



Call for Artists

Requests for Proposals (RFP) for PWC's ToolBelt Ball **"A Place to Call Home- A Window into Our Community"**

The Project

People Working Cooperatively is seeking local artists to create original artwork that will be displayed during PWC's 2018 ToolBelt Ball Gala. These pieces will be auctioned off at the event, with all proceeds benefitting PWC's Modifications for Mobility Program.

In keeping with PWC's mission of providing home repairs and accessibility modifications for people with mobility issues, each piece of completed artwork must incorporate a physical window in its design. Artists may source their own window, or request that PWC provides one to them.

After the initial selection of participants, each participant will have (3) months to create their art piece. This opportunity is open to any artists, community group, students etc. living in the Tri-state area.

Project Timeline:

Monday, December 11th, 2017- Application deadline is 5:00 p.m.

Week of Monday December 18th, 2017- Participants informed of selection.

Monday, March 19th, 2018- Completed projects returned to PWC.

Saturday, April 7th, 2018- Completed projects displayed and auction at PWC's ToolBelt Ball.

Theme/ Prompt

- All project submissions must use the theme prompt of "What does home mean to you?" Submissions should constitute original works of art. We encourage artists to address aspects of the following themes:
 - o House or Home as described as a physical or metaphorical house/ home.
 - o "Community" can be described as "a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common". This can be literal or conceptual, for example, your neighborhood that you live in versus a group that you are a part of.

Participant Benefits

Finalists that are chosen to complete a window project for the "A Place to Call Home" Art Installation will receive the following:

- Each artist chosen to complete a piece of artwork to be displayed will be compensated \$500 to be paid after the work is finished and delivered to PWC
- Artists will each be given a ticket to the event and the opportunity to purchase an additional guest ticket at cost (\$85 discounted from \$150)
- Works will be displayed prominently at The ToolBelt Ball on April 7th, 2018
- Works will be featured in ToolBelt Ball media efforts
 - Inclusion in media releases for event



- Promoted through social media (Facebook, Twitter)
- Inclusion in event collateral
- Promoted in blogs on PWC website
- Opportunities are being explored to display works at local art venues preceding/ post the event

Project Intent

The purpose of the ToolBelt Ball is to spread awareness of People Working Cooperatively and to directly raise funds for PWC's Modification for Mobility Program, a program that allows individuals in the tristate to remain safe in barrier-free homes.

Last year, People Working Cooperatively reinvented its annual gala with a new name, theme, and format to better reflect the overall mission of PWC which was a huge success. PWC's first annual ToolBelt Ball raised a net of \$200,000 for its modifications for mobility program and, welcomed a record number of guests.

A signature part of the event, the "A Place to Call Home" Art Installation featured doors as the focal point of the show in 2017. The exhibit raised over \$8,000 in sponsorships and auction revenue for the event. This year, the installation has a new twist and will incorporate windows as the focus. Again, these works will be auctioned off with all proceeds going to the Modifications for Mobility Program.

How to Apply

Artists interested in this project must prepare and submit the following via our online application OR by email. This application must include the following items:

- 1) **Proposed Artwork Concept for "A Place To Call Home"** This proposal shall include conceptual design drawings and or sketches of the project sufficient to communicate the artist concept.
- 2) **Display plan** Artists should consider how they will display their piece at the event.
- 3) **Artist's Statement**, no more than 200 words in length that explains, justifies, extends, and/or contextualizes your concept or inspiration.
- 4) **Artist's Portfolio** Please include a minimum of 3 images of previous works of art that show a good representation of your artistic ability that would be relevant to this competition

The following three materials must be received by People Working Cooperatively by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11th, 2017. Late proposals will not be considered.

Please visit <https://form.jotform.com/PWCCincy/toolbeltball> to fill out our digital application OR email all items to Kelsey Eilers at eilersk@pwchomerepairs.org. Please call Kelsey at 513-482-5175 with questions about the applications

Final Artist Selection:

People Working Cooperatively thanks our selected jury for this event...



- **Chris Owens**, People Working Cooperatively, Inc.
- **Amy Scarpello**, Pull Club Studios & ArtWorks- Cincinnati
- ***Additional Jury Members to be announced.***

The jury will review the submittals in a blind approval process and select 12 artists to create an original piece. In 2017, 13 pieces were selected from approximately 30 submissions.

Criteria for selection:

- An initial proposal that reflects project intent as described in this document
- Artist statement and connection to the project
- Work reflecting artistic excellence or experience

Artists will be notified if they will be included in the installation the week of December 18th, 2017. All artists selected to participate must return pieces to display by Monday, March 19th, 2018.

About People Working Cooperatively

Incorporated in 1975, People Working Cooperatively (PWC) is a non-profit organization serving low-income homeowners including elderly, veterans and individuals with disabilities in 20 counties of southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and southeast Indiana. PWC strengthens communities by providing professional, critical home repair, weatherization, modification, and maintenance services to help residents stay safely in their homes. In the last 42 years, PWC’s staff of licensed, trained employees and dedicated corps of 4,500 volunteers have assisted more than 310,000 individuals. For more information, visit www.pwchomerepairs.org

Our Clients

Many homeowners with annual incomes of less than 50% of the area median income are struggling to make ends meet. Food, medicine, utilities, child care, and mortgage payments all compete for limited resources. Home repairs and modifications are often too expensive and fall down their list of priorities.

As these services are delayed, they begin to have a cumulative effect on the home, creating higher utility costs and dangerous hazards. Leaking gutters can cause paint to peel from siding, in many cases presenting a lead paint hazard to children. Bathrooms and entryways that are not modified for a family member with a disability can make care for that individual dangerous, as exiting and entering their home becomes a significant hardship.

In addition to the dangers presented to the residents of these homes, the neighborhood also suffers. By providing these types of essential home repairs for homeowners who would otherwise be unable to keep their home safe, PWC can help to eliminate a source of financial pressure on a household’s limited funds, lower utility bills, and—most importantly—help homeowners remain in their home independently. Additionally, for many seniors, PWC’s Modifications for Mobility and Home Repair programs provide them with the option to age in place, rather than having to resort to a subsidized living arrangement.