



161 Harvard Avenue, Suite 11  
Allston, Massachusetts 02134  
Telephone: 617.254.7564  
Fax: 617.254.2442  
[mainstreets@allstonvillage.com](mailto:mainstreets@allstonvillage.com)  
[www.allstonvillage.com](http://www.allstonvillage.com)

For more info contact:  
Alana Olsen, Executive Director  
Cell: 520.243.3392  
Email: [Alana@allstonvillage.com](mailto:Alana@allstonvillage.com)

## Allston Village Main Streets Partners with the Boston Arts Commission *Offers artists \$400 to participate in the 'Paintbox' program*

August 16, 2012, Allston Village Main Streets (AVMS) announces a partnership with Boston Arts Commission (BAC) to bring more public art to Allston Village through Mayor Menino's 'Paintbox' program. The Paintbox program works to celebrate local artists, enliven streetscapes, and deter graffiti and vandalism on the City of Boston utility boxes found throughout Boston's neighborhoods.

Through this partnership AVMS will offer a \$400 stipend to local artists per eligible utility box completed in Allston Village, a \$100 increase from the typical stipend. The stipend is meant to cover the cost of the artist's supplies and compensate them for their work. Artists will receive the stipend once their box is completed. For a list of eligible utility boxes and a link to the Paintbox program application visit [www.allstonvillage.com/paintbox](http://www.allstonvillage.com/paintbox)

"Allston is home to so many wonderful artists," said Alana Olsen Executive Director of AVMS "we are thrilled to give them an opportunity to showcase their talents."

The money for the artist stipends was raised by AVMS during their annual fundraiser the "Taste of Allston." Major sponsors from that event include, New Balance, The Sam Adams Company, The Hamilton Company, Genzyme, Harvard University, Boston College, Boston University, The Red Paint Hospitality Group, Mt. Vernon Company and many more.

Since its inception in 2008 the Paintbox program has successfully brought public art to almost 100 throughout Boston's neighborhoods. You can see the exact location of the completed Paintboxes by visiting the Boston Arts Commission interactive map of public art online at <http://www.publicartboston.com/map/node>. Local artists who are interested in participating in the Paintbox program city wide should submit an application which includes a sketch of their design, artist statement and box of preference to the Boston Arts Commission.

Founded in 1996 AVMS is part of the country's first city-wide, multi-district Main Street revitalization program, a non-profit, public-private partnership between the City of Boston, the National Main Streets Center and neighborhood stakeholders. AVMS works to make Allston Village a better place to live, work, dine, shop and open a business. Annually AVMS hosts several neighborhood events including the Taste of Allston, Rock the Village Music and Style Show, and the weekly Allston Village Farmers Market and more. Other public arts initiatives from AVMS include partnering with the Mayor's Mural Crew to complete several murals in Allston Village and the Allston Rock City Art Tour which is currently seeking participants, visit [www.allstonvillage.com](http://www.allstonvillage.com) for more information.

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