Need inspiration?

**For contemporary subjects:**

Kids/people, especially in locations recognizable as Tolland, schools, fields, parks, playgrounds, trails, waterfalls/ponds, farms, the seasons, houses and buildings old and new, gardens, buildings that have been re-purposed, Tolland Green scenes, bridges, cell towers, signs…

**For historical subjects:**

Tolland Historical Society: View both interior and exterior views of their three museums on their website [www.tollandhistorical.org](http://www.tollandhistorical.org).

Benton Homestead, open Sundays at 1 beginning June 1.
The Benton was built about 1720. Great site for both exterior woodland views and interiors illustrative of Colonial life and architecture. Check out the cellar that was used as a jail during the Revolutionary War.

Old Jail Museum, open Sundays noon to 3 beginning May 24.
The cell block dates from1856, and the jailer’s home from 1893. Pre-Civil War and Victorian charm. The stark stone, brick, and bars of the cell block offer an interesting study of light and dark contrast.

Tolland County Courthouse, open Sundays 1-4 beginning May 24.
The courthouse was built in 1822 and used until the 1890s. Great windows, interesting lines in the furniture. Architecturally beautiful Greek revival style.

Hicks-Stearns Family Museum, open by appointment. Call 860.875.7552

The museum is a 1790s house and inn (The Sign of the Yellow Ball) that was remodeled again and again and lived in (seasonally) until 1974. Lots of Victorian tchotchkes and furniture. Cool exteriors of the architectural design elements of Victorian gingerbread.

Arts Center: We’re closed for the summer, but you can view the exterior of the building anytime. Check out the 1872 building with fieldstone foundation and the gardens.

**Miscellaneous**
Several of Tolland’s old **one-room schools** are still standing, most having been converted into private homes. Can you find them on Mile Hill Road, Route 74, Grant Hill Road? Compare them with the architecture of the new high school, or the 1908 Hicks Memorial School (the current brick town hall).

Dick Symonds wrote a book about the **old dams** in Tolland, many of which still exist. Check with the Historical Society or the library.

There are historical photos of Tolland in the 300th Anniversary Commemorative Program which might inspire you.

**Titles**If possible, the title of your artwork should reflect its link to Tolland, e.g. *Blue Heron on Charter Marsh, Little League Game at Crandall’s Park, Cell Block at the Old Jail, Peonies on Mile Hill Road, Brook in Weigold Conservation Area,* etc.