

Correspondences Received by DHR

From: Marcia Cunningham <mjcid92@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 18, 2020 at 8:22 AM
Subject: Barbara Rose Johns sculptor?
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

My hometown of Auburn, New York is home to the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park. In 2019, a statue was unveiled in her honor at the NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center located next door to the William H. Seward House Museum in the heart of downtown. The Hanlon Sculpture Studio could be an excellent choice for the Barbara Rose Johns statue.

<https://www.localsyr.com/news/local-news/-10-million-auburn-welcome-center-opens-harriet-tubman-statue-unveiled/1594277038/>

https://auburnpub.com/news/local/i-just-cant-wait-harriet-tubman-statue-commissioned-for-downtown-auburn-welcome-center/article_5f7bab19-0e81-5ab7-a47a-ea8e43fcadf3.html

<https://www.hanlonsculpture.com/>

I highly support your choice of this amazing young woman—and have had the sobering privilege of visiting the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, KS.

Thank you.

Marcia Cunningham
Stephens City, VA

From: Mary Johnston-Clark <d.a.clark_sculpture@me.com>
Date: Mon, Dec 21, 2020 at 9:46 PM
Subject: Call for artist for new USCapitol sculpture?
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

Dear US Capitol commission- I am interested in submitting my qualification for this commission. Can you please provide me with additional information?

Thank you,
David Alan Clark
www.DavidAlanClark.com

From: Mary Johnston-Clark <d.a.clark_sculpture@me.com>
Date: Mon, Dec 21, 2020 at 9:46 PM
Subject: Call for artist for new USCapitol sculpture?
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

Dear US Capitol commission- I am interested in submitting my qualification for this commission. Can you please provide me with additional information?

Thank you,
David Alan Clark
www.DavidAlanClark.com

From: Terry Ward <tward@k12albemarle.org>
Date: Tue, Dec 22, 2020 at 4:51 PM
Subject: LEEout -BARBARA JOHNS statue sculptor, foundry nominations : Robert Bricker of Virginia
To: USCapitolCommission@DHR.virginia.gov
<USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>, Stephanie Williams
<stephanie.williams@dhr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Artist Robert Bricker - Bronze Craft foundry <RobertBricker@yahoo.com>

Hi DHR Lee statue deciders--
In follow-up to my earlier mention of artist and foundry-owner Robert Bricker as a good candidate to sculpt (or if not sculpt, at least to cast in bronze someone else's art) the Barbara Johns statue which will replace the Robert E. Lee statue, I visited the artist's facilities in Waynesboro and Charlottesville. I'm attaching my snapshots for your reference. He has a foundry/studio complex as big as a school gym with infrastructure able to cast metal statues of any size. In fact, he cast the famed Arthur Ashe memorial statue for Richmond's Monument Avenue, the Jennie Dean memorial, the epic King Neptune on the Virginia Beach boardwalk, and (smaller, of course) aviation's "Nobel Prize" the Collier Trophy. When the historic Iwo Jima memorial in DC developed stress cracks, Bricker was brought in to do repairs. At his foundry I saw impressive realistic statues of diverse-background male and female subjects including institutional leaders and at least one monumental Lincoln. I withdraw any past artist names I have mentioned because Robert Bricker so brightly outshines all others I've encountered.
His contact info:

(540)943-3558

RobertBricker@Yahoo.com

I encourage you to reach out to this gifted artist and experienced technician --not only about the new Barbara Johns statue, but also as an advisor for hauling down remaining inappropriate statues in Richmond and elsewhere.

Ongoing thanks, all, for your courage in taking Lee out of the capitol and, even better, replacing him with the candidate I supported in earlier testimony, Barbara Johns.

Keep on keeping on,

~ ~ ~

Terry Ward

Albemarle County Public Schools <<https://www.k12albemarle.org>>

Henley Middle School <<https://www.k12albemarle.org/school/hms/Pages/default.aspx>>

fine arts teacher

(drama & #2 art teacher)

Room 5

Eight ATTACHMENTS:



**SURVEY VISIT TO
ARTIST ROBERT BRICKER
DBA "BRONZE CRAFT
FOUNDRY" FACILITY,
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA**

**RICHMOND'S
MONUMENT AVE
ARTHUR ASHE STATUE
ORIGINAL BY
P. DIPASQUALE
FROM WHICH BRONZE
WAS CAST BY
ROBERT BRICKER**

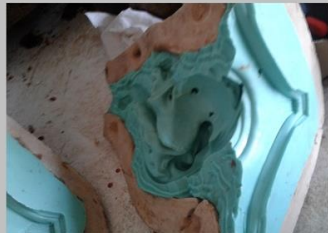
(images by Terry Ward, 2020 Dec.)



**SURVEY VISIT TO
ARTIST ROBERT BRICKER
DBA "BRONZE CRAFT
FOUNDRY" FACILITY,
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA**

**"NOBEL PRIZE" OF AVIATION,
THE COLLIER TROPHY
WHICH IS CAST BY
ROBERT BRICKER**

(images by Terry Ward, 2020 Dec.)



**SURVEY VISIT TO
ARTIST ROBERT BRICKER
DBA "BRONZE CRAFT
FOUNDRY" FACILITY,
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA**

**WAX AND PLASTER
ORIGINALS BY RB**

(images by Terry Ward, 2020 Dec.)



**SURVEY VISIT TO
ARTIST ROBERT BRICKER
DBA "BRONZE CRAFT
FOUNDRY" FACILITY,
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA**

**MISC PROJECTS PARTS
& ORIGINALS BY RB**

(images by Terry Ward, 2020 Dec.)



**SURVEY VISIT TO
ARTIST ROBERT BRICKER
DBA "BRONZE CRAFT
FOUNDRY" FACILITY,
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA**

**WAX, CLAY & PLASTER
ORIGINALS BY RB**

(images by Terry Ward, 2020 Dec.)





**SURVEY VISIT TO
ARTIST ROBERT BRICKER
DBA "BRONZE CRAFT
FOUNDRY" FACILITY,
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA**

**MISC RB-MADE BRONZES
(AT C-VILLE SITE)**

(images by Terry Ward, 2020 Dec.)



**SURVEY VISIT TO
ARTIST ROBERT BRICKER
DBA "BRONZE CRAFT
FOUNDRY" FACILITY,
WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA**

**VIEWS OF THE VAST
SCHOOL-GYM-SIZED
STUDIO/FOUNDRY
FACILITY**

(images by Terry Ward, 2020 Dec.)



From: Elizabeth Helm <elizabeth@nationalsculpture.org>

Date: Wed, Dec 23, 2020 at 9:46 AM

Subject: Commission For Historical Statues In The United States Capitol

To: USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

Dear Sir or Madam, If possible, the National Sculpture Society would like to receive notification of the RFQ/RFP for the new statue of Barbara Rose Johns when available.

For more than 120 years, our members have created, exhibited, collected and supported the evolving tradition in American sculpture. I'm sure a few of our members would be interested in learning of such an important commission.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

Best,

Elizabeth Helm

National Sculpture Society

212-764-5645 x 102

From: **Rick Tatnall** <rick@pocahontasproject.org>

Date: Mon, Nov 30, 2020 at 7:48 AM

Subject: Introducing Benjamin Victor - I suggest the Commonwealth take full advantage of his unique expertise and knowledge

To: kelly.thomasson@governor.virginia.gov <kelly.thomasson@governor.virginia.gov>, julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov <julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov>

Cc: elizabeth.woodhead@governor.virginia.gov <elizabeth.woodhead@governor.virginia.gov>, stephanie.williams@dhr.virginia.gov <stephanie.williams@dhr.virginia.gov>, Steele, Carol <csteele@gloucesterva.info>

Dear Secretary Thomasson and Director Langan,

Along the journey with the Gloucester students promoting the Pocahontas nomination for the statue in the US Capitol I have had the opportunity to connect with some amazing people interested in our efforts. One of those folks is Benjamin Victor who happens to be the youngest sculptor to ever have a work in the National Statuary Hall. He also is the only living sculptor with 3 sculptures in Statuary Hall:

2005 – Sarah Winnemucca – Nevada (at age 26)

2014 – Norman Borlaug – Iowa

2019 – Standing Bear – Nebraska

Mr. Victor has a keen interest in Pocahontas - he and I are working on a plan for a statue of Pocahontas to be placed in the City of Richmond, the Capitol of the Commonwealth. Mr. Victor understands and appreciates the Commonwealth of Virginia is looking for a Virginia artist for the new US Capitol statue and told me he would be happy to offer assistance to the process if requested. I am writing to suggest the Commonwealth of Virginia take full advantage of Mr. Victor's unique expertise and knowledge in the subject of placing a statue in the National Statuary Hall.

After speaking with Mr. Victor I better understand the complexities of the precise rules, procedures and requirements of the *Architect of the Capitol*. Mr. Victor has gone through this process 3 times, including in 2019. He knows the people, the rules, and the pitfalls, and I expect he could help the Commonwealth save time and money while avoiding mistakes. The complexity of the process is even more daunting for the artist who must keep both the Commonwealth and the Architect of the Capitol happy. The fact that Mr. Victor has successfully navigated that process 3 times for 3 different states speaks to his capacity to offer important advice and counsel to the chosen Virginia artist.

So, I introduce you to Benjamin Victor. His contact information and website is below.

Benjamin Victor

bvictor@benjaminvictor.com

www.benjaminvictor.com

[605-380-4528](tel:605-380-4528)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Rick Tatnall
Executive Director - The Pocahontas Project
(804) 325-3674

From: Rachel Hinnant <RHinnant@flinthill.org>

Date: Sun, Feb 7, 2021 at 7:26 AM

Subject: new monument

To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

Dear Commission,

I am writing to see if it might be possible for one of your members to meet virtually with my fourth grade class to talk about the process of choosing the historical figure to be honored in the new monument.

Thank you for considering,

Rachel Hinnant
Flint Hill School
Oakton, Virginia