

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



Lynn Randall  
Legislative Council Info.

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

July 27, 2000

TO: Members of the Legislative Council  
FROM: Sally   
SUBJECT: Per Cent for Art Committee: Progress Report

I wanted to give you a brief status report on yesterday's Per Cent for Art Committee meeting.

#### Background

Pursuant to the Committee's vote at its June 20 meeting to employ a "public" process to solicit artists (as opposed to soliciting proposals from a pre-selected group), the Arts Commission issued a press release to all of Maine's daily papers announcing the opportunity to propose work to be installed in the renovated State House. The Commission also did a mailing to all of the artists in the registry that it maintains.

#### Yesterday's Meeting

The purpose of yesterday's meeting was to give interested artists an opportunity to see the space and to ask questions regarding both the renovations project and the selection process. Committee members in attendance at yesterday's meeting included Senator Abromson, Rick Burt, and Nat Bowditch, who is one of the two members appointed by the Arts Commission. Joy, Joe and Millie also attended. Approximately 65 artists attended; and, as of yesterday, the Commission had sent out more than 100 information packets in response to the press release. Alden Wilson is pleased with the response and thinks that the Committee will have a good range of quality proposals to choose from.

Rick Burt used a series of short "movies" to give those in attendance a sense of the new West Wing entrance, the "plaza area", and the underground Connector. He specifically restated the interest that you expressed at your meeting on Tuesday that we explore opportunities to incorporate granite from the various parts of the State. The group in attendance included several sculptors who work with stone, and there seemed to be interest in pursuing this concept. Rick and Stan then walked the artists through the 1<sup>st</sup> floor construction area to give them a sense of the space.

## Next Steps

- Deadline for Artists' Submission of Preliminary Materials: August 18

This includes slides of existing work and a **brief** (250 word) proposal that describes the specific area the artist wishes to work with, the materials to be used, and a general discussion of the subject, or theme, of the work.

- Per Cent for Art Committee Meeting to Review Proposals: August 30

The goal for this meeting is to winnow the Proposals to a group of semi-finalists, who will then be asked to actually develop a sketch or model of their proposed piece. I have asked Alden Wilson and Paul Faria to assist Senator Abromson and Representative Watson in preparing a report to you on the results of this process.

The Arts Commission will put information about this project on its website; and I have asked Alden Wilson to contact Paul Mayotte when information is available so that the Legislature's website can include a direct link.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

## Enclosure

cc: Members of the State House Percent for Art Committee  
Alden Wilson and Paul Faria/Maine Arts Commission  
Paul Mayotte

**STATE HOUSE PERCENT FOR ART COMMITTEE**

**Membership  
May, 2000**

**Appointments by the Legislative Council**

Honorable Elizabeth Watson  
119<sup>th</sup> Maine House of Representatives

Honorable I. Joel Abromson  
119<sup>th</sup> Maine Senate

**Appointments by the Maine Arts Commission**

Richard Entel  
Artist

Nathaniel Bowditch  
Office of Tourism

**Architect**

Richard Burt  
Weinrich + Burt

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**Advisors**

Alden C. Wilson, Director  
Paul Faria, Public Art Associate  
Maine Arts Commission

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.  
Executive Director, Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
Chair, State House and Capitol Park Commission

**Secretary**

Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director of the Legislative Council