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# Open Call

## *Revolutionary Acts*

Monument Lab—in partnership with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the New Jersey Historical Commission, and RevolutionNJ—is launching an Open Call for Artist Ideas to commission a new monumental performance series in New Jersey that will animate histories and legacies of the American Revolution in 2026. *Revolutionary Acts* invites artists who live or work in New Jersey to propose a performance-based work that will unfold across sites in Camden, Trenton, and Fort Lee. These cities have been selected in collaboration with the State's larger organizing efforts around the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. The selected artist will collaborate with local partners to activate these sites, weaving together stories of the state's and nation's past, present, and future.

The goals of this project include:

- Producing an innovative and captivating performance series that appeals to a broad audience and showcases cutting-edge commemorative and artistic initiatives
- Shedding light on untold narratives of the American Revolution and how they shape common knowledge of significant events
- Highlighting the stories of an expansive group of Revolutionary voices and recognizing the significance of incorporating more histories into places where gaps in the historical landscape are evident
- Demonstrating that the creation of history and memory is a collective and personal endeavor in which we can analyze, evaluate, and actively participate
- Reaching out to newer and younger audiences who typically do not engage with historical and commemorative sites and events
- Facilitating exploration of the complex layers of history found in New Jersey's cities, towns, and landscapes

This is a project that appreciates and expands upon conventional forms of performance, public art, and public history. Artists of a variety of visual and performance backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Artists are invited to submit their materials via this online form by **Monday, June 16, 2025, 5:00 p.m. EST.**

An artist advisory committee will make a recommendation to Monument Lab regarding the selection of up to three finalists. Monument Lab will then select three artists to develop full

proposals and present them in mid-August 2025. Each finalist will receive an honorarium of \$2,500 to support the creation of a detailed proposal.

The selected project will be supported with a total production budget of \$150,000, covering materials, fabrication, and implementation costs. The artist will also receive an honorarium of \$30,000 in recognition of their creative vision and work. Over the course of 2025 and 2026, Monument Lab will support the selected artist in adapting the performance to each historic site's geography and historical context.

Performance, in this context, is defined broadly. Potential performance formats include but are not limited to:

- Activations
- Block Parties
- Concerts
- Dance Performances
- Gatherings
- Happenings
- Fairs
- Festivals
- Musical Performances
- Pageants
- Processions
- Reenactments
- Reimaginings
- Scavenger Hunts
- Theatrical Productions
- Walking/River Tours

This is a unique opportunity to contribute to New Jersey's evolving cultural landscape by activating history, creating an innovative, immersive, and participatory experience that invites audiences to reflect on the Revolutionary era and its ongoing impact. We encourage artists with a passion for storytelling, public engagement, and experimental performance to apply.

To learn more about this opportunity, [download the Revolutionary Acts Dossier](#).

Please contact [RevolutionaryActs@monumentlab.com](mailto:RevolutionaryActs@monumentlab.com) with any questions regarding this Open Call.

Name \*

First Name

Last Name

Pronouns

Collective Name (if applicable)

Collective Name

Email \*

example@example.com

Phone Number \*

Please enter a valid phone number.

Address \*

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

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What about this opportunity to create a performance-based public artwork engaging with histories and legacies of the American Revolution in New Jersey interests you? \*

0/150

What core values guide your artistic practice, and how would you apply them to developing a performance that engages with history and community? \*

0/150

What specific themes, stories, or historical perspectives related to the American Revolution and its legacies in New Jersey would you be most interested in exploring through this project? Pick one or more of RevolutionNJ's key themes to guide your response: (1) Inclusion/Exclusion; (2) Property and Sovereignty; (3) "Revolutionary Ideals"; (4) Political Participation; (5) Movement of People; (6) New Jersey as a "Battleground"; and (7) The Historical Process \*

0/150

What are your initial thoughts or general ideas for a performance-based artwork engaging with the histories and legacies of the American Revolution in New Jersey? \*

0/150

Is there anything else you'd like to share with us? (Optional)


0/150




Artist Bio \*

0/250

Please submit 1 document (in PDF format) featuring samples of your work. Please submit at least five work samples. \*

  
**Browse Files**  
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Please submit your CV/Resume in PDF format. \*

  
**Browse Files**  
Drag and drop files here

How did you learn about this Open Call? \*

- Monument Lab Website
- Monument Lab Social Media / Newsletter
- New Jersey State Council on the Arts
- New Jersey Historical Commission
- RevolutionNJ
- InLiquid.org
- ArtsForLA.org
- ArtConnect.com
- ArtRabbit.org
- TCG.org (ArtSearch)
- Direct outreach
- Other

## Eligibility Requirements

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Eligible applicants must be:

- Professional visual artists or artist teams, working in any and all media  
If applying as an artist team or collective, please identify in your application materials the team member who will serve as the project lead and primary point of contact.
- Legally authorized to work in the U.S.
- At least 18 years of age.
- Artists must be permanent residents of the State of New Jersey, permanently employed in the State of New Jersey, or lease studio space in the State of New Jersey. Proof of residency, employment, or your leasing of your studio space must be submitted if the artist is selected as a finalist.
- The artist whose original work is represented in the work samples.

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## Terms

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*Revolutionary Acts* is a project of Monument Lab, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, New Jersey Historical Commission, and RevolutionNJ. Additional support provided by the New Jersey Historical Commission.