



BELLS ACROSS PA
CALL FOR ARTISTS

WWW.AMERICA250PA.ORG/BELLSACROSSPA

ABOUT AMERICA250PA

The Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA) was established by the legislature and Governor in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States, Pennsylvania's integral role in that event, and the impact of its people on the nation's past, present, and future.

ABOUT BELLS ACROSS PA

America250PA is now accepting design submissions from Pennsylvania artists for the 'Bells Across PA' art series to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the United States in 2026. The selected artists will execute their designs on three-foot tall fiberglass bell sculptures.

These bells will be adorned and magically transformed by local artists and sponsored by businesses or individuals as part of America250PA's efforts to celebrate the commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States. Our goal is at least one bell in each of the 67 counties across Pennsylvania. We hope for many more!

WHEN

Exterior bells will begin to be placed in late 2025. All bells must be in place by December 31, 2025 and remain on display through December 31, 2026. Interior bell placement timing will vary.

WHERE

The bells will be displayed in various locations across Pennsylvania in each of its 67 counties. Public bell locations will be included on America250PA's 2026 Commemorative Map.

ARTISTS DEADLINES

America250PA is accepting applications now from artists who wish to participate in Bells Across PA. Final calls for artists will be Spring 2024 to prep and paint their bells for exterior display. All bells must be in place by December 2025. Each artist whose design is selected for the exhibition will be provided with a 3 foot by 3 foot, blank, ready to paint fiberglass bell and will be paid a \$1,250.00 honorarium.

ELIGIBILITY

'Bells Across PA' is open to all **PENNSYLVANIA** artists and groups from the acclaimed to the amateur. Painters, sculptors, craftsmen, multi-media artists, and other wildly creative people are all encouraged to apply. Each commissioned bell will receive one honorarium regardless of group size.

HOW TO ENTER

Artists may apply via mail or email. To apply, send in a full color original and two (2) copies of each of the following: completed application form, your proposed design (s), a brief description about your design, what it represents the focus areas highlighted and title, and a signed copyright assignment.

You may also submit photographs, or other examples of your past work if desired, however, America250PA is unable to return any materials submitted. Please restrict all material submitted to no larger than 8.5" x 11" in size. All material submitted as part of the application will become the property of America250PA and will not be returned to the artist.

Artists may submit more than one design if you choose to paint more than one bell. Design proposals may be mailed together; however, please provide the required number of copies of each application element including an ORIGINAL signed copyright assignment, for each proposal.

Applications should be mailed to:

America250PA - Bells Across PA
2 N. Main Street
Pittston, PA 18640

Or emailed to:

Info@America250PA.org

SUBJECT LINE: 'Bells Across PA'

TIMELINE

America250PA will review your application as soon as it is submitted to ensure that it complies with the guidelines. If approved, your design will become part of the portfolio shown to potential sponsors.

America250PA encourages artists to submit proposals as soon as possible so that we can assemble a sizable and diverse portfolio for review by sponsors. Sponsors will be matched with artists as they join the program.

Artists **will be** notified when they are partnered with a sponsor. This will take some time so please be patient.

Follow America250PA on social media for updates and details.

Facebook: @America250PA

Instagram @America_250PA

Twitter: @America_250PA

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/america250pa>

WWW.AMERICA250PA.ORG

ARTIST DESIGN AWARD DATE

Decisions will be made on a rolling basis (upon receipt) through December 31, 2024.

DEADLINE TO RETURN FINISHED BELLS

Interior bell placement will vary based upon sponsor's wishes. ALL bells should be completed including finished design approval by commission representative, by March 2025.

PAINTS, TOPCOATS AND WEATHERPROOFING

All bells placed in areas accessible to the public will be listed on America250PA's 2026 Commemorative map. Please note, that not all Bells will be in public locations but will still be included in posts, press, etc. Although some bells may be positioned indoors, in creating a design, please consider carefully the weather and other elements of nature, including sun, rain, wind, and dirt. We cannot guarantee that a given bell will be placed indoors or in a weather-protected location.

Additionally, Bells Across PA is an interactive program that allows the public to touch and feel the designs. As such, designs should be created with durability and public safety concerns in mind. Although objects may be attached to the bells, artists should be aware that vandalism can and unfortunately does occur. Any object added to a bell should be attached in such a way that it cannot be easily removed.

The surface of each bell is primed by the manufacturer. Unless you have altered the exterior of the bell, you will not need to reapply a primer. Acrylic paint, artificial resin paint, or two-component paint can be used to paint the bells. A minimum of three coats of varnish is required using a two-part, hard gloss varnish. This step is crucial to the ultimate durability of your bell, and bells that are returned unvarnished or which are incorrectly varnished may not be exhibited. Paint does not have to be the only medium. Hodge Podge your bell with photos or yarn bomb it! All forms of art are welcome! It is up to the artist.

Each bell will be affixed to a base.

INSTALLATION AND REPAIR OF BELLS

Artists will not be responsible for the installation of the bells, as America250PA will manage this process. Artists should, however, be available for any possible touch-up work that may be required once the exhibit is underway in 2026.

DESIGN GUIDELINES

Artists should bear in mind that the audience will be broad-based and of all ages, and designs should be appropriate for public display. Designs that are religious, political, or sexual in nature will not be accepted. As outlined below, designs will be evaluated to ensure they conform to these guidelines.

America250PA may reject any design that, in its sole discretion, does not adhere to these guidelines.

Please include in your design two or more of the following America250PA focus areas that are specific to your county:

Agriculture, Arts & Culture, Commerce, Diversity, Education, Environment, Government, Healthcare, History/Preservation, Innovation/Technology, Nature, Tourism, Veterans, Women

RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS

By submitting your application, you confirm that:

- You are the original creator of your design.
- You have not copied anyone else's original work

- Your design does not infringe on anyone else's intellectual property rights (for example, trademark, copyrights, trade dress, design patent).

- To the extent anyone else has contributed to your design, you shall obtain a signed, written agreement from that person assigning all their rights in their contribution to you.

As part of the application process, you must sign the "Copyright Assignment" that accompanies this application. By signing, dating, and returning the original Copyright Assignment with your application, you are indicating your understanding that you are assigning the entire right, title, and interest to your design to America250PA. Please remember to keep a copy of these forms for your records.

Once selected, if your finished bell matches your approved design work and is completed prior to the deadline, you will receive a \$1,250.00 honorarium. America250PA will continue to own the entire right, title, sketches, and all derivative works, including the final work completed on the fiberglass bell. You will be acknowledged as the artist on a plaque attached to the base of the bell and in appropriate publications. However, the copyrights, including the rights to reproduce your design, create copies or reprint your design in books, will be owned by America250PA.

If your design is not approved or selected for the exhibition, America250PA shall assign the entire right, title, and interest in your design back to you.

Bells Across PA – Call for Artists

WHEREAS, _____ [fill in name of artist], an individual having an address of _____ (“Artist”) is the author of the design and sketches (collectively referred to as the “Design”) attached to the application submitted to America250PA on the same date as the date of this Assignment;

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that, as part of the application process, it is intended that America250PA, with an address of 2 N Main Street, Pittston, PA 18640, own the entire right, title, and interest in and to the Design.

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that, if the Design is approved, he/she/they shall apply that design to a bell sculpture provided by America250PA thereby creating a “Finished Bell.”

WHEREAS Artist desires to transfer all of his/her/their right, title and interest in and to the Design, including, but not limited to, all derivative works which are based on the Design to America250PA;

WHEREAS, Artist understands and acknowledges that America250PA shall continue to be the sole and exclusive owner of the entire right, title and interest in and to the Design, including, but not limited to, all derivative works based on the Design if the Finished Bell is approved for exhibition, as described in detail in the Request For Proposals and Application to America250PA’s ‘Bells Across PA’, and that in such case America250PA shall pay to Artist a \$1,250.00 honorarium within 30 days of the completion of their bell.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and intending to be legally bound hereby, Artist hereby assigns to America250PA all his/her/their right, title, and interest in and to the Design, and to any derivative works based on the Design including but not limited to any rights it may have in the Finished Bell, together with all copyright applications and registrations, therefore. Artist acknowledges and agrees that, due to the nature of the public display of the Finished Bell, America250PA shall not be liable for any distortion, mutilation, modification, or destruction of the Finished Bell by accident, act of God or person. Artist hereby waives his/her/their rights under the Visual Artists Rights Act (“VARA”), 17 U.S.C. 106A, as against America250PA in the event of such distortion, mutilation, modification, or destruction. Artist further acknowledges and agrees that if the Finished Bell is vandalized, damaged, or otherwise modified and the Artist is unable or unwilling to promptly repair such alteration, America250PA shall have the right to make, or have made, such repairs, even if the repairs would constitute a distortion, mutilation, or modification under VARA. Artist hereby waives his/her/their rights under VARA in the event and to the extent America250PA deems such repair necessary. Artist represents to America250PA that he/she/they is/are the sole author(s) of the Designs and that the Design is an original work of authorship which does not infringe upon the copyright rights or any intellectual property rights of others, and that he/she/they has/have the unencumbered right to make this assignment. In the event the Design is not approved or selected for exhibition, as described in the Request for Proposals, America250PA shall assign [and hereby does assign] back to Artist all its right, titles, and interest in and to the Design.

Artist Name: _____

Name of Bell: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Artists should bear in mind that the audience will be broad-based and of all ages, and designs should be appropriate for public display. Designs that are religious, political, or sexual in nature will not be accepted. Additionally, corporate logos and advertising are not allowed on designs

Name: _____

Your name for plaque, website, and other event materials: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Website URL: _____

Proposed title for your bell (limited to 40 characters, including spaces and punctuation):

Artist Statement

Please attach an additional sheet with a brief description of yourself and your bell design. Also please attach a headshot.

Bell Outline

Please complete your proposed design on one of the outlines provided. Please feel free to enlarge these shapes if desired; however, please do not submit designs larger than 8.5” x 11”. Note that the more complete your design, the easier it will be for the panel and

our patrons to review your submission. Please note that all application materials become the property of America250PA, and no materials can be returned to the artist. Please keep a copy of your application for your records.

Assurances and Terms

By signing this Application, I agree to all the terms of the attached Call for Artists, and all such terms are hereby incorporated into this Application. I certify that all statements made in this application are true to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that America250PA is not liable for damage or loss of materials submitted.

Artist(s): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Application Checklist

Original and (2) copies if mailed (1) copy if emailed, of the following:

- Signed Application and Artist Statement
- Signed Copyright Assignment
- Design
- Sample of Previous Work and Resume (optional)
- Artist Photo/Bio

For Additional Information:

Please email: info@america250PA.org, please add Bells Across PA in subject line

www.America250PA.org

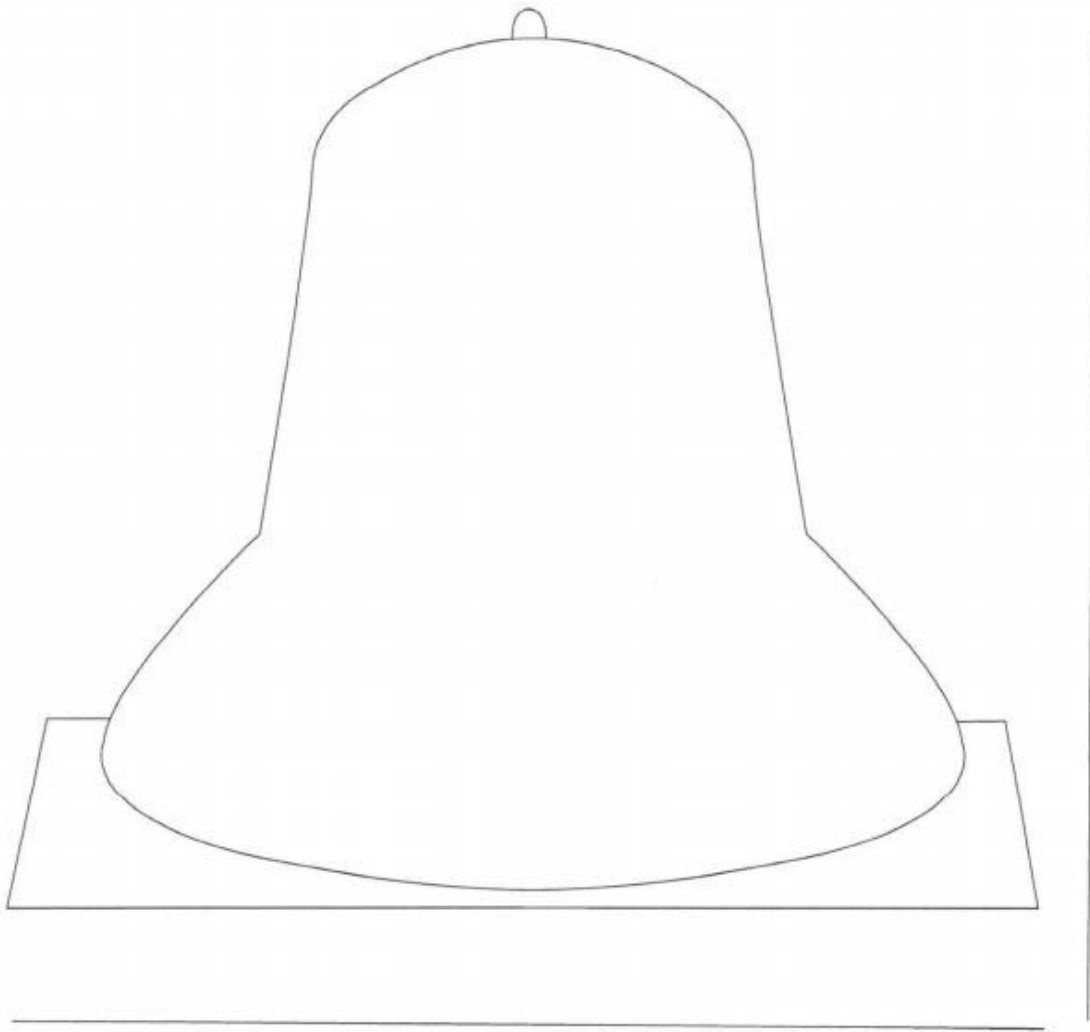
Facebook: @America250PA

Instagram @America_250PA

Twitter: @America_250PA

Bells are 3 foot x 3 foot

FRONT OF BELL



BACK OF BELL

