

# Public Art Grant Program

***\*\*Applicants that have begun or completed a public art project prior to approval from the Public Art Grant Committee are ineligible to receive public art grant funds.\*\****

## Overview

Uptown is experiencing a dramatic renewal of its urban setting. New streetscapes, rail station upgrades, bicycle infrastructure, and private development are occurring throughout the neighborhood. It is with this in mind that Uptown United, in conjunction with the Uptown Special Service Area (SSA), is offering this Public Art Grant Program in order to capture and convey Uptown's identity and sense of place. Project applicants should strive for several goals in order to be considered:

1. Nurture a pleasant and safe environment for residents, visitors, patrons, and businesses;
2. Celebrate Uptown's rich history and architectural heritage;
3. Foster a visually attractive urban environment to showcase its local establishments; and
4. Display the cultural, economic, and historical diversity of Uptown.

## Eligible Applicants

Applicants are limited to sites on businesses or buildings in the Uptown SSA (*see attached map*).

- *Both east & west sides of N Broadway from Irving Park Road on the south to Foster Ave. on the north*
- *Both east & west sides of Sheridan Rd from Irving Park Rd on the south to Foster Ave. on the north*
- *Both east & west sides of Winthrop Ave. from Argyle Street on the south to Foster Ave. on the north*
- *The west side of Clarendon Ave. from Montrose Ave. on the south to Lawrence Ave. on the north*
- *The east side of Clarendon Ave. from Wilson Ave. on the south to Lawrence Ave. on the north*
- *The south side of Foster Ave. from North Broadway on the west to Sheridan Road on the east*
- *Both north & south sides of Argyle Street from North Broadway on the west to Sheridan Road on the east*
- *Both north & south sides of Lawrence Ave. from Magnolia Ave. on the west to Clarendon Ave. on the east*
- *Both north & south sides of Leland Ave. from Racine Ave. on the west to Sheridan Road on the east*
- *Both north & south sides of Wilson Ave. from Clark Street on the west to Clarendon Ave. on the east*
- *Both north & south sides of Montrose Ave. from Clifton Ave. on the west to Clarendon Ave. on the east*
- *Both north & south sides of Buena Ave. from Kenmore Ave. on the west to North Broadway on the east*
- *The north side of Irving Park Rd. from Kenmore Ave. on the west to Clarendon Ave. on the east*

**Applicants are eligible to receive a grant of up to \$5,000, at the discretion of the Public Art Grant Committee. If the applicant is not the property owner, permission of the property owner is required with the application.** Grants are awarded only after the Public Art Grant Committee approves the project, all necessary documents have been submitted to Uptown United, and project details and logistics are agreed-upon. All applications will be considered in the order in which they are received until funds are no longer available.

## Eligible Projects

Eligible projects are limited to locations within the Uptown SSA and must meet all City of Chicago requirements. Also, as many buildings within Uptown are historic, projects must take care not to damage or alter existing historic elements. Applicants can refer to the Department of Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings*. To receive funding, projects must also show significant positive impact on the area's beautification. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Murals
- Photography
- Street art
- Window art
- Mosaics
- Large-scale Vinyl Decals
- Artistic spray paint
- Natural / Living Works Installations
- Temporary Architectural constructions

## Preferred Projects:

Preference shall be given to projects that:

- Positively highlight Uptown's rich history and cultural diversity.
- Employ or collaborate with Uptown-based community groups, artists, or local students.
- Activate vacant storefronts, empty windows, fencing, or scaffolding.
- Show that the funding assistance is necessary to allow for the work to be completed.

## Ineligible Projects

- Interior projects
- Typography intended to replace signage (see Uptown SSA Curb Appeal Rebate Program)
- Construction improvements (see Uptown SSA Curb Appeal Rebate Program)
- Projects whose focal point is a corporate, professional, or personal brand.
- Projects that obscure windows or hinder lines of sight into interior spaces from the public way
  - With the exception of installations in or on vacant or already-blocked storefront windows.
- Projects that are explicit, derogatory, or with overt political content.
- ***Projects started or completed prior to project approval.***

***\*\*Uptown United welcomes proposals with social commentary, however the Public Art Grant Committee has the final say in approving or denying proposals, as well as asking for revisions on content.\*\****

## Large-Scale Projects

Projects requiring the use of ladders or lifts will require a signed waiver releasing Uptown United, the Uptown SSA, and all staff from any liabilities. Large-scale projects must also, if possible, submit two quotes for rental of equipment required for the installation of artwork.

## Process + Administrative Procedures

Uptown United, in conjunction with the Uptown SSA, will offer funds on a first-come, first-serve basis. Additionally, all applications:

- Should demonstrate adherence to City Ordinances and best practices for historic buildings (if applicable);
- Will be considered for work to be completed within the current calendar year only;
- Must include written approval from the property owner and/or include proof of ownership;
- For work that is outsourced, must provide at least two competing bids for work to be completed (specifying which one you prefer);
- Provide clear and detailed design drawings and plans;
- Shall provide color photographs of the existing project area;
- Provide approved permits for all aspects of the project that require them. (Uptown United or the Uptown SSA will not be responsible for obtaining or approving permits.)
- Artist digital work samples.
- A summary of costs, specifying the preferred artist and supply vendor with pricing. (The Public Art Grant Committee may request additional information and documentation).
- A schedule showing anticipated project start and end dates.

The Uptown SSA Advisory Commission and/or the Public Art Grant Committee will review all applications. If planning to complete a project, contact Uptown United as soon as possible in the planning process to discuss availability. Applications will be conditionally approved or denied and Uptown United will communicate the conditional approval (or denial) to the applicant.

Applicants will receive a response regarding the project's eligibility within approximately three to six weeks of submission of their application. At that time, the applicant may be asked to clarify design elements.

In addition, a signed agreement to maintain and adhere to safety standards will be required.

Significant delays in the project will require a written explanation from the applicant along with a revised schedule. Failure to provide updates, or to request for an extension if needed may result in the project being released from the program and the applicant no longer being eligible to receive reimbursement.

Any projects to be displayed in storefront windows must also denote the length of their installation.

## Reimbursement

Once the project is completed, applicant must contact the SSA Program Director to arrange for an inspection to verify that the work was done in compliance with pre-approved plans. This will review the work in connection with the Public Art Grant Program only. It is up to the applicant to verify the adequacy of the work done. A failure to do so shall not relieve applicant of any expenses or responsibilities resulting from such failure.

***Note: Uptown SSA #34, Uptown United, nor any of their representatives will have any liability or obligations to applicant arising from such a failure.***

In addition, the applicant must submit copies of all paid invoices for the approved project and photographs of the completed work so that before and after pictures may be compared and made public. A reimbursement check will be sent to the applicant within six weeks of the inspection and submission of these documents.

# PUBLIC ART GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

## Proposed Project Address

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*Number and Street Name (include unit or suite number)*

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*City, State, Zip*

## Applicant Contact Information

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*Applicant's Name (individual / business / association / organization)*

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*Contact Name*

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*Address (if different from above)*

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*Daytime Phone*

*Cell Phone*

*Evening Phone*

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*Email Address*

## Property Owner Contact Information

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*Property Owner (individual / business / association / organization)*

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*Contact Name*

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*Number and Street Name (include unit or suite number)*

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*City, State, Zip*

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*Daytime Phone*

*Cell Phone*

*Evening Phone*

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*Email Address*

## Project Description

Briefly describe the project and attach all necessary photos, plans, and permit applications.

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Has this property received any other Uptown United rebates before? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please describe details, including years, scope of work and granting organizations:

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### Statement of Understanding

The applicant (undersigned) agrees to fully and timely comply with the guidelines and procedures of the Uptown United Public Art Grant Program and its outlined specifications and procedures as agreed to by the applicant and Public Art Grant Committee. The applicant agrees that cost estimates, implementation schedules, contracts, invoices, and proof of purchases are required documentation; and that he/she has read the entire Public Art Grant Program guidelines and agrees to be fully bound by the terms and conditions.

**THE APPLICANT RELEASES UPTOWN SSA #34 AND UPTOWN UNITED (TOGETHER WITH THEIR OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND AGENTS) FROM ALL CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION OF ANY KIND (KNOWN OR UNKNOWN) IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PUBLIC ART GRANT PROGRAM.**

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*Applicant Signature*

*Date*

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*Applicant's SSN or Company's FIN #*

*\*\*If the applicant is not the property owner, the following must be completed by the property owner:*

I certify that I, the owner of the property located at \_\_\_\_\_, authorize the applicant to apply for a grant under the Uptown United Public Art Grant Program and undertake the approved improvements.

Property Owner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Date*

Property Lessee Signature (*if applies*) \_\_\_\_\_

*Date*

# PUBLIC ART GRANT PROGRAM SUMMARY OF PROJECT COST

## Requested Stipend Cost

Artist Stipend \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated time onsite: \_\_\_\_\_

## Material Costs

Itemize the names, quantities, and costs of proposed materials and supplies:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Project Cost:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Requested Grant Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

***\*\*Funds may not be used for the purchases of permanent, depreciable equipment valued at more than \$150. Other restrictions may apply\*\****

# Uptown Special Service Area #34

