

Danville Business Alliance

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Danville Mural Project

The Danville Business Alliance (DBA) announces that Danville Borough is one of five (5) communities selected statewide to receive financial support from the Pennsylvania Downtown Center (PDC) for a community enhancement project to be completed in downtown Danville next summer. The selection is the result of an application by the DBA to PDC last year.

The project will be a mural with a historical theme and is intended to memorialize individuals and events significant in the history and development of Danville and Montour County. Multiple Danville sites were proposed, and the site selected will be in the riverfront district at the foot of Mill Street. Once completed, the mural will be visible to motorists, pedestrians and boaters passing along the riverfront area, and particularly those crossing the river into Danville from Riverside on the nearby route 54 bridge.

To support the project PDC will provide a group of three student interns. They are typically drawn from a mixture of academic disciplines, e.g., fine arts, communications, art education, psychology and management, but for a mural project at least one is usually a fine arts graduate student. The interns who are not art majors will be responsible for the community engagement aspect of the project, since Danville residents will determine the project's concept through a series of community meetings. Most students are selected from colleges and universities within Pennsylvania, and many attend the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. For them the project will provide an invaluable, unique work experience.

As part of the interns' preparation, they will receive a week of training and orientation from the Philadelphia Mural Arts Society and their master muralists. The PMAS will provide continuing mentorship of the interns throughout the summer, as well as support and guidance for any technical questions and concerns that arise during the project. The PDC will also provide either a scholarship or a stipend to each student, and project seed

money to help implement the project. In the case of a mural, the seed money usually covers most, if not all, of the cost of paint, supplies, and equipment.

The DBA will provide day-to-day oversight of the project and interns, office space, and housing for the period of the project. The DBA also plans to collaborate with several other local organizations to implement the project: Danville High School Art Department, Iron Heritage Festival, and the Montour County Historical Society.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Jim Wilson, Executive Director, Danville Business Alliance office, 279-4254 or 244-2163, or visit the DBA office at 316 Mill Street in Danville.