

Virginia Maritime Association
VMA 2020 100 Years of Maritime Industry Growth
Call for Mural Artists



Virginia's ports have been a, if not the major economic engine for nearly four centuries. From "America's First Port" at Jamestown in 1607 through the era of the great clipper ships to the present-day sophistication of computerized inter-modal technology, Virginia has been at the forefront of every major change in the shipping industry. Everything came from ships. The early growth of the Commonwealth was due to the cooperative effort of private and public servants, each investing their time to strengthen the outlook of Virginia's future.

In 1920, at the end of World War I, with the oceans now safe for commercial shipping, the Panama Canal six years old, and trade resuming in abundance, 56 business leaders in Hampton Roads came together to form the Norfolk Maritime Exchange. Their goal was to promote, protect and encourage international and domestic commerce through Virginia's ports. A century later, that organization is now the statewide Virginia Maritime Association (VMA) representing hundreds of companies engaged in the maritime industry in the Commonwealth. VMA is the primary advocate for the interests of the maritime industry, developing solutions and opportunities for its membership and ensuring that Virginia's waterborne commerce remains competitive.

In celebration of 100 years, VMA seeks to commission an artist to create a mural on the west side of the maritime building located at 236 E. Plume Street in downtown Norfolk. Mural designs should not be historic but celebrate the maritime industry in 2020. The voice of maritime industries – rail, logistics, warehouses, supply chain, containers, coal ships, bulk ships, barges, and blue-collar workers – should be expressed.

The selected artist will be paid \$8,000 to complete a mural on the 30' x 33' wall. Artist will paint in their studio on durable MDO sign board. This fee covers artist fees, all suitable exterior paint, MDO sign board, brushes and materials. Expect to spend approximately \$1500 on the board. VMA will hire and pay a VA licensed contractor to install the mural panels.

To Apply, Submit to publicart@norfolk.gov:

- 1) **5-10 JPEG images** of your past work. A final design is not required at this stage, however artists may send draft proposal sketches as part of their 10 images.

- 2) **Annotated image key** that includes artist name, artwork title, size, and medium.
- 3) **Letter of Interest**, not to exceed one (1) page, outlining your interest in this project and how you will approach the artwork design and creation

VMA will consider the diversity of beliefs, values, and general standards of decency of citizens and reserve the right to refuse entries at its sole discretion. The selected artist will agree to grant the VMA the right to photograph, video, or record the likeness of the mural for use by television, films, radio, printed media, etc. to further the aims of any VMA activity. Artists must sign a Transfer of Title document.

Calendar: *this calendar is subject to change*

Submission deadline	Monday, September 3, 2019
Notification of selection	October 2019
Completion of mural	March 2020
Installation	April-May 2020