



CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THE HONORABLE ERIN E. STEWART

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CITY PARTNERS WITH GREATER NEW BRITAIN ARTS ALLIANCE FOR “BEES ACROSS NEW BRITAIN”

NEW BRITAIN—The City of New Britain is working with the Greater New Britain Arts Alliance to bring an exciting new public art project to the community that’s called “Bees Across New Britain.”

Similar to the “cow parade” in West Hartford several years ago, “Bees Across New Britain” will feature 6’ high bees that will be painted by artists. Private donations and sponsorships are funding the project.

A maquette, or model of the bee, was developed by renowned sculptor and New Britain resident Craig Frederick. The design was based on sketches made by Mayor Erin Stewart. The maquette will be sent to a fabricator, who will transform the model into 6-foot tall fiberglass bees in the months ahead.

“Bees Across New Britain is a playful nod to the many worker bees who have played a role in the development of our City over many generations,” said Mayor Stewart. “This projects expands upon our vibrant arts scene, pays homage to our City’s rich industrial past, and invites residents and visitors to come ‘Experience the New’ in our community.”

Donors, businesses, and local organizations are being sought to sponsor a bee. For \$2,500, a sponsor will work with an artist to design a bee, which the sponsor will get to keep at the end of the project. At a \$2,000 sponsorship level, the bee will be auctioned off at the end of the project and will be placed at the location of the purchaser’s choosing. Proceeds from the project will benefit the Greater New Britain Arts Alliance, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Stephen Hard, Executive Director of the GNBAA remarked: “One of the things I am most happy about is our idea, apparently novel, to split the auction proceeds with the artists. This makes it possible for more artists to consider our project. We want everyone: artists, sponsors, and the public to be absolutely thrilled with what they see.”

Installation of the bees are scheduled for late spring of 2018. As part of “Bees Across New Britain,” a series of community events will take place around the project, including the development of a map featuring all the locations of the bees, and more.

To learn more about sponsoring a bee, visit www.happeninghere.org and click on the bee icon.

A formal call to artists will be forthcoming over the next several weeks.

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