

Observer-Dispatch

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Artist's work will take shape in Hamilton

HAMILTON —

Over the past several years, the artist Allan McCollum has developed “The Shapes Project,” a system that can produce 31 billion unique two-dimensional “shapes,” more than enough to create an individual shape for every person on the planet. In a communitywide collaboration among the artist, the townspeople and the students, staff and faculty of Colgate University, McCollum will lead “Shapes for Hamilton,” in which he will create a unique shape for each inhabitant of the geo-political entity of the town of Hamilton. Colgate University's Institute for the Creative and Performing Arts and the Department of Art and Art History will kick off the event with a talk by McCollum, artist-in-residence at Colgate, at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3, in Golden Auditorium, Little Hall. At the conclusion of the project – which will include an exhibition of the complete set of the nearly 6,000 shapes at Colgate's Clifford Gallery – each resident will be invited to collect their own shape provided free and signed by the artist. Allan McCollum was born in California in 1944, and lives and works in New York. He has produced public art projects in the United States and Europe, and his works are held in nearly 70 major art museum collections worldwide. To find out more about “Shapes for Hamilton,” McCollum or the ICPA at Colgate University, e-mail akowalski@colgate.edu or visit artsinstitute.colgate.edu/.