



FY26 GCA Vibrant Communities Grant Update - City of Jonesboro

From Tyrone Webb <TWebb@garts.org>

Date Tue 10/14/2025 5:08 PM

To Mayor of Jonesboro <mayor@jonesboroga.gov>

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Congratulations! City of Jonesboro in Clayton County has been awarded a Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) FY26 Vibrant Communities Grant for \$2,500.00. There were 62 applications submitted by applicants from throughout the state of Georgia, and your project is a worthwhile investment of Vibrant Communities grant funds and deserving of GCA support.

You may share this news within your organization, but please do not share it with the public or local media until October 31st. If your project, supported by the Vibrant Communities Grant, takes place between now and October 31, you may include the GCA logo in the program or other promotional materials that accompany your program or event.

GCA will be in touch in the coming weeks to provide more information on your award, including your contract, press release template, and related documents.

If you have questions about the Vibrant Communities Grant, please do not hesitate to contact me at twebb@garts.org or 404-962-4044.

Congratulations again, and we look forward to working with you this year.



TYRONE WEBB

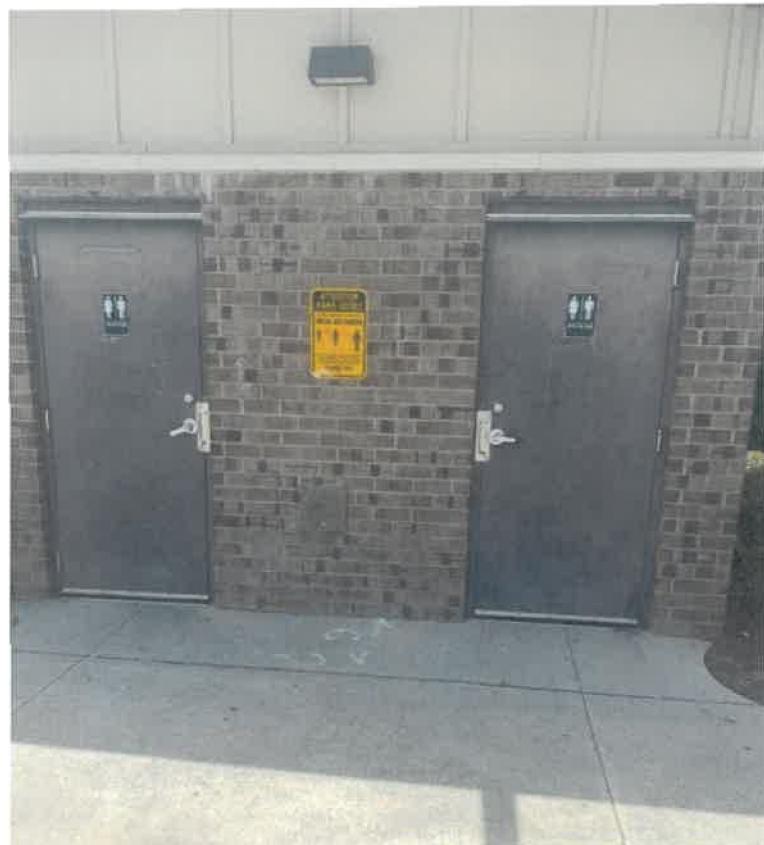
Rural and Community Programs Manager

Georgia Department of Economic Development

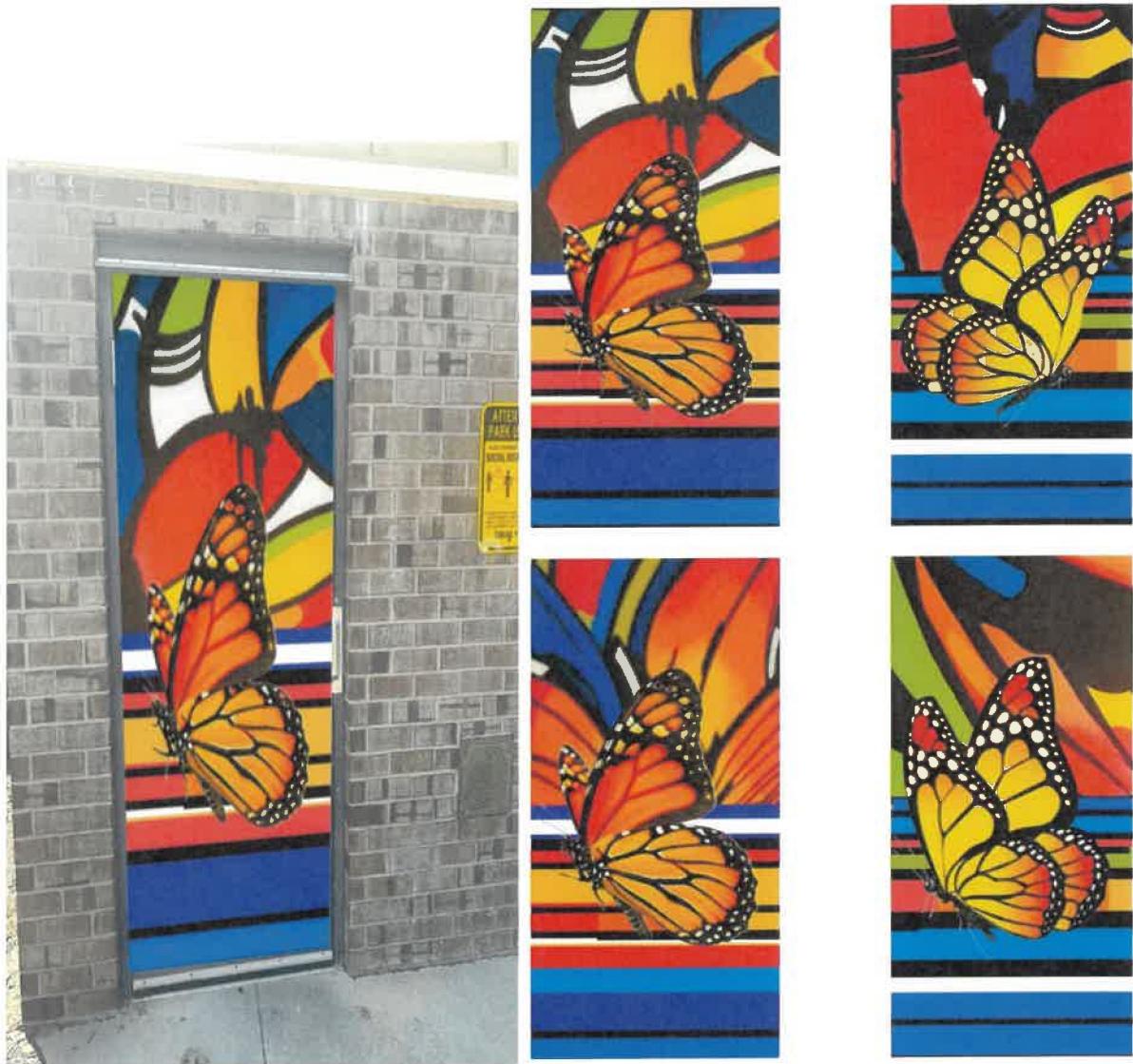
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Current Lee Street Park & Amphitheatre Bathrooms:



Projected Bathroom Door Art on Lee Street Park & Amphitheater:





City of Jonesboro

Mayor Donya Sartor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2025

Taylor Johnson, Executive Assistant
(943) 213-1430, mayor@jonesboroga.gov

The City of Jonesboro has been Awarded the 'Vibrant Communities' Grant from Georgia Council for the Arts

ATLANTA —October 31, 2025 — Jonesboro, GA was awarded a Vibrant Communities Grant from Georgia Council for the Arts, the Georgia Department of Economic Development team specialized in empowering arts and culture, for fiscal year 2026. The Vibrant Communities Grant supports a variety of arts programming throughout the state, including murals, artist residencies and performances in schools, community theater productions, festivals, and concerts.

As part of this year's Vibrant Communities awards, 55 entities in 41 counties will receive \$230,000 in funding.

"Georgia Council for the Arts is excited to support arts programming across the state that expands educational opportunities for students, attracts tourists who support small businesses, and cultivates vibrant communities," said **Georgia Council for the Arts Executive Director Tina Lilly**. "These grants are vital in areas of the state that do not have local arts organizations, and help communities harness the long-term benefits of the arts and improve quality of life for residents."

Georgia Council for the Arts received applications from schools, libraries, cities, historical societies, community theaters, Boys & Girls Clubs, and arts and other related organizations. In an effort to support projects across the state, Vibrant Communities Grants were awarded to entities in counties in which no organization had already received Georgia Council for the Arts funding for the fiscal year 2026 grants cycle.

Under the leadership of Mayor Donya Sartor, Jonesboro is embracing a vision of revitalization, sustainability, and inclusive growth — a vision encapsulated in the Mayor's commitment to a "Cleaner, Greener Jonesboro." With a focus on enhancing quality of life for residents and creating welcoming spaces for visitors, the city is actively investing in neighborhood beautification and public amenities. This grant will directly support the enhancement of key public facilities, helping to beautify spaces that are enjoyed by both the community and its guests.

Funding for these grants is provided through appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly.

About Georgia Council for the Arts

Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) empowers the arts industry in Georgia and artists around the state to cultivate healthy, vibrant communities that are rich in civic participation, cultural experiences, and economic prosperity. As part of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Georgia Council for the Arts provides grant funding, programs, and services statewide that support this vital industry, preserve our cultural heritage, and create increased access to meaningful arts experiences. Visit gaarts.org for more information.

About GDEcD

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) is the state's sales and marketing arm. It is Georgia's lead agency for attracting new business investment, encouraging the expansion of existing industry and small businesses, and locating new markets for Georgia products. As the state's official destination marketing organization, it drives traveler visitation and promotes the state as a location for film and digital entertainment projects. GDEcD is responsible for planning and mobilizing state resources for economic development, fostering innovation and the arts to drive opportunity from the mountains to the coast. Visit georgia.org for more information.

City Introduction to Artist (Lisa Littell):

The City of Jonesboro was introduced to artist Lisa Littell through her direct outreach regarding her business, Butterfly Connection. Her impactful initiative has been successfully implemented in several other cities, and Mayor Donya Sartor is proud to support her mission. Deeply inspired by Lisa's work, Mayor Sartor has long awaited the right opportunity to showcase her art within Jonesboro. The FY26 Vibrant Communities Grant, presents an exciting and timely opportunity to do just that. Based on the overwhelmingly positive feedback we've received from other communities, we are confident that Lisa Littell is the ideal partner to bring this vision to life.

Lisa Littell – (Artist) Biography

Lisa Littell, a native Detroiter, has been a full-time professional artist for more than 25 years. Her work has been featured on national television, including the Food Network's Restaurant: Impossible, and in publications such as Hour Detroit Magazine, The Jewish News, and The Oakland Press. She has created large-scale murals in over 20 states, bringing vibrant, imaginative art to both public and private spaces.

Lisa's client list includes well-known brands such as Trader Joe's, Atwater Brewing Company, Dave & Buster's, and Bad Axe Throwing. While she values her corporate projects, her deepest passion lies in community work and volunteering. She mentors high school students, teaching artistic techniques and industry skills to help them envision their own creative futures. She has also contributed her talents to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Michigan Humane, multiple public schools, nonprofit theater programs, and community set design projects.

Her artistic style blends a love for abstract expression with a whimsical, colorful worldview. Lisa excels in concept development, composition, and attention to detail, with expertise in precise line quality, lettering, and the ability to replicate diverse artistic techniques.

In Michigan, her public murals can be found in Troy, Royal Oak, Pontiac, Detroit, Berkley, Wixom, and Grand Rapids. Recently, she completed over 700 storefront window murals in Berkley, Royal Oak, and Farmington with additional city beautification projects underway.

Guided by a mission to create art that radiates energy, light, and inspiration, Lisa continues to volunteer her time and mentor young artists—sharing not only her skills but also the joy and purpose of living a creative life.

Art Agreement (Invoice):

Artist:

Lisa Littell
607 Curzon Ct. #103
Howell, MI 48843
734-410-8929
lisalittell12@gmail.com

Client:

City of Jonesboro, GA
Mayor Sartor

8/11/2025

Invoice # 8112025

Project:

4 Door Murals

Project budget: \$5000

\$4000 (\$1000 per door)
\$1000 travel and material expenses
*Airbnb will be provided by client

*A 75% deposit (\$3750) will need to be paid and received by the artist at least two weeks prior to the time of travel. This deposit covers the necessary travel and all project materials. A delay in this deposit may result in a delay of the desired start date.

*The remaining 25% (\$1250) will be paid in person at time of project completion. A delay in this final balance will result in additional late fees and interest payments.

The estimated duration to complete the project is 6 days. This is an estimate and it will more than likely not take all of the 6 days. The weather may affect this estimate.

*The budget includes priming, paint, materials and travel. Any additional expenses due to a change in the project will be discussed.

*Any changes to the designs or scope of the project may result in an additional fee.

-Each door will be painted with the four concepts shown.

-The metal door frame around each door will be painted black. (Some small variations to these concepts are to be expected due to the placement of door hardware and signage.)

- Each door is approximately 7'x3'.
- The client will power wash or hand wash the doors and remove any debris including on the ground prior to painting date. (Please just use a light dish type soap as many cleaning products have chemicals that the paint has trouble adhering to.)
- Each door will be primed with Kilz prior to painting by the Artist. Any additional repairs to the structure of the door and or the door itself is required by the client prior to painting... if they choose to do so. If there is slight rust, scratches, dimpling, dings, or any other damage to the door, the artist will just be painting on top of it.
- The doors will not be able to be in use during the painting process. *(Please discuss with artist for possible solutions.)

Projected Start Date: February 2026***

EXPENSES	
VC GRANT PROJECT EXPENSE DESCRIPTION	EXPENSE AMOUNTS (\$)
Painting of 1 door (male bathroom)	\$1,000.00
Painting of 1 door (male bathroom)	\$1,000.00
Painting of 1 door (female bathroom)	\$1,000.00
Painting of 1 door (female bathroom)	\$1,000.00
Transportation & Supplies for Artist (artist is based in Howell, Michigan)	\$1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,000.00
INCOME	
VC GRANT PROJECT INCOME DESCRIPTION (MUST INCLUDE GRANT REQUEST AMOUNT BELOW)	INCOME AMOUNTS (\$)
City of Jonesboro - General Funds Account	\$2,500.00
VIBRANT COMMUNITIES GRANT REQUEST AMOUNT (this figure must be between \$1,000 and \$5,000)	\$2,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$5,000.00