

Open Call: Show Love: The Detroit Way

Deadline to apply: March 19, 2023

The City of Detroit has a vision for neighbors to feel connected to each other, to foster a sense of belonging, and have a collective say for what happens in their neighborhoods. Residents will have the opportunity to share their perspectives and bring their expertise to inform the artwork that will be created in their space, and that will provide inspiration to envision a positive future for themselves, their children, and the built environment.

The commission is being managed by City Walls Detroit in conjunction with Spacelab Detroit.

Vision Statement:

As we have learned through the pandemic outdoor public spaces are our most important spaces. Even when we couldn't be with each other we could be outside. It's now more important than ever to ensure our public spaces are healthy, safe, inviting, and empowering. What we see plays a pivotal role in how we see. Our built environment influences who we are, how we feel, and what we become. This project aims to harness public space and help to ensure we continue to move in that direction.

When you ask most Detroiters how they feel about Detroit, in their response you will feel the sense of pride that radiates when one speaks about our beloved city! Detroit Love is so tangible, whether you were born here, raised here, and/or currently thrive here you feel the unconditional love for the place we all call home. Keep searching and you will discover gems in history, humble beginnings, stories of love, tales of loss, legacies of determination and boldness, along with countless triumphs that have only served to strengthen our shared community fabric that weaves us all together.

With this open call, **Show Love the Detroit Way: What is Detroit to You?** we are looking for local artists to highlight and visualize what all this means to them. All themes are on the table. We want to discover and celebrate the inspiration behind Detroit Love and let it shine all across the city.

Here are some prompts that may help to jolt your inspiration creativity and thought:

1. What would you write in a love letter to Detroit?
2. Where are the places you hang out in Hitsville, USA? Who's there?
3. Do you represent the 313? Where? When? How should it be done?
4. Who are some of the everyday people in your life that inspire you? What do they do what they do when they are doing what they do?
5. What makes you think about the Paris of the West? Clothes, Music, Food, Dance, Local Creations, Dreams, History, Future...
6. Why is Motown the place to be?
7. What are some things that people don't know about the Motor City?
8. Why is Detroit the place to be?

The Project

Project Location Scope

Locations will be located throughout the city and the size of the wall will vary however they are not to exceed 750 square feet unless agreed upon by the artist and the city before the mural painting begins.

Project Schedule

- February 14, 2023: CTA Released
- March 1, 2023: Deadline for Questions
- March 16, 2023, 2022: CTA Closes
- Late April 2023: Artist Announced
- July 2023: Art Production

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:
 - 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 renderings of mural for the project site
 - Present concepts and refinements
 - Create a final approved concept and design for the mural
 - Fulfill the responsibilities within the contracted budget and timeline
 - Participate in an unveiling

City Walls Detroit responsibilities:

- Coordinate reviews and permissions regarding artist selection and concept development
- Coordinate marketing, documentation, and public engagement
- Printing, Fabrication, and Installation of the final artwork

Budget

The overall budget: \$7,500 per Project

Walls not to exceed 750 square feet unless otherwise agreed in advance with artist.

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, and community engagement participation.

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 artist/artist 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:

- 15pts Experience in community engaged art process and research
- 25pts Experience in creating permanent, durable, outdoor public artwork
- 25pts Ability to accomplish projects of a similar complexity within the budget, timeline, and technical constraints presented, based on examples of prior works
- 10pts Artist Statement
- 10pts Detroit Based Artist
- 15pts Preliminary Sketches

For each wall a Selection panel consists of 1 member from each category below:

- Department of Neighborhoods
- City Walls
- Arts Professional in District 1
- Arts Professional in District 2
- Arts Professional in District 3
- Arts Professional in District 4
- Arts Professional in District 5
- Arts Professional in District 6
- Arts Professional in District 7

Application

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

- A project brief page including the name(s) 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
- Up to 2 images of preliminary sketches
 - Digital images must be JPEG files
 - Each image must be unlocked and downloadable for viewing
 - Upload 1 sheet with the following information per image
 - 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

Questions can be submitted to citywalls@detroitmi.gov