
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Isles, Inc. to unveil public art projects in Trenton’s new Creek to Canal Creative District

Trenton, NJ –

Two public art projects, a mural and a site-specific installation at a vacant, yet historically significant, building, are part of efforts to reactivate vacant spaces and spark change in how people – residents and visitors alike – perceive Trenton neighborhoods. Though the projects are located in two different neighborhoods, their unifying concept is the newly designated Creek to Canal Creative District, which serves to catalyze redevelopment that supports and is supported by creative activity and that focuses on community engagement. The public is invited to join in celebrating the debut of these projects on the dates below:

Friday, August 18th from 5:00-7:00pm @ 147 Perry Street (at Montgomery Street) Utilizing Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) funding, an 8’x20’ mural is being painted on a freestanding wall constructed specifically for the project. The mural reflects the industrial and natural history of the City and the harmony between the two. Rather than a static mural which remains on an existing wall for a long period of time, this dynamic structure will be repainted with new content in the Spring of 2018. Jonathan “Lank” Conner, who is painting the first mural, is an artist, designer, and educator from Hamilton, New Jersey. He is a member of the S.A.G.E. Coalition and has worked on public art and mural projects along the east coast, including many in Trenton.

Friday, August 25th from 5:00-7:00pm @ 20 Bellevue Avenue (at North Willow)

The Higbee Street School, built in 1857 and later known as the Nixon School, was the first school built in Trenton for the free education of African-American children and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Also utilizing Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) funding, this project is located in the Trenton Historic Development Collaborative (THDC) neighborhood. The site-specific installation in the yard of the school consists of a series of oversized books viewed from different perspectives and offers an opportunity for the public to contribute their own words, ideas, and stories to the project. The project was conceived by artist and educator Andrew Wilkinson and constructed by Wilkinson and Jennifer Dalle Pазze, a student at Rider who holds an associate’s degree in photography from Mercer County Community College. Wilkinson served as the project manager for both the mural wall and the site-specific installation.

About Isles:

Founded in 1981, Isles, Inc. is a community development and environmental organization in Trenton, New Jersey. With a mission to foster self-reliant families and healthy, sustainable communities, Isles

designs and develops effective services that support this mission and share what they learn with others who can make a difference. Beyond its central New Jersey base, Isles works to influence policy and practices that support healthy, self-help agendas. For more information, visit www.isles.org.



Above: Artist's rendering of the first mural to be installed on the mural wall.



Left: The site-specific installation under construction, featuring Andrew Wilkinson.