

## **Little Art Gallery on the Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail**

The Little Art Gallery is a fully enclosed, secure, outdoor structure presenting rotating exhibitions of contemporary art for Rail Trail visitors. Akin to little free libraries, the Gallery is a box-like structure mounted on a post, with a viewing window that will face the Rail Trail. Exhibitions are miniature in scale and designed specifically for the Gallery, with an eye towards family-friendly content that embraces themes germane to the Rail Trail. The Little Art Gallery aims to be an exemplary miniature gallery among the growing international community of such galleries, both in design and programming.

### **Location**

Sited on the west side of the intersection of Hudson Avenue and Adams Street

### **Installation and target opening**

August, 2022. Installation at the trail would benefit from the County's participation, as was engaged for the little library now at the Slingerlands trail head.

### **Nature of exhibitions and art**

Original, hand-made works of art, created specifically for the mini-gallery. Artwork content will be suitable for general audiences. Didactic information will take the form of a small text sign attached to the side of the Gallery, with a QR code that links to the artist's website. There is also the possibility of borrowing "shows" from other mini-art galleries.

### **Artist qualifications and selection**

Primarily non-students within 100 miles of the Capital District chosen by ART subcommittee members through a submission process. Free submissions through a web-based form. A proposed stipend of \$200 for each participating artist, funded by MHLC ART Committee funds. Traveling loan shows from other mini-galleries is also a possibility.

### **Promotion and community impact**

In addition to ongoing in-person enjoyment, the Gallery will be featured on Instagram and other social media, and may be the centerpiece for "gallery talks" and other educational programming.

### **The Structure**

The Little Art Gallery will be a high-quality structure with an exemplary design for miniature galleries. Working with architect Geoff Hamburg, ART has created plans for a unit with a two-level pitched roof with a viewing window that is 22 inches wide with a Lexan window. Overall, the structure is approximately 24 inches wide by 18 inches deep and 24 inches in height. It will be mounted to a 6 x6 post. The unit will be constructed by an accomplished carpenter, with quality details and minimal, but tasteful decoration. See attached plan.

### **Surround**

Ideally, the Little Art Gallery will be a few steps off the trail, and would benefit from a stone or similar platform for viewers to stand on when enjoying the exhibitions.

### **Other**

Possibly the inclusion of solar spotlights for nighttime security, and greenery in the surround. The door to the Gallery will be fastened with locking bolts, and the structure will be removeable from the post by ART staff if repairs are needed. ART will maintain the gallery.

Contact:

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ART Website: <https://www.mohawkhudson.org/art>

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