

Dear GAE Committee:

I am writing about retaining the Art in Public Spaces program, which I strongly support!

Public art creates jobs, revenue and, most importantly, educates our young population to the cultural treasures of CT. Artists are working members of the community; paying taxes, raising families, volunteering in schools, buying materials locally, providing jobs, and hiring subcontractors.

In addition to jobs, the existence of art in our society is what humanizes us, makes us aware of our surroundings, and causes us to ask the insightful questions that carry us forward as a culture. At this difficult time, it is more important than ever to remember that "we do not live by bread alone". Art makes us aware of what we are living FOR!

Please please retain Connecticut's % for Art program, which is a very small part of the budget, and gives back so much!

Thank you,

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