

CALL FOR  
PORTRAITS  
APPLY BY JULY 12



It's here!

THE ARTS,  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
+ PLACEMAKING IN  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

A paid call for original portraits of Roanoke's creative residents, business owners, and change makers who are making it all happen *right here, right now* in the Star City. Apply by July 12.

ROANOKE

CELEBRATING  
40 YEARS  
OF  
PROGRESS  
ART & FUN

ROANOKE ARTS

*This  
year.*

the **Roanoke Cultural Endowment** and the **Roanoke Arts Commission** are leading a variety of partners in exploring the power of the arts in making Roanoke a stronger community. As part of that work, a six-part *Buzz* television series is investigating the arts in wellness, student engagement, collaboration, social impact, and more.

With the June 21 launch of the **Arts + Economic Development** episode, the Roanoke Arts Commission invites artists to watch the episode and listen to the song, *It's Here*, by Bryan "Harvest Blaque" Hancock, JP Powell, and collaborators. We think you'll be inspired to help us show that **it's right here** in Roanoke that something important is happening.

## APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEXT MUNICIPAL ART SHOW

Identify a person in the community making it happen here. And then conceive your project. In the application, propose how you would use your art to portray a Roanoke resident or business owner investing their energy **right here, right now**, pursuing their dreams, shaping the future, and making the community a better place. Subjects can be actively making the community better in many ways, including through the arts. They might be using their creativity to build a business, improve a neighborhood, or connect neighbors. More than one subject can be featured in a work. Tell us who inspires you, and then tell us how you will artistically celebrate this Roanoker!

What about your medium? In addition to two- and three-dimensional visual art, the performing arts such as dance, drama, and musical composition are eligible and encouraged! Film and animation are welcomed. Proposals can mix art forms; don't worry about challenging us with your particular and unique approach, tailored to your subject. We're game!

Keep in mind that we want to share this in an exhibition at the Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, so no matter what form of art you choose, we'll want an engaging representation to display to interest viewers and connect them to your final work.



*Pictured on front: Jason and Corinna McClain, owners of Kefi: Greek Food with Passion, as photographed by Aaron Spicer.*

*It's  
here!*

A panel of volunteers organized under the Roanoke Arts Commission's Collections Committee will select 40 artists to receive payment and produce their work. (We chose 40 because 2023 is the Roanoke Arts Commission's 40th anniversary.)

Applications will be reviewed for artistic excellence and the storytelling potential around our theme. Selections will also be made to best communicate a wide range of subjects, with the intention of reflecting the full diversity of our community. We'll select a broad mix of subjects, artists, and media.

This paid call is for area artists portraying residents and business owners in the City of Roanoke. While the call is for adults 18 years and older, we are exploring a related youth project. Show us who's at work creating this place.

It's here that we're making it happen, and the time is here for our community to shine. *It's here!*

## THE ARTS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP + PLACEMAKING IN ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

Each selected artist will be paid \$500 for a year-long loan of their work and the rights to use the content of their work to celebrate, educate, and promote our community.

“**Make it all happen** from where ya standing  
ain't no second string *nope*, **no stand in's**  
**every hand up** cuz *we got the answer*  
shout it to the sky like a walking pamphlet  
**whole city tapping in for the cause**  
*enthralled* showing out **defying laws**  
**of gravity** in the name of humanity  
already won **GO** roll with ya family  
see ya dreams lucid in 3D...”

From "It's Here"

Lyrics by

Bryan "Harvest Blaque" Hancock



Bryan "Harvest Blaque" Hancock, Hip Hop performer and Carilion Clinic Artist in Residence, as photographed by Jennifer Hayward



BETTY BRANCH & POLLY BRANCH

*Angel of Grandin Village, 2023*

Bronze

1319 Grandin Road, SW



Now...*get inspired* and **APPLY** at [roanokearts.org/here](https://roanokearts.org/here).

- Watch the full *Buzz* episode: Arts + Economic Development.
- Watch the video for the song *It's Here!*
- Download the song.
- Read the full song lyrics.
- **APPLY!**

## Exhibition Calendar

**June 21** - Announcement

**July 12** - Proposals due

**July 17** - Selection panel meets

**July 18** - Roanoke Arts Commission approval

**July 19** - Artist notification

**August 11** - Invoices, W-9s, and draft images due

**September 8** - Final work due at the Municipal Building (215 Church Ave. SW)

**September 18, 6 PM** - Opening reception prior to City Council meeting

**Third Monday Gallery Talks** with artists and subjects begin in October

*It's here!*

