



CALL FOR ARTISTS:

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

VisionCorps

Muralist

Budget: \$15,000

Issue Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Deadline: Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 11:59PM

Project Overview

VisionCorps is seeking a qualified artist or team of artists to paint a mural measuring approximately 1,000 square feet on their building located at 244 North Queen Street.

The intention of this artwork is to make the invisible visible. Individuals who are blind and vision impaired within our community are not always seen or noticed, but they are a vibrant and an important part of our society.

For the past 100 years, VisionCorps' agency for the blind has existed in many forms with one goal – to empower those who are blind and vision impaired to attain independence. This mural will be displayed proudly as a colorful testament to the strength and character of the blind community of Lancaster.

About VisionCorps

VisionCorps is a 100-year-old nonprofit that began in the City of Lancaster in 1926. VisionCorps is Southeastern and South-Central Pennsylvania's resource for individuals with vision loss to learn to live independently. Beyond rehabilitation and preventative services, VisionCorps encourages meaningful employment for individuals who are blind. Services for clients are provided at no cost and are made possible through community support.

A timeline of VisionCorps' history can be found at the following link:

<https://services.visioncorps.net/about/history/>

Site Specifications

VisionCorps is located on North Queen St between West Walnut St and West Chestnut St. The mural measuring approximately 1,000 square feet is intended to wrap around the southeast corner of the building with frontage on both Queen St and above the driveway entrance. The wall has a brick texture and will be power washed prior to priming. The current sign facing the driveway may be removed depending on the finalized design.



VisionCorps building located at 220 N Queen St

Artwork Specifications

Considerations: The artwork should be as low-vision friendly as possible. This includes high contrast between background and foreground colors and placing some smaller elements at ground level.

Color Palette: The VisionCorps branding consists of dark blue and teal colors with tertiary color being gold. The muralist is not restricted to these colors but should be mindful of palette cohesion.

Design Themes: Designs should meditate on the meaning of the words empowerment, inclusion, and independence as it relates to blind and low vision individuals within the community.

Visual Elements: Visual elements may include the below.

- A white cane. The white cane is the most universally recognizable symbol of the blind community. It is a representation of independence as it allows visually impaired folks to navigate the world independently.
- A unique path. People who have or are experiencing vision loss all have their own unique journey to finding fulfillment in living with visual impairment. Colorful, varying paths could serve as a tribute to those individual's stories.
- Community. The design should celebrate a community that is equitable and inclusive for all folks, including those with vision loss.

- Natural beauty. VisionCorps serves Adams, Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties. Natural elements may consider the varying landscapes of the counties served by VisionCorps and include sunflowers (a favorite of philanthropist Ann Barshinger) and a rose (representative of the Red Rose City and Helen Keller’s love for roses).

Timeline

Call issued	Tuesday, April 7, 2026
Deadlines for submissions	Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 11:59PM
Artist selected and notified	Friday, May 8, 2026
Painting to begin on or before	Friday, June 5, 2026*

*Note that painting dates may change based on artist’s availability.

Painting would ideally begin on or before June 5th to coincide with an all-day event hosted by VisionCorps. VisionCorps’ Eye Drop Rappelling event on June 5th includes watching rappellers descend the side of the Holiday Inn as well as a party at the Imperial Terrace featuring live music, games, and more. The intention is to have the muralist painting during the time of the event as part of the celebration. Promotional opportunities are available.

More information about the event can be found at the following link:
<https://give.visioncorps.net/event/visioncorps-eye-drop-2026/e730073>

Eligibility

This commission is open to all professional artists, or a team thereof. Applicants must be 18 years or older. Artists are preferred to reside in or near Lancaster County, though all interested artists are encouraged to apply.

Submission Requirements and Submission Procedure

To be considered, applicants must submit the following materials:

- A statement of interest (including contact information)
- Resume
- 3-5 images of previous artwork relevant to project scope.

APPLICANTS DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT A DESIGN PROPOSAL AS PART OF THEIR SUBMISSION.

Materials must be submitted via email to Molly Kirchoff, Office of Public Art Program Manager, at the following address:

Molly Kirchoff (she/her)
 Program Manager, Public Art & Urban Design

mkirchoff@cityoflanasterpa.gov
(717) 847-0285

Applicants must submit materials **on or before Sunday, May 3 at 11:59PM**. Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Selection Process

A selection committee made up of project stakeholders and community members will review applications and select the artist or artist team to be awarded the commission. The selected artist will be announced on Friday, May 8.