

**Niagara River Greenway Commission  
Consultation and Review Form**

Type of Review Required: \_\_\_\_\_ Mandatory Consultation  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ **X** \_\_\_\_\_ Voluntary Review and/or Endorsement

**PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION**

Name: Town of Lewiston  
Mailing Address: 1375 Ridge Road, Lewiston  
State: New York Zip Code: 14092  
Federal Id# 16-6002298 Charities Registration # N/A

**PROJECT TYPE**

Check all that apply:

Environmental       Cultural/Heritage       Land or Water Public Access  
 Cultural       Trail       Educational/Interpretive  
 Waterfront or Land Based Development       Signage  
 Recreational       Other

Project Name: Interactive Children and Family Festivals and Programming, Artpark 2016

Location: Earl W. Brydges Artpark State Park

Site Address: 450 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Lewiston

State: New York Zip Code: 14092

Minor Civil Division(s): Village of Lewiston

County: Niagara County

Project Proponent Property Interest (own, lease, easement or other): Other- Artpark is a State Park on NYPA property operated by the NYSOPRHP, under a long-term agreement with NYPA.

**AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL**

Name: **Steven Broderick** Title: **Town of Lewiston Supervisor**  
Business Address: **1375 Ridge Road**  
State: **New York** Zip Code: **14092**  
Telephone Number: **716-754-8213 Ext 223**  
Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: **716-754-2319**  
E-Mail Address: **supervisor@townoflewiston.us**

**PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT**

Name: **Sonia Clark** Title: **Artpark, Executive Director**  
Business Address: **450 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Lewiston**  
State: **New York** Zip Code: **14092**  
Telephone Number: **716-754-9000 x 117**  
Cell Number: **917-685-7853** Fax Number: **716-754-2741**  
E-Mail Address: **sclark@artpark.net**

**1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT, ITS PURPOSE, HOW IT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED, AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT.**

**Description of the Project:** Artpark & Company, Inc. requests \$165,000 to support the enhancement and expansion of *Interactive Children and Family Festivals and Programming* elevating the visual and performance art programs at Artpark. These will fill the spring and summer of 2016 and will offer a variety of opportunities for the audience to discover and experience the Artpark grounds, environment and cultural background, while bringing awareness to modern environmental challenges and artistic development on a global and local scale.

**A. *Artpark Tales Festival***

The Fairy Tales Festival is a two-day interactive outdoor event that will expand on the already successful Fairy House Festival. *Fairy Tales* will introduce street theatre as a modern, multi-faceted art form where the connection with the audience and surrounding environment is the most "immediate" and direct, as opposed to what we experience in a more "formal" theatrical setting. Artpark will bring to our community some of the best European street theatre artists to not only entertain the public and present them with an opportunity to experience the familiar grounds of the park in the most imaginative and unexpected ways, but to learn from this oldest artform, requiring an ability to understand and control the energy of the audience, comedy, tragedy and the entire range of performance techniques; Interactive performances will be offered in the natural setting taking advantage of the qualities in the environment which make Artpark the unique location along the Niagara River Greenway. At this time, we have confirmed interest and availability from such groups as Polyglot Theatre from Australia / Giraffe Royal Theatre from Estonia / Lost Wheels of Time from Israel / Uta Bekaia from Georgia. Estimated total attendance: 4,000 visitors.

**B. *Earthsong, Storytelling from the Tuscarora residents***

A motion-sensored sound installation using real recorded stories told by the local Tuscarora residents coming alive in the intimate wooded area around the Hopewell mound in the lower park. The installation will be open throughout the season and the Fall 2016 to the public as well as local school groups and will focus on heritage, tradition, and the land on which Artpark sits. The project will be created and managed in partnership among Artpark, an independent artist in residence, Carin Jean White, the New York State Parks Interpretive Department, and the Lewiston Council on the Arts. Of course we will reach out to our arts and cultural colleagues in the Tuscarora Communities in order to bring authenticity to this project. We will also work with our new partners the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area whose priority is to connect potential cultural organizations along Niagara River, they are excited to help us promote this project to the Niagara Falls School Districts and to the Tuscarora Indian School. The installation will be launched with a live performance in mid-June and will be open to public throughout the season through end of September, as well as school trips. Estimated attendance: 4,000 visitors.

**C. *Percussion Garden***

With new partners at SUNY Buffalo (Department of Music) Artpark will present the discovery of sound in a setting that is unique to no other; Artpark's *WARP* (Working Artists in Residence Project) will extend throughout 2016 as students experiment with the creation and making of new and contemporary sound in the woods, along the trails and in the lower park. This eventual installation will also enhance Artpark's successful *Music in the Woods* program where we expect to host more than 200 for each of six concerts throughout the summer (est. 1,200). The *Percussion Garden* will be an interactive installation for all visitors (no matter what their age or ability) to experiment with and create sound, rhythm, harmony, and back beats. The *Percussion Garden* at Artpark will encourage participants to become actively engaged in the process of music making. Estimated audience: 10,000 (public installation plus special events/concerts organized around or in connection with the installation).

**D. *Artpark as a Living Laboratory***

In line with Artpark & Company's mission and the Goals of the Niagara River Greenway, we are partnering with the organization founded by Mary Miss, CALL // City As Living Laboratory. An original Artpark artist, Mary Miss built an installation here in 1976 and now evolved into an international figure in public art, urban and public development. In her work, Mary Miss has reshaped the boundaries between sculpture, architecture, landscape design, and installation art by articulating a vision of the public sphere where it is possible for an artist to address the issues of our time. Trained as a sculptor, Mary Miss' work creates situations emphasizing a site's history, its ecology, or aspects of the environment that have gone unnoticed. This year's installation will be curated by Mary Miss and will serve as the first step into further development of the concept "Artpark as a Living Laboratory," which is evolving from her current work being used and explored in New York City, Beijing, Delhi and others. The priority for Artpark's partnership in this project is to increase awareness and action around key environmental issues specific to our locale through interactive, educating and visually enticing art installations by major artists in the field. For this year's installation, Mary will select appropriate artists and project highlighting the significant natural assets of Artpark and how this habitat and surrounding region is full of nurturing resources and grave threats. This project will call on Artpark's history as we offer opportunities to develop strategies that advance environmental awareness, literacy and sustainable development. The installation is scheduled to go up by mid June 2016 and will be open to public throughout the season. Specific location on Artpark grounds is to be determined by the selected artist, Artpark and the New York State Parks staff. Estimated audience: 10,000.

**E. *Baila Brazil, an outdoor dance carnival***

In the wake of the Olympic Games opening in Rio de Janeiro, Artpark will host a U.S. Premiere of the show Baila Brazil, a thrilling journey into the heart of the African and Urban roots by the most acclaimed dance & music company of Brazil on July 13-17 with a free outdoor dance festival for the public on Saturday, July 16th. 20 years after popping out from the streets of Favelas, one of the poorest districts in the world, Balé de Rua conquered the most prestigious theaters around the world. As part of the company's engagement at Artpark, they will stage an outdoor family celebration with interactive dancing and drumming workshops, telling their stories and offering cultural exchange opportunities, exposing Artpark visitors to the rich culture of Brazil while enjoying the open grounds of the park in a unique way. Estimated attendance for the daytime family festival: 2,000.

**F. *Hansel and Gretel***

This original Artpark theatrical production of Hansel and Gretel will be anything but traditional. Site-specific and immersive this production will in many ways surprise and delight our audience taking them on a journey through both the grounds of Artpark and into the theatre, allowing visitors to experience Artpark in the most unpredictable but delightful ways. The project will offer multiple opportunities to community volunteers for participation including pre-show interviews in a social media campaign, a ginger bread contest, offering walk-on roles in the theatrical experience itself. Artpark will present this project 6-8 times to a total anticipated audience of 2,000.

**G. *Summer Camps for Youth***

6 weeks of summer camp activities (a one-week Visual and a four-week Rock n Roll summer camp in partnership with Music Is Art organization from Buffalo) serving at least 30 youths, conducted on the grounds of the park and giving opportunities for students to work with the environment of the park under the guidance of local and visiting artists.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT?

The purpose of elevating the interactive visual and performance art programming for Children and Families at Artpark is to fully and interactively inspire the community as well as visitors to the Niagara River Region. The purpose is to engage them in cultural, artistic, and recreational activities while encouraging the exploration of the region's heritage, trail ways, and water access points, and to better fulfill the mission of Artpark while meeting the objectives of the Greenway plan. We will do so by attracting visitors of all ages and inviting them to participate throughout the spring and summer with national and internationally recognized visual and performance artists.

## HOW WILL THE GOALS OF THIS PROJECT BE ACCOMPLISHED?

The Goals of this project will be accomplished through the commitment of Artpark's Executive Director, Sonia Clark, visiting artists and performing groups, as well as with the expertise of the Artpark staff. Experienced and well qualified artistic and administrative personnel will be engaged to make certain that the goals and objectives of the project are achieved. New partnerships will be built and existing partnerships will be strengthened further making the fulfillment of the objectives of the project a certainty. By bringing together the audiences and artists to the immediate community of Lewiston with the multitude of events, the project will strengthen local and regional economy **leading to an estimated annual economic impact to exceed \$12 million US dollars. (Please note that our event related economic impact in 2015 was \$11.7 million.)**

We plan to take the following steps to meet the goals of this project: Build networks, strengthen internal capacity, strengthen our local and regional economic impact, strengthen partnerships and build new affiliations. Below these are outlined in further detail.

- A. *Build Networks* - We will reach out to the global professional and artistic network of our new Executive Director, Sonia Clark. Russian born, Clark arrived to Lewiston from New York City in June of 2016. She brings 20 years of performance art programming experience to a foundation of artistically successful and financially stable programming at Artpark. With support we will integrate this network of nationally and internationally recognized visual and performance artists into our community (we are currently in talks with more than 30 individuals; visual and environmental artists) to expand Artpark's repertoire. Hosting these guests (and the crew that will support their work) at Artpark and in our Town will spur the local economy.
- B. *Strengthen Internal Capacity* - Support from the Greenway will help cover the cost of an artistic director for performing and performance arts, allowing time for our Executive Director to play a greater role in fundraising and advocating for the organization nationally and internationally. Our Executive Director will help generate greater awareness and new contributed income to sustain expanded programs in the future. Artpark will continue to administratively and artistically support the continuation and resurgence of the performing arts and other art forms that interactively engage participants in the historic relevance of this region.
- C. *Continue to Strengthen our Local and Regional Economic Impact*- In the design and delivery of these programs (spring and summer 2016) Artpark will build upon its robust 2015 audience of 230,000. This project is a major factor in the economic vitality of the Niagara River Greenway Community. We anticipate that Artpark's event related spending will grow beyond \$11.7 million; this includes spending associated with travel, lodging, eating and retail. This includes spending by both local and regional patrons to the park as well as spending by our visitors and artists. We also expect that our FTE jobs will exceed 345 (2015 figures) Over the course of the expanded 2016 summer programming season (for which we are seeking funding) we will surpass the 2015 volunteer records; 220 volunteers providing 7,750 hours of service, a cost value of over \$66,750.
- D. *Strengthen Partnerships and Build New Affiliations* – Our calendar of events is more diverse in artistic offerings than it has been in many years. We have reached within our community to partner

with the Lewiston Council on the Arts and the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area, as well as the Interpretive Department of the New York State Parks, Music is Art organization in Buffalo, University at Buffalo and Niagara University. With a new Executive Director we will gain new organizational affiliations. As these are established, Artpark will continue to build on the strength of our foundation, welcome new friends and attract new funding sources.

#### **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

Within the context of this project, we are partnering with academic institutions to **engage young minds** and experiment in the park as a “living laboratory”. Niagara University (Department of Theatre Fine Arts), the University at Buffalo (Percussion Department and University of Buffalo Center of Arts) and the Ontario School of Design will each be represented as we create a Percussion Garden from found objects (used metal playground sets) and build thematic programs with a focus on the possibilities of sound creation the lower park along the Niagara Gorge.

It is important that we secure funds for this project to support the elements described above, those which have been long lost at Artpark and have not been re-claimed by any other local (Niagara County based) cultural institution. Due to cuts in municipal funding, financial assistance is needed to support the continuation and resurgence of the performing arts and other art forms that **interactively engage participants in the historic relevance of this region**. Artpark is a visual and performing arts destination located in the Village of Lewiston in the northwest corner of Niagara County along the Lower Niagara River. Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1998, Artpark is rich in the histories of Native Americans, Pioneers and early Americans.

Artpark, in a partnership with local members of the Tuscarora Nation will design and deliver programming that is relevant to this historic space. Storytelling, music, performance and a sound installation will be the focus of at least two major installations and over 20 events/performances and two summer camps for the youth. Of course with programming such as this (referring to the heritage of the land) we will also strengthen our partnership with members of the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation; they along with our New York State Park Maintenance Staff are the ultimate caretakers of the park, our work with these two groups are especially important as we expand and enhance programs at Artpark for 2016.

## **2. OUR PROJECT WILL ADVANCE THE NIAGARA RIVER GREENWAY VISION, GOALS, AND PRINCIPLES.**

### **A. Vision Statement**

The Niagara River Greenway is a world-class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, recreational, scenic, and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important assets while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.

#### ***Advancing the Vision of the Niagara River Greenway***

Artpark, among many things, is a *park and a landscape*, within and along the Niagara River Greenway. Artpark *has a respected history* as an outdoor laboratory for visual artists *offering the opportunity to experiment and develop new ideas* and make them a reality at the park.

This project reflects the Niagara River Greenway Vision of *celebrating our natural, cultural, recreational, scenic, and heritage resources*. By *supporting these resources, the area will benefit from the economic opportunities* derived from the funding of this project. The *open space, natural and cultural heritage, recreation, and state-of-the-art entertainment* that Artpark provides to the surrounding community are key resources that attract visitors from across the region and serve to stimulate the local economy.

This project will support an accessible, unified, environmentally friendly, and revitalized corridor to *enhance the experience of many visitors* and the natural beauty, cultural diversity, and historic significance of the Niagara River. This project, therefore, reflects the Niagara River Greenway Vision of celebrating our natural, cultural, recreational, scenic, and heritage resources, the result of which will *bring significant opportunities* for economic development to the area.

B. The Six Goals of the Niagara River Greenway are to:

- **Improve Access**
- **Make Connections**
- **Protect and Restore Environmental Systems**
- **Celebrate History and Heritage**
- **Spark Revitalization and Renewal**
- **Promote Long-Term Sustainability**
- **Extend Olmsted's Legacy**

**Advancing the Goals of the Niagara River Greenway**

*Artpark is an international destination* for those seeking both recreation and the visual and performing arts. *A quarter of a million people* from around western New York and southern Ontario visit Artpark annually to attend events, and another 100,000 take advantage of the trails, picnic areas and fishing locations. *Also, Artpark is in a position now to address pressing environmental issues such as climate change and energy consumption as well as economic and social matters, and make them tangible through the arts.*

*Artpark has always focused on smart growth, natural resource protection, and energy conservation. Created out of reused soils from New York Power Authority's excavation for its reservoir dams, the picturesque park now serves as a backdrop for artistic expression and development*

Artpark continually strives to improve accessibility to all of its programs and to the public areas throughout the park. This project will enable Artpark to advance this objective by making significant improvements in accessibility. *The addition of a second handicapped shuttle will substantially improve the service provided for handicapped patrons. The project also includes improvements in handicapped decks in the amphitheater as well as signing for hearing impaired upon request.*

As a National Historic site, Artpark is dedicated to advancing the Greenway goals of long term sustainability, protecting the environment and celebrating history and heritage. *As a part of the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area, history and heritage are a key element of this project and future plans at Artpark.*

C. The Guiding Principles of the Niagara River Greenway are:

- **Excellence**
- **Sustainability**
- **Accessibility**
- **Ecological Integrity**
- **Public Well-Being**
- **Connectivity**
- **Authenticity**
- **Celebration**
- **Partnerships**
- **Community Based**

**Advancing the Guiding Principles of the Niagara River Greenway**

The implementation of the enhancement and expansion of *Interactive Children and Family Festivals and Programming* Project at Artpark will meet these of guiding principles of the Niagara Greenway Commission.

*Excellence:* Artpark sits along the Lower Niagara River offering spectacular views of the scenic vistas of the Niagara River Gorge. Artpark's Summer Concerts and Programs by their very nature fully support and implement the vision of the Niagara River Greenway and its principles, goals, and criteria. The longstanding traditions of Artpark's events highlight the principle of excellence and artistic merit, which will be significantly elevated in 2016. Our partnership with NYSOPRHP will continue to combine the natural beauty of the Niagara River to recreational and cultural programs.

*Sustainability:* At the heart of this proposal is sustainability as Artpark diligently pursues ideas to make sustainable energy and conservation of the environment a part of all programs and many of the programs supported by this project address these goals directly.

*Accessibility:* Accessibility to programs of this project will be upgraded through the purchase of a second handicapped shuttle, improvement in seating areas for handicapped and better services for handicapped patrons will also be a priority in the start of 2016.

*Ecological Integrity:* Artpark is a State Park and throughout the New York State Park system ecological integrity is a primary focus as it is for this project.

*Public Well-Being, Connectivity and Authenticity:* The mission of Artpark is to produce and present excellence in the performing and visual arts, and to create unique cultural experiences in a casual, natural setting. Artistic talent is nurtured and allowed to flourish in an atmosphere that is entertaining, educational and interactive for Artpark visitors. This project will enhance and expand the visual and performance art programs at Artpark, allowing artists to connect with individuals young and old to better their sense of well-being through the arts and to the natural environment.

*Community-Based, Celebration, Partnerships:* This presentation of this project is a celebration of art, music and theater that will be achieved through dynamic partnerships with local, regional, national and international artists and artistic organizations, bringing this celebration to the local residents for their enjoyment and community. As we focus on meeting the goals of our Artpark mission, we realize that in all of our programming we celebrate the arts in a community-based setting. We can only be successful if we deliver our mission by working in partnership with our friends in the region so that we are not duplicating services.

D. *The Criteria that Define the Niagara River Greenway Plan:*

- ***Consistency with Principles***
- ***Priority Status***
- ***Focus Area***
- ***Environmental Soundness***
- ***Implementable***
- ***Economic Viability***
- ***Local Sponsor or Partner***
- ***Matching Funds/Leveraging***
- ***Consideration of other Planning Efforts***
- ***Clear Benefits***

These Criteria that define the Niagara River Greenway Plan will also guide Artpark to success in delivering this project:

*Consistency with Principles:* This project is consistent with each of the ten Principles defined in the Niagara River Greenway Plan.

*Priority Status:* The Artpark facility provides opportunities for hiking, fishing, historical interpretation, appreciation of the arts, live entertainment, performance and visual arts, and community gatherings.

*Focus Area:* With this support Artpark will increase its capability for offering spring and summer programs, which connect people to the Niagara River. These have become important to the local community. Interpretive programs in cooperation with NYSOPRHP offer immediate access to the Niagara River Gorge and help establish cultural and historic relevance in today's economic climate. The art installation projects will focus on the local natural environment and historic heritage;

*Environmental Soundness:* This project is environmentally sound and many of the programs which will emphasize and explore the environment and ideas for sustainability and improvement.

*Implementable:* With the support of the Niagara River Greenway, this project is implementable. Required staff, artists and performers have been contacted and general terms have been agreed upon pending the outcome of this application.

***Economic Viability: Support from the Niagara River Greenway will be a catalyst for new and increased funding for innovative artistic programming at Artpark. This will help spur new interest in family and children's programs along the River Gorge.***

*Local Sponsor or Partner:* Artpark & Company operates the programming at Artpark through a license agreement with NYSOPHRP and all programs at the park are a partnership with State Parks as is this project.

*Matching Funds/Leveraging:* This grant will be a catalyst for new funds including fees and admissions, concessions revenues and additional grants (see budget).

*Consideration of other Planning Efforts:* This project will consider the planning of other arts and cultural organizations so as to not duplicate services. This is a priority as Artpark continues to partner and collaborate with organizations such as the Lewiston Council on the Arts, the Lewiston Jazz Festival; Music is Art, Art Services Initiative, Niagara University, the University at Buffalo and Buffalo State University.

*Clear Benefits:* This project will demonstrate benefits to the Niagara River, the Niagara River Greenway and the vision of the Greenway as a world-class corridor. Additional indirect benefits that were eluded to earlier include an increase in Artpark's economic impact:

- Event-related (audience) spending by the **230,000** plus people who attended Artpark's 2015 (annual) programming generates an **economic impact of \$11.7 million.**
- **Over 130,000 people** attended Artpark's 19 concert events in the outdoor amphitheater: "Tuesday in the Park" & "Coors Light Wednesdays." (2015)
- The above economic impact results in the support of **345 full time equivalent jobs.**
- Artpark generates over \$531,000 in revenues annually for local government.
- Artpark generates over \$647,000 in revenues annually for state government.
- Artpark spends over \$5.9 million in the local and regional area (community) for services, equipment, supplies and advertising.
- The busy Artpark season is supported by a dedicated team of **220 volunteers** of all ages who provide over **7,750 hours of service**; a cost value of over **\$66,750.**

\* Data from Americans for the Arts 'Arts & Economic Prosperity IV': The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Culture Industry (Calculator).

### 3. DEFINE THE BUDGET FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT AND INCLUDE COSTS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

#### **Expenses:**

Independent Artist & Performing Group Fees	\$51,625
Royalties	\$1,000
Performer salaries	\$36,850
Technical personnel salaries (stagehands/wardrobe)	\$4,584
Part Time Employees	\$57,909
Payroll Taxes, Benefits, Insurance	\$25,434
Technical supplies & equipment rental	\$36,300
Acquisitions (shuttle for handicap)	\$12,000
Travel & Accommodations for Artists	\$39,064
Marketing & Promotions	\$29,950
Administrative Expenses (phone, copies, etc.)	\$ 4,586

Total Expenses: \$298,887

\*This budget does not include administrative salaries (\$126,680 – paid as part of NY State Parks agreement with Artpark)

Identify all sources of funding and the amount of funding expected from each source. Identify and quantify funds that are already on hand or have been allocated for the proposed project Explain how the project will be operated and maintained.

**Income:**

Tickets	\$25,000 (projected)
Summer Camp Tuition	\$23,000 (projected)
Concessions & parking tolls	\$ 7,887 (projected)
Program Grants	\$61,000 (partially on hand and/or committed)
Individual Donations	\$15,000 (on hand)
Sponsorships	\$7,000 (partially committed)
Town of Lewiston Greenway Funds	\$100,000
Artpark General Funds	\$60,000

**TOTAL INCOME:** \$298,887

The project will be managed by Artpark regular staff and crew who would manage the work of touring and visiting artists. The administrative salaries are not included in the budget stated above, only special project costs.

**4. DESCRIBE THE MEASURES TAKEN AT THE LOCAL LEVEL TO GAIN COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THIS PROJECT (HEARINGS, PETITIONS, PUBLIC SURVEYS, RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT OR OTHER METHODS).**

If this project has been cited or described in a local planning document or some equivalent thereof, attach copies of that documentation highlighting the sections that are relevant to the proposed project. Describe the role of municipal agencies, stakeholder groups, consultants, volunteers or others who will be involved in the proposed project.

Artpark & Company, Inc. is working collaboratively with the Lewiston Council on the Arts as we reach into our community to build and strengthen relations with fellow cultural organizations and friends who focus on the rich heritage of our region specifically with Native American artists, historians, musicians, and storytellers. We are pleased to reach out to the Lewiston Council on the Arts and realize that this will open the door for future collaborative efforts and conversations with this and other arts groups in our region. This partnership has led to funding and the potential for additional funding.

**Funding Secured:**

New York State Council on the Arts, Decentralized Funds, Administered by Art Services Initiative- \$5,000  
Niagara Falls National Heritage Area- \$1,000  
Garman Family Foundation- \$15,000

**Projected Funding:**

Administered by the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area - \$5,000  
Bauer Family Foundation- \$25,000  
Seymour H. Knox Foundation -\$5,000  
Patrick P. Lee Foundation-\$5,000  
UB Creative Arts Initiative - \$5,000

*See Letter of support from the Lewiston Council on the Arts attached.*

**5. DESCRIBE AND DOCUMENT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND EXISTING CONDITIONS AT THE PROPOSED PROJECT SITE.**

If you are not the owner of the property include a letter(s) or resolution(s) evidencing support for the project by the owner. Provide photographs, conceptual plans and drawings that show the site as it presently exists and the how the site will change with the addition of the proposed project. Describe how your project will comply with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The existence of wetlands, significant upland and aquatic habitats, and plant or animals species that are classified as

rare, threatened, or endangered should be noted. Explain how such natural resources will be protected and / or enhanced. Cite any relevant project related studies.

The existing setting and environment of Artpark territory will be unchanged. The nature of the program is in using the existing setting and environment by performance and visual artists to bring awareness to the existing setting, habitats and environment and make modern social, scientific and environmental issues tangible through the arts, education and entertainment.

*See Letter of support from Mark Thomas, New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.*



**Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

ROSE HARVEY  
Commissioner

MARK W. THOMAS  
Director

January 13, 2016

Sonia Clark, Executive Director  
Artpark and Company  
450 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lewiston, NY 14092

Dear Ms. Clark:

I am writing in support of your submission to the Niagara River Greenway Commission that will provide for enhanced programming at Artpark.

There is no doubt that Artpark is one of the most unique locations in Western New York. In recent years, the venue has been a popular location for summertime concerts but in the past, Artpark was THE place for visual and performing arts in our region. Bringing that element of the arts back to Artpark will serve to not only support Artpark and Company but the Village of Lewiston, Niagara County and the entire region.

There are very few locations along the Greenway corridor where the mission of the Niagara River Greenway comes alive as much as it does at Artpark. With the scenic, natural, historic, cultural and recreational resources present at Artpark, it is the ideal location to tell the Greenway story. Making an investment to enhance the programs there will only serve to increase attendance and awareness of our Greenway in a very special location.

Best wishes as you embark upon this endeavor and I look forward to working with you on these projects.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Thomas  
Western District Director

Niagara River Greenway Commission  
2136 Oakfield Road  
Grand Island NY 14072

January 5, 2016

To members of the Niagara River Greenway Commission;

This letter is in support of Artpark & Company, Inc. and their proposal for funding of ***the Enhancement and Expansion of Performance and Performing arts Programming at Artpark***. We are pleased to offer this letter for several reasons. The first, is that this grant will benefit our community at large by providing innovative cultural programs that will benefit residents but will also draw visitors from across the region to this magnificent park. In addition, this project will enhance partnerships between Artpark and community organizations such as ours. We are pleased and happy to partner with Artpark & Company Inc. as they develop the proposed project to offer new programs in 2016.

Our primary role in this project will be to open doors to new community partners such as the local Tuscaroras. Over the years, we have established an extensive regional network of Native American friends because of our programs that have presented traditional and contemporary Native American, arts, music, dance, storytelling and traditions . We commend Artpark & Co and their efforts to expand programming to include interactive storytelling that takes advantage of the woodlands and the bordering trails.

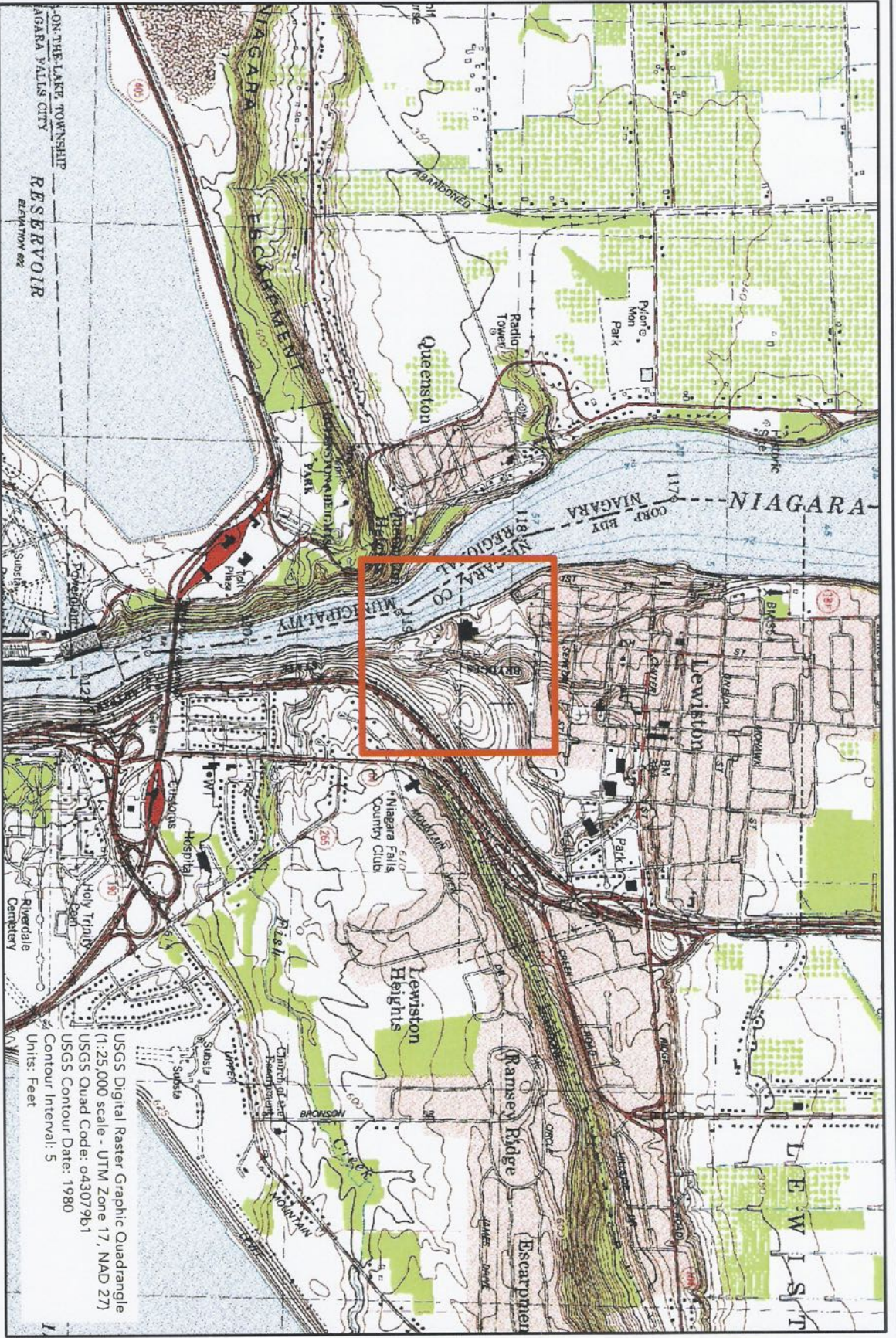
Artpark sits along the spectacular lower Niagara River and this gives Artpark & Company a unique opportunity to create cultural experiences in a special and authentic location. We are excited about this project and optimistic about future opportunities to work with Artpark.

Many thanks to you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Irene Rykaszewski  
Executive Director



**ART PARK AMPHITHEATER**  
 450 South 4th Street  
 Lewisiston, New York 14092

**LEGEND**



Site Location

1" = 2,000'  
 1:24,000



**WENDEL COMPANIES**  
 WD Project  
 Map Created: September, 2009

USGS Digital Raster Graphic Quadrangle  
 (1:25,000 scale - UTM Zone 17, NAD 27)  
 USGS Quad Code: 043079b1  
 USGS Contour Date: 1980  
 Contour Interval: 5  
 Units: Feet

Wendel, Design/Construct Architects & Engineers, P.C. has obtained all liability for 1. All information, opinions, or measurements in this information provided are based on the best available information and are not to be used for any purpose other than that intended. 2. No warranty is made by the provider in reliance upon any information or data furnished hereunder. Data Source: NAD 27 USGS Contour Date: 1980



**HANSEL & GRETEL**

**PERCUSSION  
GARDEN**

**BAILA BRAZIL  
CARNIVAL**

**ARTPARK FAIRY TALE FESTIVAL**

**EARTHSONG**

# Artpark



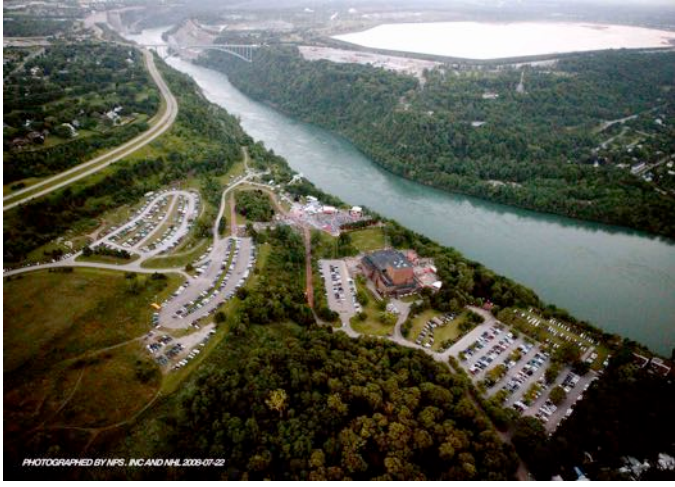
Aerial View of Artpark



Aerial View of Artpark from Canadian Side



Aerial View of Typical Concert



Aerial View of Artpark and Niagara River Gorge