
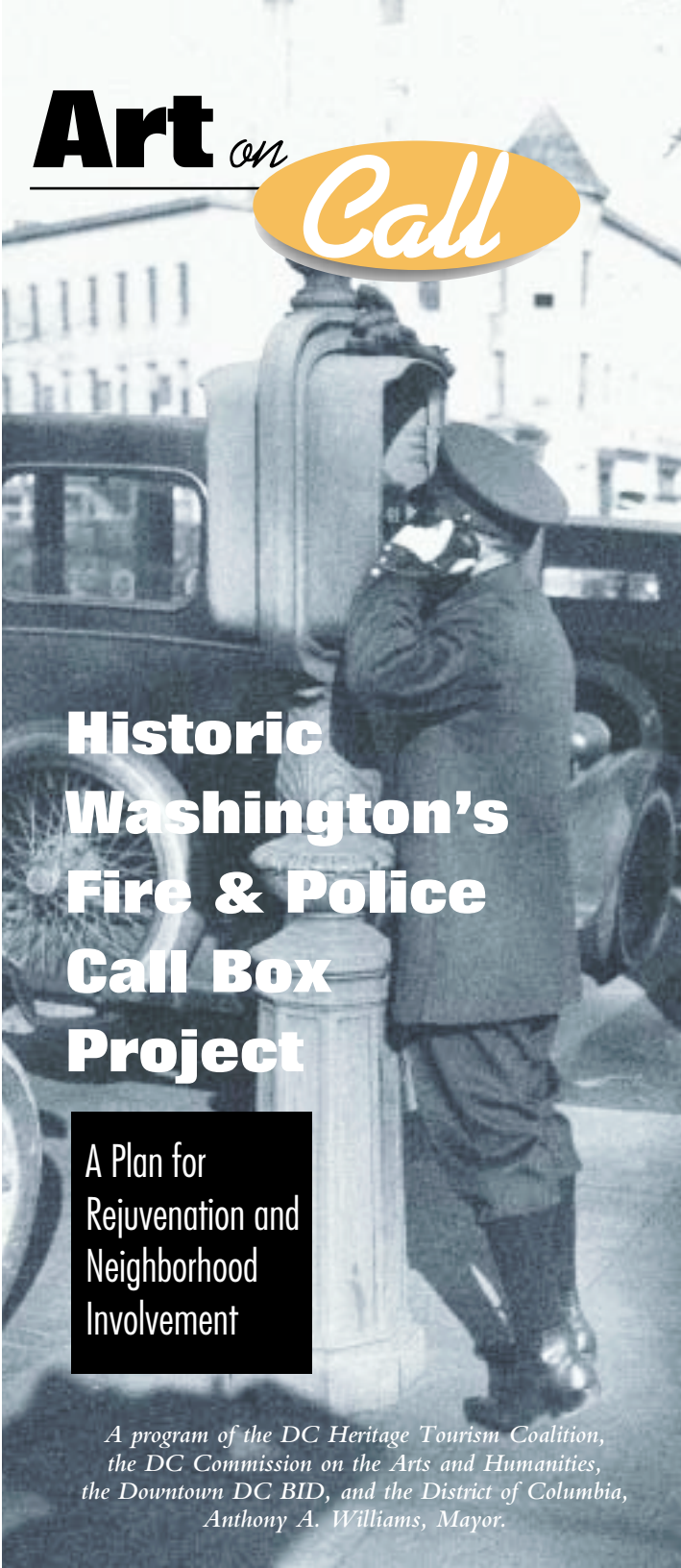




Checklist

- ❑ *You must be a non-profit neighborhood organization in order to adopt call boxes.*
- ❑ *Survey, photograph, and identify the condition of call boxes in your neighborhood.*
- ❑ *Call or e-mail DCHTC to obtain an information package: 202-661-7581 or callboxes@aol.com.*
- ❑ *Receive application instructions and prototype sketches.*
- ❑ *Sponsor a local meeting to exchange ideas, gather volunteers, meet artists and historians, and answer questions.*
- ❑ *Prepare Application:*
 - *Identify artist(s).*
 - *Identify historian(s).*
 - *Identify potential matching funds, commercial and in-kind.*
- ❑ *Submit application for spring, fall, or winter Art on Call Review Committee meeting.*
- ❑ *Receive approval for plan from the committee.*
- ❑ *Receive up to \$250 per box from the committee.*
- ❑ *Implement and publicize your call box project!*
- ❑ *Document project creation, work-in-progress, and final product.*
- ❑ *Submit brief final report to DCHTC.*


www.dch heritage.org
1250 H Street, Suite 850
Washington, DC 20005
202-661-7581
dch heritage.org

A black and white photograph of a fireman in a dark uniform and cap, standing next to a vintage fire truck. The fireman is looking towards the camera. The truck has a large cylindrical tank on its side.

Historic Washington's Fire & Police Call Box Project

A Plan for
Rejuvenation and
Neighborhood
Involvement

*A program of the DC Heritage Tourism Coalition,
the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities,
the Downtown DC BID, and the District of Columbia,
Anthony A. Williams, Mayor.*

Art on

Call

Historic Washington's Fire & Police Call Box Project

A Plan for Rejuvenation and Neighborhood Involvement

Introduction

In response to citywide citizen enthusiasm, the DC Heritage Tourism Coalition (DCHTC), the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and the Downtown DC Business Improvement District are working to identify, protect, renovate, and reuse the city's fire and police call boxes, which are currently abandoned and deteriorating.

The Department of Public Works will repair and strip lead-based paint from the call boxes, and DCHTC will coordinate community efforts to convert the boxes into true neighborhood icons. The DCHTC encourages established, non-profit neighborhood groups to participate in Art on Call, turning this historic street furniture into showcases for the unique history and culture of your communities.

The Art on Call call boxes will link art and history. Artists will decorate the box exteriors and historians will provide documents for the interiors such as old photographs, quotes from long-time residents, poems that capture the spirit of the place, or notes on historic events or personalities.

Step 1

Inventory

The first step in saving call boxes is a neighborhood survey of existing boxes.

Your survey will identify the location and type of call boxes and whether a box is already "adopted" by local schools or others.

Next, organize interested local citizens, artists, and those who know the community's history to plan which boxes you'd like to adopt and how they can best reflect the spirit and history of your neighborhood.

It is estimated that some 1,500 boxes remain within the city limits. They have been found in all quadrants of the city.

Organizations can obtain a copy of the standardized survey form in Microsoft Excel format by contacting: callboxes@aol.com, by calling 202-661-7581, or writing to DCHTC (see back of brochure). Interested artists and historians can connect with participants by calling DCHTC.

PROJECT SPONSORS



Step 2




Request Funds

Beginning in the spring of 2002, the Art on Call Review Committee of artists, historians, and civic leaders will meet three times annually—in fall, winter, and spring—to evaluate proposals and release up to \$250 per call box.

Groups applying for grants must be registered non-profits. They are expected to match each \$250 grant with \$250 in cash or documented in-kind services. Art on Call funds are to be applied toward the artist, historian, and/or project materials.

FUNDING CRITERIA

The committee looks for high-quality creative proposals that reflect the history and spirit of their specific neighborhoods. The committee will give preference to parties willing to adopt a series of boxes. Proposals will be judged on the basis of:

-  **Artistic Quality**, including personal artistic vision, relation to the site or neighborhood, unique design and lasting material.
-  **Historical Accuracy**, interest value, relationship to the historic and/or current neighborhood culture, quality of photographs, and relevance to local political, social, cultural, economic, or architectural elements.
-  **Durability and Appropriateness of Materials** that maintain the integrity of form. Attachments are possible only if they enhance rather than detract from the call box design.