



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **VisionCorps is looking for a mural artist**

**(LANCASTER, Penna.) April 8, 2026 – [VisionCorps](#)** is seeking a qualified artist or team of artists to paint a mural on its headquarters building located at 244 N. Queen St., Lancaster, as part of its 100-year anniversary celebration. VisionCorps is located on N. Queen St. between W. Walnut and W. Chestnut Sts. The brick wall space for the mural measures approximately 1,000 square feet and is intended to wrap around the southeast corner of the building with frontage on both Queen St. and above the driveway entrance (see enclosed photo).

"The goal of this new mural is to show that individuals in our community who are blind or vision impaired may not always be seen or noticed, but they are an important part of the community," said Megan Sofilka Tomsheck, VisionCorps president & CEO. "The intent of our artwork proposal is to not only beautify the 200 block of North Queen Street, but to honor the history of our building and our organization with a vibrant and inspiring work of art."

"VisionCorps' mission from its beginning in 1926 through today is to empower those who are blind and vision impaired to attain independence," said Tomsheck. "We expect this new mural to be a colorful testament to the strength and character of the blind community of Lancaster. We also want it to show our dedication to continuing to serve our community for the next 100 years, and beyond."

The design themes, said Tomsheck, should center on the meaning of "empowerment, inclusion, and independence as related to blind and low vision individuals. The design should celebrate a community that is equitable and inclusive for all, including those with vision loss." She said some visual elements could include: a white cane, a unique path, and natural beauty, as included in the landscapes of the five counties served by VisionCorps: Adams, Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York.

"Charles Demuth found our building inspiring enough to paint it twice," said Tomsheck. "It is our turn to give it the historical honor it deserves."

VisionCorps is a nonprofit agency that began in Lancaster. Over time, its footprint expanded into South-Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania as a resource for individuals with vision loss to learn to live independently. In addition to rehabilitation and preventative services, VisionCorps offers and encourages meaningful employment for

individuals who are blind. Services for clients, ages birth to 100+, are provided at no cost and are made possible through community support.

A timeline of VisionCorps' history can be found at the following link:

<https://services.visioncorps.net/about/history/>.

Artwork specifications are included in the Call for Arts Request for Qualifications (RFQ) that is being issued jointly by the City of Lancaster and VisionCorps. This commission is open to all professional artists, or a team of artists. Applicants must be 18 years or older and are preferred to reside in or near Lancaster County. Painting would ideally be included in some capacity on Friday, June 5, 2026, to coincide with VisionCorps' signature fundraising rappel event, [Eye Drop 2026](#).

To be considered, artists must submit:

- A statement of interest (including contact information)
- Resume
- 3-5 images of previous artwork relevant to the project scope.

Artists' request for consideration must be submitted via e-mail to Kirchoff by **Sunday, May 3 at 11:59 p.m.** Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

For more information or to submit a request for consideration, please contact Molly Kirchoff, City of Lancaster Office of Public Art, at [mkirchoff@cityoflancasterpa.gov](mailto:mkirchoff@cityoflancasterpa.gov) or (717) 847-0285.



**VisionCorps building located at 244 N. Queen St., Lancaster, PA.**

### **About VisionCorps**

VisionCorps is a nonprofit with a goal of empowering people who are blind or vision impaired to attain independence. The organization serves almost 2,000 individuals with rehabilitation services in Lancaster, Lebanon, Chester, York, and Adams counties. VisionCorps' prevention services include KidSight, which screens more than 11,000 children annually for vision loss.

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