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**NEW ROGER TORY PETERSON MURAL IN JAMESTOWN, NY
Ribbon Cutting Scheduled for June 19, 2025**

Jamestown, NY – June 17, 2025 – Roger Tory Peterson Institute to cut the ribbon on a major mural celebrating the legacy of Roger Tory Peterson on Thursday, June 19 at 5:15 pm at the Pearl City Arts Center.

The public art scene in downtown Jamestown is getting a boost with the addition of a new mural honoring the legacy of Roger Tory Peterson. Born and raised in Jamestown, Roger is renowned throughout the world for his *Peterson Field Guide to the Birds*, which has inspired millions of people to become passionate bird watchers.

“Jamestown has a rich tradition of public art murals,” said Arthur Pearson, CEO of the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. “I can’t think of a more fitting way to celebrate Roger’s monumental impact on the world than with a monumentally-sized work of public art.”

Located on the Pearl City Arts Center, the mural is five stories tall. It depicts Roger, binoculars in hand, art brushes on his hip, surrounded by a swirl of some of the most iconic birds he painted – including an Eastern Bluebird, the state bird of New York.

To create the mural, RTPI commissioned artist Chuck Tingley, a Buffalo-based artist whose public art projects may be found throughout Western New York. “My vision,” said Tingley, “is that the mural be a vibrant celebration for the Jamestown community and its visitors, honoring Roger Tory Peterson and bringing awareness to RTPI’s vital mission: inspiring others to see, study, and protect the beauty of the natural world.”

Funding for the mural was generously provided by the Gebbie Foundation. RTPI is equally grateful to Cynthia and Mark Carlson of the Pearl City Arts Center, for their enthusiastic support for the project.

The ribbon cutting is scheduled for Thursday, June 19 at 5:15 pm at the Pearl City Arts Center, located at 120 Foundry Alley, Jamestown. Free commemorative cans of root beer will be available, courtesy of Wicked Warren’s.

The ribbon cutting is the “Jump Start” to the Third Thursday Jamestown event. Following the ribbon cutting, guests are invited to remain downtown for a free Third Thursday event featuring live music from 6 to 9 pm in the Winter Garden Plaza, located at 313 N Main Street. (Sponsored by Jamestown Renaissance Corporation, Gebbie Foundation, LiveCHQ, Chautauqua County IDA and SitlerHQ.)

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Home to the largest collection of Peterson's original artwork, the Roger Tory Peterson Institute is the living embodiment of the Peterson Field Guide. Through art exhibitions and programs, RTPi illuminates the beauty of nature, challenges us to confront the critical conservation challenges of our time, and inspires us to preserve the earth's biodiversity. For more information, visit <https://rtpi.org/>.

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