



For Immediate Release

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Downtown Greenway:
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Downtown Greenway hosts artist visits for Freedom Cornerstone commission

GREENSBORO, NC (October 15, 2019) – The Downtown Greenway announces four artists as finalists for the [Freedom Cornerstone commission](#). Presentations from each of the artists about their work and their vision for designing the Freedom Cornerstone if selected are free and open to the public. Community feedback will be considered as the Art Selection Panel makes its decision about the selected artist. All meetings will be held at the Historic Magnolia House: 442 Gorrell Street. The dates are as follows:

- October 22nd at 5:30 pm: [Radcliffe Bailey](#) from Atlanta, Georgia
- November 6th at 5:30 pm: David Wilson and [Stephen Hayes](#) from Durham, North Carolina
- November 12th at 5:30 pm: [Norman Lee and Shane Albritton](#) from Houston, Texas
- November 21st at 5:30 pm: [Ayokunle Odeley](#) from Stone Mountain, Georgia and [Walt Havner](#) from Durham, North Carolina

This fourth and final Cornerstone commission is the Freedom Cornerstone. The theme of “Freedom” is inspired by the City’s role in the Civil Rights Movement, especially the non-violent protests of the pivotal 1960 Greensboro lunch-counter sit-ins that served as a catalyst to the larger movement. Racial justice and equity have played an important role in shaping our city and defining its identity. The selected artist are asked to explore this history as well as consider what Freedom means today as they conceive of a vision for the artwork. The site for this Cornerstone is located in the southeast corner of the Downtown Greenway’s four-mile loop - at the northeast corner of the intersection of Murrow Blvd and East Gate City Boulevard, Greensboro, NC 27401, a highly visible location that has been created with the realignment of the intersection as Downtown Greenway construction is underway.

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In addition to the artwork, the Artist will be responsible for the design of the entire site and will oversee its installation, including landscape features, lighting, and walkways and/or paths.

65 artists submitted qualifications for this call to artists and the Downtown Greenway Public Art Selection Panel along with the Freedom Cornerstone Focus Group narrowed the list to 11 semi-finalists who were interviewed by phone. The 11 candidates were narrowed down to four who are travelling to Greensboro for site visits and the opportunity to present to the public.

Project Manager, Dabney Sanders notes, “We are incredibly excited about embarking on the creation of this fourth and final cornerstone that marks such an important part of Greensboro’s history and future. The number and quality of artists who applied was impressive and we look forward to meeting the artists in person as we make this decision.”

The final artist will be selected in December of this year with work beginning on the design following site visits in January and February. Additional public meetings will be scheduled to review the proposed design. Installation is expected in the fall of 2020.

The Call to Artists is attached as is the flyer for the public meetings. If you have questions, please contact Dabney Sanders: dsanders@actiongreensboro.org, [336.387.8353](tel:336.387.8353)

About Downtown Greenway

The Downtown Greenway, a collaborative project of the City of Greensboro and Action Greensboro, is a planned 4 mile walking and biking trail that will encourage economic development, increase the tax base for the city, and will improve quality of life for its citizens. This urban loop around the center city of downtown Greensboro will enhance the urban landscape with a green space that will promote fitness, connectedness and well-being for our residents and visitors in an aesthetically pleasing environment. The loop itself provides a unique opportunity for Greensboro to have the only one of its kind in the state and one of the few in the country. With its emphasis on public art, the Greenway will tell stories and engage users of the trail in a unique and authentic way. In addition, with the connections to the extensive existing and planned trails systems in the city and the county, this loop will connect residents from all parts of the community and beyond. With 1 ½ miles built and open to the public, and another 1 ½ miles under construction, the Downtown Greenway is expected to be completed late 2020/early 2021.

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