

# ROGERS BRIDGE PUBLIC ART PROJECT Small Works Finalist Orientation

A partnership between Fulton County and City of Johns Creek



FULTON COUNTY  
arts & culture

# Presentation Outline

- Introduction to the Fulton County Public Art Program
- Selection and Approval Process
- Payment Process for Proposals
- Proposal Requirements and Deadlines
- Artwork Goals
- Site Information



# // A Snapshot of the Fulton County Public Art Program

Entire collection can be viewed [here](#)

70

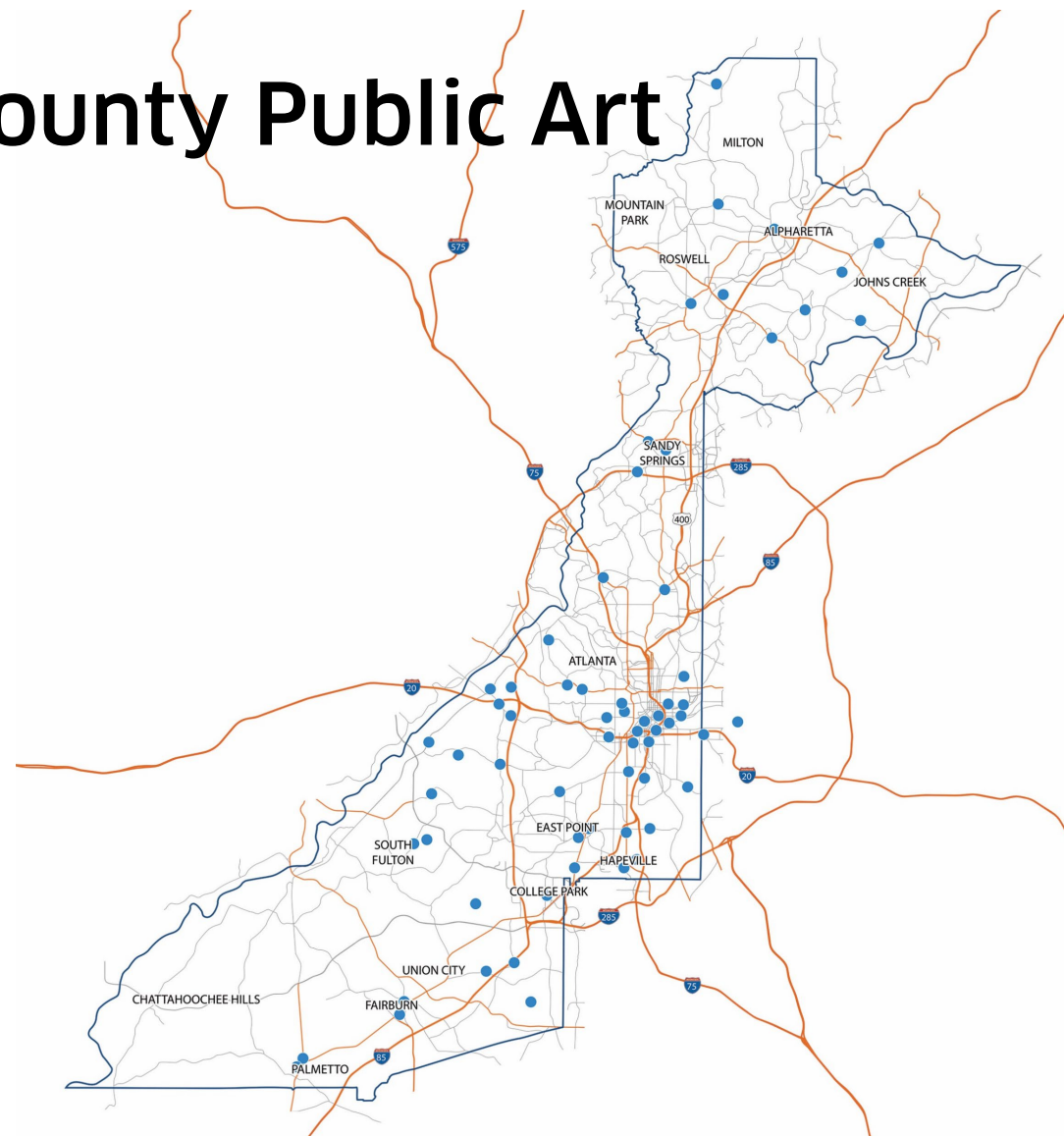
Commissioned  
projects since 1993

800+

Pieces acquired  
since 1993

70

Public art locations  
across Fulton County



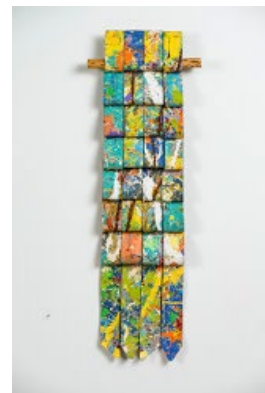
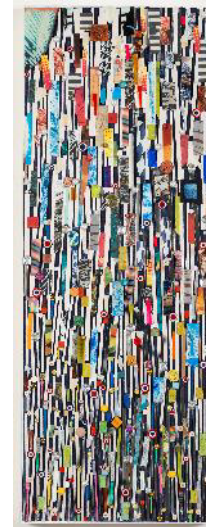


## // A Snapshot of the Public Art Program





## // A Snapshot of the Public Art Program



# A unique partnership for a unique project

- Fulton County and the City of Johns Creek
- Public Art Commission process lead by Fulton County
- Equal approval on the final artist selection
- 1 statement piece located on site at Rogers Bridge
- 3-5+ smaller pieces commissioned for 3 nearby County facilities and 2+ City locations (incl: Ocee Library, Northeast Spruill Oaks Library, Johns Creek Environmental Campus, City Hall, Cauley Creek Park etc)
- Exploring other options including repurposing the steel for trail markers, park furniture or sold to community for fundraising

# Artwork Goals

- Thoughtfully utilizes steel recycled from the historic Rogers Bridge;
- Highlights the unique design elements of the bridge;
- Acknowledges the historical importance of the bridge as part of a broader network of bridges across the Chattahoochee;
- Draws inspiration from the symbolism of a bridge connecting communities and linking the past, present, and future; and
- Makes reference to the Chattahoochee River which connects diverse communities throughout Fulton County and, more broadly, the role of water as the basis of sustaining life.

# Commission information

- Budget: \$54,700 inclusive of all costs (transport, fabrication, approvals, installation, site work)
- Locations for artwork:
  - Johns Creek Environmental Campus
  - Northeast/Spruill Oaks Branch Library
  - Ocee Branch Library



# The Steel





# The Steel





# The Steel





# History

- Johns Creek's past began in the early 19th century in the trading posts along the Chattahoochee River in what was then Cherokee Indian territory.
- The trading posts grew slowly into crossroads communities where pioneer families - Rogers, McGinnis, Findley, Buice, Cowart, Medlock and others - gathered to visit and sell their crops.
- By 1820, the community of Sheltonville (now known as Shakerag) was a ferry crossing site with the McGinnis Ferry and Rogers Ferry carrying people and livestock across the river for a small fee



# History

- In the 1820s, the discovery of gold in the foothills of Northeast Georgia inside the Cherokee Nation - approximately 45 miles north of today's Johns Creek - led to America's first Gold Rush, the eventual takeover of the Nation by the U.S. government in 1830 and the subsequent Trail of Tears.
- A few Cherokees remained, including Sarah Cordery (1785-1842), the wife of pioneer John Rogers (1774-1851), and their 12 children, including William Rogers (1805-1870), who fought for Cherokee rights during the last years of the Nation's existence in Georgia.

# History

- Circa 1900 - Medlock and Bell families acquired the Rogers family homestead and much of the surrounding land, which had already been gradually sold off by the Rogers family.
- Additional information: <https://www.johnscreekhhistory.org/history.htm>
- Videos:
  - [Link 1](#)
  - [Link 2](#)

# History – The Bridge

- Circa 1912 a steel pin truss bridge referred to as Rogers Bridge was constructed as a joint county project by Milton (now Fulton County) and Gwinnett Counties.
- Designed and constructed by the Roanoke Bridge Company
- Pennsylvania (Petit)-design pin connected thru truss bridge
- 228 feet long (longest truss span in the state)

# History – The Bridge

- Open to traffic until 1978
- Sometime during the 1980s the bridge deck was completely removed and a pipeline approximately 48" in diameter was installed through the middle of the bridge from one end to the other. The pipeline functions as the emergency water line between the two counties.