



DESIGN  
ART  
TECHNOLOGY  
MASSACHUSETTS

# Call for Art Project Overview

Project Completion Date: September 16, 2026

City: New Bedford, Massachusetts, USA

Budget: \$30,000

Learn more at [www.datma.org](http://www.datma.org)

Proposals due: May 20, 2026

# Call for Art 2026: Sculptures to be created for entrance to public transit pedestrian bridge to be installed in concrete raised beds

## FULL OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

### The Opportunity

To design and produce original sculptural artworks to be set in two concrete raised beds located at the Purchase Street entrance to the MBTA Pedestrian Bridge in New Bedford, Massachusetts. The artwork should reflect New Bedford's coastal mood, traits, and/or characteristics.

The City of New Bedford, New Bedford Economic Development Agency, and Massachusetts Design Art & Technology Institute (DATMA), are producing this public art project opportunity to strengthen pedestrian wayfinding, placemaking, and neighborhood identity along the Purchase Street corridor near the city's MBTA Pedestrian Bridge connecting riders to New Bedford and Boston by rail. The public art installation will be a vibrant addition to the site located just across the street from the city's first park, Clasky Common, where residents have access to a playground, basketball court, and natural environment. The install site includes existing public art incorporated into the MBTA architecture by Tracy Silva Barbosa's paintings entitled "Equinox," incorporated on the glass panels of the station structure. *Refer to images and diagrams on Project Specs page.*

### Site specs

There are two concrete raised beds staged at the entrance of a newly built pedestrian bridge to an MBTA Station. The plinths are built from masonry and filled with soil for future foliage and native plantings. See attached images and diagram for measurements. Exact artwork anchor points into the plinths will be recommended by artist to be agreed upon by City of New Bedford Dept. of Public Infrastructure to allot for electric and water safety. *Refer to images and diagrams on Project Specs page.*

### Eligibility

This Call for Art is open to visual artists working in any medium with experience executing their ideas from concept to installation completion, meeting a specified budget and timeframe, and working in the public realm with public agencies.

### Compensation

The selected artist (or artist team) shall be provided with a budget of \$30,000 provided in installments. The budget to the artist must cover all material and labor costs associated with the production of the work: all materials and manufacturing costs, advanced tech items, transportation costs, meals, housing, and all artist fees and honoraria. No additional funding will be provided beyond the \$30,000 budget.

**Submission Deadline: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 11:59pm ET**

### How to Submit:

- Email your complete proposal to: DATMA Selection Committee, [info@datma.org](mailto:info@datma.org)
- Subject line: "Call for Art: MBTA Sculpture"
- Artists must submit their preliminary proposals electronically as a single PDF document (maximum 10MB). Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered. All materials should be clearly labeled and organized.

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Each submission must include:

- Preliminary Proposal
- Images
- Preliminary sketches, mock-ups, or renderings
- Artist/Team Information
- Budget
- Timeline
- Letters of support (optional)

Preliminary Proposal:

Concept statement describing your interest and approach to the project and including a clear description of artistic intent and thematic alignment, Anticipated materials and fabrication methods, and Preliminary technical notes (3 pages max)

Up to 5 images of previous relevant artwork (not included in page count)

Preliminary sketches, mock-ups, or renderings that will eventually be analyzed by engineer for structural integrity (not included in page count)

Artist/Team Information:

- CV(s) or bio(s)
- Contact details for ALL contributors, identifying main contact
- Portfolio links to previously completed work (optional)
- Budget & Timeline (Artwork should be installed by September 16, 2026):
- Present a preliminary budget breakdown in your preferred format (\$30,000 max).
- Present a high-level timeline ranging from your start date to fabrication to installation with an September 16, 2026 completion / final install date.

Review Process:

A committee consisting of members from DATMA, the NBEDC, and the City of New Bedford will consider only complete applications. Proposals will be reviewed as they are submitted, so please do not wait to submit. Individual applicants may be contacted about their applications with questions from the committee and all applicants will be notified by June 17, 2026.

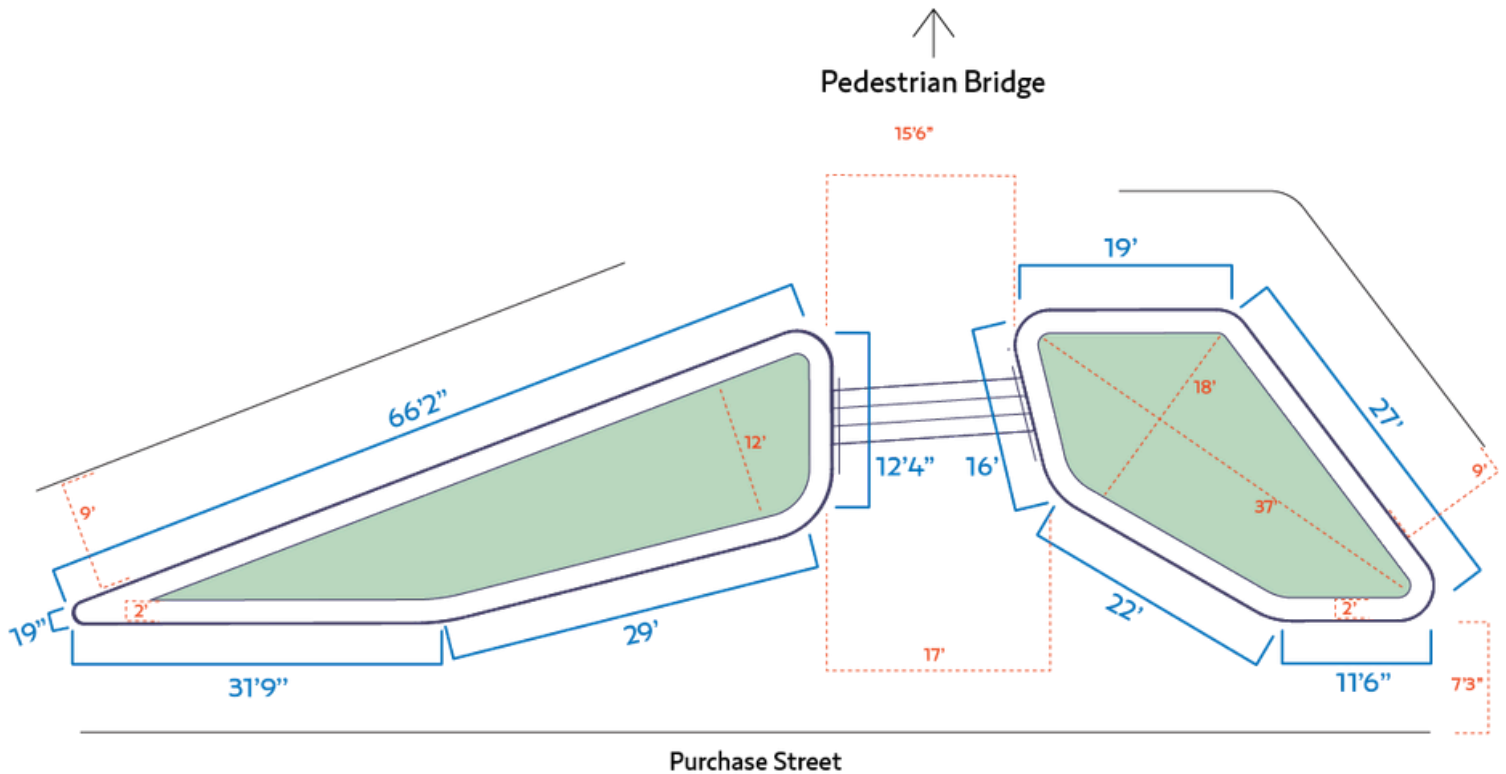
About DATMA:

Massachusetts Design Art & Technology Institute (DATMA), a non-profit organization that produces public art and educational outreach opportunities ([www.datma.org](http://www.datma.org)).



Plinth Height:  
Max 31"

Plinth Height:  
Min: 14"







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deadline: 5/20/26

Submit  
your design.

[Info@datma.org](mailto:Info@datma.org)