



**ALLENTOWN
ASSOCIATION**
50+ Years Of Community Service

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARTIST CALL FOR WORK: SCULPTURE IN HEART OF ALLENTOWN

Call for work/RFP opens May 13th, 2019 and closes June 10th, 2019. Artists may request materials by sending an email to executivedirector@allentown.org.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK (May 9, 2019) - The 7' high Allentown 'A' will be located at the prominent South-West corner of Allen Street and Delaware Avenue. The intent of the sign is to provide map-based information AND be a bold sculptural canvas for art that highlights the vibrant character of Allentown. The sign will be made of sturdy aluminum that will be painted and protected with an anti-graffiti coating. The selected artist's work will be displayed on the two 'A' faces of the sign, while the other surfaces will be painted a complementary color. Artists may request materials by sending an email to executivedirector@allentown.org.

"The story of Allentown is evidenced in the people who bring the neighborhood to life - residents and visitors who appreciate the devotion to our past while ensuring a legacy for future generations. This is what makes Allentown unique to Buffalo. Our preserved structures and artistic community are not just bricks, mortar, and paint. They are inextricably part of our soul. The 'A' sculpture and the selected artist who will make it special will add to our unique urban atmosphere." – Erica M. Burzynski, Allentown Association Interim Executive Director

The Allentown Association was formed in 1963 to protect the Allentown neighborhood and subsequently formed the first preservation district in the City of Buffalo. Today, Allentown is one of Buffalo's premier neighborhoods for residential living, dining, nightclubs, and the arts - home to the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Arts Festivals, the Theatre of Youth, art galleries, and over 50 restaurants and nightclubs. As part of a \$300,000 NYS Main Street Grant, the Association was awarded to assist local building and business owners in the restoration of their properties, and a portion of those funds has been allocated toward the creation of this iconic sign.

The Allentown Association traces its roots to the founding of the North Street Association in 1960, which sought to create an appreciation among neighborhood residents for the architectural treasures that exist on every Allentown street. The organization grew quickly to encompass the entire neighborhood and was incorporated in 1963 as the Allentown Association, Inc. The only purpose of the Allentown Association is to serve its community. It does that through efforts to beautify the neighborhood; to encourage historic preservation and property maintenance; to promote appropriate business development, to fight crime, and to protect and enhance Allentown's unique urban ambiance.

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