



MOHAWK HUDSON LAND CONSERVANCY

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Meet the Artists: Community Meeting for Upcoming Mural

Bethlehem, NY- Art on the Rail Trail, a committee of the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy, is holding a Meet the Artists Community Meeting at Bethlehem Town Hall Auditorium on Thursday, September 7 from 5:30-7:30pm.

Three artists have been selected as finalists for the first mural on the Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail. According to Committee Chair Julie Sasso, "The committee has been working hard this summer, calling out to artists, fundraising, and working with the town and local businesses to prepare the building for the mural." The artists will be on hand at the community meeting, to discuss their proposals and address any questions from attendees. Each artist will bring their drawings and community members are invited to view each proposal and submit opinions to the committee.

Sasso goes on to describe how the committee wants to interact with the community: "We want this process to include input from the community. It is, after all, a mural put in place for all visitors of the rail trail to enjoy. So it's important to the committee that we hear from those who will see it."

Of the submissions presented to the committee, three were chosen based on a few factors: experience, talent and adherence to the idea presented for the mural. The artists were asked to propose a mural based on the ideas of connectivity and motion.

Committee member Paul Barrett explains the proposed subject matter like this: "The Rail Trail is about bringing people together, by joining together towns the trains once serviced. So we put connectivity into what we want addressed in the art work. The trail also really is about movement, about people moving, whether they are walking, running or biking. So we would like the mural to reflect that idea as well."

The mural site is at the corner of Adams Street and Hudson Avenue in Delmar, and work is underway to clean and prepare the building for painting. Fundraising is ongoing, and donations are still being accepted. By late October, the mural is expected to be complete and there will be a mural unveiling ceremony.

To stay informed, follow ART on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram (search for Art on Rail Trail). More information can be found on ART's website: www.mohawkhudson.org/ART.