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***Newton Out Doors Design Competition Launches;
Entries Due February 28***

January 6, 2021/NEWTON, MA – Newton Community Pride, in partnership with the City of Newton, is proud to announce *Newton Out Doors*, a public art initiative to promote the walkability and economic vitality of Newton’s unique village centers and the enjoyment of art in a safe, physically distanced manner.

Newton Out Doors will involve the temporary outdoor installation and exhibition of approximately 20 recycled wooden doors decorated with artwork by local and regional artists. The doors will be installed in and around several of Newton’s village centers, May-November 2021, to encourage engagement with public art as well as more pedestrian traffic to support local businesses.

Artists are invited to submit applications to participate in this juried initiative no later than February 28, 2021, and winners will be selected by March 30, 2021. While there is no restriction on the designs that may be submitted, artists are asked to consider designs that inspire feelings of connection, reflection, curiosity, and joy.

Selected artists will receive wooden doors (approximately 30” x 80”) from Newton Community Pride and must complete their selected designs by May 1, 2021. Four of the 20 doors will be reserved for Newton high school students (and will be awarded based on the number of student submissions). **Selected artists will each be paid commissions of \$425.** Following the exhibit, the doors will be auctioned off, with proceeds going to support further public art initiatives.

“*Newton Out Doors* will encourage the reconnection and revitalization of our community following a winter of COVID-19 isolation, at-home schooling, and telecommuting,” said Howard Sholkin, president of Newton Community Pride.

“Newton’s merchants and restaurants are grateful to Newton Community Pride for creating a program designed to enhance the shopping and dining experience in our village centers at a time when we’re all looking to rebuild the economy and lift all of our spirits,” said Greg Reibman, president of the Newton-Needham Regional Chamber.

For more information about this program, please go to www.NewtonOutDoors.org.

Newton Community Pride is a 501c3 non-profit whose mission is to build community and volunteerism through year round arts, cultural, and beautification programs for all to enjoy. For more information about Newton Community Pride, please go to www.newtoncommunitypride.org.
