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## Wheeling Heritage seeks community helps with Wheeling Alphabet Project

WHEELING, W.Va. – February 21, 2023 – Wheeling Heritage, in partnership with the Wheeling Arts and Culture Commission, is calling on the community to choose which Wheeling iconography should be included in a new collaborative art project. The Wheeling Alphabet project will be comprised of 26 letters of the alphabet, each representing something unique to Wheeling. From "A for Almost Heaven" to "Z for Betty Zane" and everything in between, this art project will be brimming with Wheeling pride.

Wheeling Heritage and the Wheeling Arts and Culture Commission are seeking input from the community to help determine what each letter should represent. Afterward, project organizers will meet to determine the finalist and work with local artists who will produce their interpretation of each letter and theme.

This project is made possible by Wheeling Heritage and the Wheeling Arts and Cultural Commission, but not without the help and encouragement of one art loving Wheelingite. The initial concept of this project was brought forth by Wheeling resident, Pat Jeffers. Pat has long been a supporter of the arts, and when she came across the concept of a city alphabet while traveling, she was inspired to make something similar happen right here in her hometown.

"I have always been proud to be from Wheeling," says Jeffers. "I think this project will remind people of many of the great things about this city and highlight the tremendous arts community we have here."

The poll is live and available for the community to vote on what should be included in the Wheeling alphabet. Those who participate will have the option to choose pre-determined options for each letter or write in their own thoughts. Responses will be collected through Friday, March 20 and is available at wheelingheritage.org.

The project will culminate later this year with a gallery exhibition on West Virginia Day- June 20. At that time, the original artwork will be revealed, and merchandise will be available for purchase. Artist who are interested in participating in this project, visit <a href="https://wheeling-a-z/">wheeling-a-z/</a> to learn more and apply by Friday, March 31.

## **About Wheeling Heritage:**

<u>Wheeling Heritage</u> is a catalyst for the revitalization of Wheeling. Through historic preservation, community development, and the arts, we help to tell Wheeling's story and shape its future. We seek to improve the quality of life in Wheeling by preserving and investing in our city, collaborating with others, and engaging the citizens of Wheeling in our work.