

Open Call – A Call for Peace Mural Project

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit x City Walls

Deadline to apply: December 23, 2023

City Walls Detroit together with The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and Spacelabs Detroit is seeking artists (or collaborative teams) to create one new mural at the YMCA. This project will be executed in the service of promoting the City of Detroit as a vibrant community. The mural theme is based and derived from a place of civic pride, and it strives to have a deep connection with residents. The number one principal of the City Walls program is that the artwork that is created represents the values and identity of the community it is created with, and this project is no exception. The City of Detroit has a vision for community members to feel connected to each other, take shared responsibility for their neighborhoods, feel empowered to make a change in their environment, and envision a positive future for themselves, the built environment, and their children. The commission is being managed by City Walls Detroit in conjunction with Spacelab Detroit.

YMCA Vision Statement

“Stand for something” is an ongoing conversation series designed by community by building bridges woven together from diverse perspectives. The ultimate aim is to inspire our YMCA family to create a culture of inclusivity which consists of virtual meetings, two to four times annually that addresses our region’s most crucial community concerns. Peace is our focus as a direct response to rising gun violence, domestic violence, and war.

Peace is defined as the freedom from disturbance. It is a concept of friendship and harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. The YMCA is a convener of community and a center of peace for many. In a two-page conversation series, we will discuss the intersections of faith and gun prevention with civic and faith leaders. This project will culminate with this mural being created by community members and the YMCA Stakeholders. Through service engagement, participants will stand for peace, foster connections, and respects differences to create a lasting work of art.

Community Vision Statement

The YMCA aims to create a culture of inclusivity. Birthed from community engagement and intentional dialogue, artists will glean inspiration from a conversation that discusses the intersections of faith, mental health and gun violence prevention. This project will culminate with a community mural created by you, with input from community members and YMCA stakeholders. Through this service engagement, we hope to invoke a stance for peace, foster connections across differences and create a lasting work of art that impacts generations.

Please use this information to inspire your submissions.

PROJECT GOALS:

- Build awareness of the YMCAs commitment to inclusion and belonging
- Provide a space for individuals to connect and engage with others in the community
- Invoke hope and energy in participants to unify peace in others
- Share gun violence prevention resources with community stakeholders
- Elevate the commonality of various faith/theology/spiritual practices
- Create a mural that bridges community, enhances the beauty of the space and highlights the identity and values supported by the YMCA

The Project

Project Schedule

- November 23, 2023: Open Call Released
- December 6, 2023: Call for Peace Community Conversation (**Artists interested in applying for this project are strongly encouraged to attend.**)
- December 8, 2023: Deadline for Questions (Submit to citywalls@detroitmi.gov)
- December 23, 2023: Open Call Closes
- January 15, 2024: Artist/Artist Teams Announced for MLK Day Call for Peace Community Conversation
- Late January to Mid-March: Art Production
- April 2024: Mural Complete - Celebration and Unveiling

Artist Scope of Work

Artist/Artist Team Responsibilities:

The selected artist/artist team will be required to work in collaboration with City of Detroit. Artist/artist teams should be prepared to share their personal practice with the community as this is inherently a group project.

Artist/artist teams are responsible for:

- **Artists interested in applying for this project are strongly encouraged to attend meeting on December 6, 2023!**
- Artists to submit preliminary sketches for printed and installed mural that will be displayed in The Boll Family YMCA. We are looking for a diverse range of artists and styles to represent the community and create a vibrant and welcoming space.

- Artists must be able to produce a high-quality, durable mural that is appropriate for public display.
- Conducting research to better understand the site, the project, the community's history and current culture, along with any other elements deemed helpful to their creative process.
- Develop concepts and rendering of mural for the project site.
- Present concepts and refinements
- Create a final approved concept and design for the mural.
- For any art component identify and secure the services of suppliers, fabricators, installers, and other professional as necessary to fulfill the artist's responsibilities in the production and completion of the work.
- Fulfill the responsibilities within the contracted budget and timeline.
- Participate in an unveiling.

City Walls/Spacelab Detroit responsibilities:

- Coordinate reviews and permissions regarding artist selection and concept development
- Coordinate marketing, documentation, and public engagement

Budget

The overall budget: \$5,000

Artwork will be printed and installed by professional installer. This budget is all-inclusive, including but not limited to artist's fees, artist's assistant costs, artist's studio costs, materials, and supplies, specify consultants, community engagement participation, and installation of all artworks.

Artist Selection Process

Eligibility

We are seeking artists or artist teams who can make a commitment to working in Detroit as necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of this project. Any artist or artist team is encouraged to apply.

Process

This will be an open call. Qualifications, portfolios, and statements will be solicited by City Walls Detroit. City Walls Detroit and its selection panel will review the artist submission and identify one team per project to be selected for the project.

Selection Criteria

Winning artists/artist team will be selected based on the selection panel's evaluation of the following criteria.

- 10pts Experience in community engaged art process and research.
- 30pts Experience in creating permanent, durable, outdoor public artwork.
- 30pts Ability to accomplish projects of a similar complexity within the budget, timeline, and technical constraints presented, based on examples of prior works.
- 5pts Artist Statement
- 10pts Detroit Based Artist
- 15pts Preliminary Sketches

Selection panel consists of 1 member from each category below:

- Department of Neighborhoods
- City Walls
- YMCA Representative
- Community Member
- Community Member
- Community Member
- Community Member
- Community Member

Application

Along with completing the online form Interested artist/artist team should submit:

- A project brief table of contents page including the names and contact information
- A CV or resume for each artist (1 page per artist)
- Up to 3 images of past work you consider relevant to this project
 - Digital images must be JPEG files
 - Each image must be unlocked and downloadable for viewing
 - Each JPEG image must be titled with the artist's name and image number.
 - Example: SaraSmith001, SaraSmith002
 - Upload 1 sheet with the following information
 - Image name, Title of artwork, location, date of completion, budget, medium, and dimensions; Up to 4 sentences of project description & include 2 references of previous public art clients
- **Up to 2 images of preliminary sketches**

Submission Instructions

A link to the Submission form can be found electronically at this web address:
cityofdetroit.org/citywalls/CTA

Questions can be submitted to citywalls@detroitmi.gov