

New Hampshire  
State Council on the

Arts



**New Hampshire's**

**Percent for Art Program**

*A Public Process for Public Buildings*

**Hillsborough County Courthouse,  
Manchester**

**A Renovation Project**

**2011 – 2013\***

\*Approved in FY2010 Capital Budget

# About the Hillsborough County Courthouse

Hillsborough County constructed the original courthouse in 1968 and in 1989 the State of New Hampshire purchased it from the County. The current renovation and expansion was approved in fiscal year 2010 to service the increasing number of court cases and to ensure the safety of court visitors and staff. The renovation has resulted additions to the east and west sides of the building and a complete remodeling of the interior of the building. Veteran's Park in downtown Manchester is adjacent to the courthouse and is widely used by the public.

# Desired Themes for Artwork

The Site Selection Committee identified these themes, metaphors and tone for the artwork.

- history of Hillsborough County
- history of Manchester's Veterans Park adjacent to the site
- crisp / specific / singular / strong
- history of Amoskeag textile heritage/industry
- granite imagery as a symbol of strength
- history of New Hampshire
- calming / quiet
- reflective / warm / visually inviting and engaging
- justice / balance
- humane / civic and community minded
- jurors / judges / judicial hierarchy
- fairness / welcoming / friendly
- inspirational / positive future / outlook



***Textures and Impressions of the Merrimack River* by Teresa Taylor –  
Ceramic tile relief wall sculptures in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lobby area.**



**From Teresa's artist statement:**

*“When I work sculpturally, my work is inspired by botanical forms, sea life, and microscopic organisms. Clay permits me to respond to the world around me, while stretching, texturing, rolling, throwing and altering the material to record my impressions.”*



***We the People* by Ingrid Pichler – one of two hanging sculptures in the open wells of the courthouse**



**The sculptures consist of suspended Plexiglas shapes representing floating sheets of paper and inscribed with abstracted text from the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and other legal documents. The sculptures invite viewers to consider that we govern ourselves through mutually agreed-upon principles. Blank forms convey that as communities evolve, some laws are yet to be written.**



**Pichler and Taylor's artwork on display**



# Percent for Art Program

- To learn more about New Hampshire's Percent for Art Program visit:
  - <http://www.nh.gov/nharts/programservices/percentforart.htm>
- Would you like to learn about future Request for Artist Proposals? visit:
  - <http://www.nh.gov/nharts/newsandcalendar/pdf/e-newssubscriptionform.pdf>