicant”/“Artist”) to transplant their imagination and creativity to help beautify the concrete barriers in connection with the 2024 Summer Learning Program theme, “Adventure Begins at Your Library”.

The Library hosted the inaugural Beautify the Barriers art project in 2021 whereby ten local individual and group artists painted murals based on the summer reading theme; in 2022 and 2023, twelve local individual and group artists participated in this beautification,. We are planning this successful project again for 2024 and invite Applicants to submit an application to paint a barrier.

The 2021, 2022, and 2023 barriers were completed by individual artists, family groups, a 5th grade class, and secondary and college students. The 5th grade class participated by painting on a thin mural fabric during class time, which was then attached to the barrier by the teacher using a process similar to hanging wallpaper, a wonderful way to utilize the entire class. The murals will be displayed until the next Library event as determined by the Library, approximately one year. The 2023 barrier murals will be visible through March 2024. Profiles of the 2023 Artists with the barriers they painted are on our website at:

https://www.cumberlandcountylibraries.org/SIM_Beautify_Barriers_2023

The Beautify the Barriers project will be publicly unveiled at a reception at Simpson Library in early June. Artists will be recognized for their wonderful creations, and the Library welcomes and appreciates their presence at the event. This project will also be submitted to local media for publicity purposes.



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Site Specifications

The dimension of each concrete barrier is approximately 6 feet in width and 2 feet in height with a rough surface. The Applicant shall indicate the number of desired barriers to be painted for their design. The Library shall finalize assignment of each barrier location to the selected Applicants; therefore, all Applicants must be willing to adapt their conceptual design to a particular location. Only the front side of the barrier facing the Library shall be painted with the mural.

Design Considerations

The concrete barriers will be primed with a white base coat and bordered with freshly groomed landscaping by April 2024. Please note the barriers are set on gravel, so knee protection is highly recommended.

All applications shall include the following:

1. A design concept that:
 - a. considers the uneven surface conditions of the concrete barriers;
 - b. is solely the result of the artistic effort of the Applicant;
 - c. is unique, original and does not infringe upon any copyright or the rights of any person or company;
 - d. is positive and supportive of the local Mechanicsburg community; and
 - e. reflects the 2024 Summer Learning Program theme, "Adventure Begins at Your Library". For examples of the graphics and pictures for the Simpson's Summer Learning Program theme, please see our website: www.simpsonlibrary.org
2. Availability to paint during the month of May with completion by May 31, 2024.

Selection Criteria

The Library shall review all submissions based on the following criteria:

1. Proposed design is aesthetically appropriate on Library property;
2. Artwork demonstrates proficiency in design; and
3. Proposed design highlights Simpson Public Library's services to the community and the 2024 Summer Learning Program theme, "Adventure Begins at Your Library".



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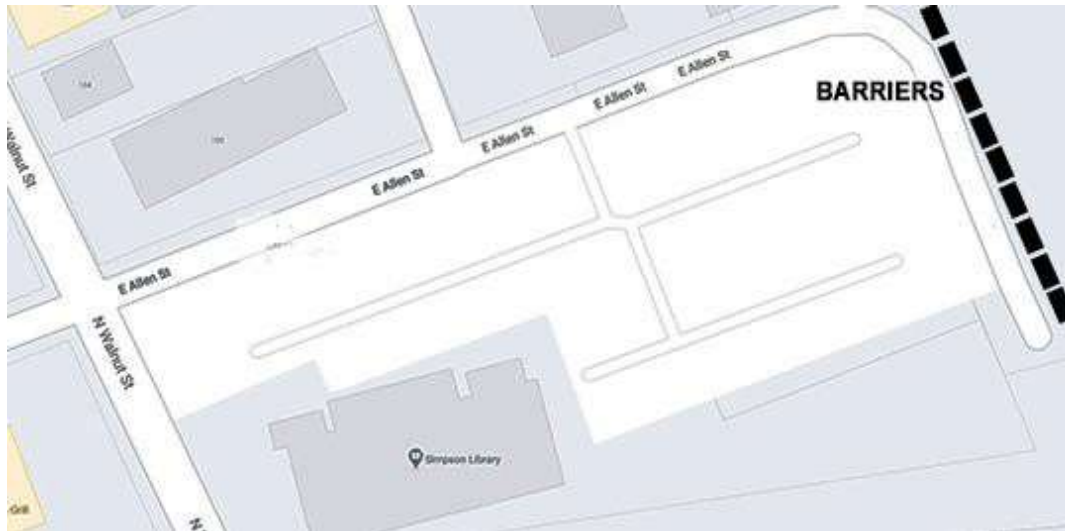
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Project Materials

The applicants will provide their own supplies. Thanks to generous grants from Art Depot and The Foundation for Enhancing Communities/Arts for All, the Library will provide a modest stipend to the Artists, amount to be determined, once the project is completed.

When selecting paint to use, keep in mind barriers are exposed to weather and have a rough surface. Some artists have painted on mural cloth and then adhered it to the barrier.





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Applications are currently open and the Library will be reviewing applications as they are received. All applications are due by March 1, 2024. Selected Applicants shall be contacted by the Library via email and/or phone by March 29, 2024 to review logistics. Please confirm to the Library your acceptance of being selected by April 12, 2024. Project painting must be completed during the month of May 2024.

2024 Key Dates

January 1: Applications open

March 1: Applications due

March 29: Applicants notified of acceptance and barrier assignments

April 12: Applicants confirm to Library their acceptance to become 2024 Artists

May 1-31: Painting of Barriers, completion by May 31

June 2: Reception and public unveiling of the paintings

Please contact Ilse Kryemadhi at ikryemadhi@cumberlandcountylibraries.org or (717)766-0171 with any questions.

We look forward to welcoming our 2024 Artists and their murals. Thank you for helping to Beautify the Barriers!



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Return completed form to Simpson Public Library on or before March 1, 2024 along with any supplemental information.

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Age (if under 18): _____

Number of barriers requesting to paint: _____

Artist Bio: Provide a bio within 150 words. Please provide examples of your prior work via a link or one or two copies.

Design Description: Briefly describe your design and its creative intentions within 150 words. A rough sketch must be included with this application. Please state the type of paint you intend to use.

By signing below, you agree to the following:

1. All submissions shall become the property of Simpson Public Library and shall not be returned. They may be used by the Library, including but not limited to, for publicity and promotion.
2. No information contained in submissions shall be deemed confidential. Therefore, please do not submit any information that may be deemed proprietary in nature.
3. The Library at its sole discretion reserves, without limitation, the right to:
 - a. Change any requirements in the application; and
 - b. Reject any application it deems insufficient, not in keeping with the intent or spirit of this program, or for any other reason.

Signature _____ Date: _____

If under age 18, Parent or Guardian Signature: _____