

Open Call: The Whole is Greater than Its Parts Detroit Artists Apprenticeship Program (DAAP)

Deadline to apply: 9/3/2024

The Power of the Collective: Become a Mentor or Mentee in the new Detroit Artist Apprenticeship Program (DAAP)!

Inspired by the philosophy of Aristotle, "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts," DAAP seeks to connect experienced artists (mentors) with those seeking guidance and/or opportunities as emerging artists (mentees) to foster connections, increase collaboration, and nourish growth in Detroit artist community.

Since we are in the Motor City you might think about it like this... just like the components of a car, those parts can't come alive unless assembled to make the WHOLE and once the ignition turns and only with all the parts working together can that car truly be on the road with it!

We believe our greatest potential is achieved through connection. We also receive many submissions and inquiries from folks who would like to know how to become more involved, develop their skills, and are looking for the opportunity to contribute. We believe that this is that opportunity.

Are you an emerging artist looking to:

- Gain valuable insights from an experienced professional?
- Develop your skills and refine your craft?
- Receive guidance and support as you navigate your creative journey?

If you answered yes, then being a mentee in our DAAP program is perfect for you!

Are you a seasoned artist who:

- Enjoys helping others grow and develop their talents?
- Possesses a wealth of knowledge and experience to share?
- Wants to empower future generations of Detroiters?

Then we encourage you to become a mentor in DAAP program!

Project Overview

- This project aims to foster artistic collaboration and growth through a mentor-mentee relationship. Mentors and mentees will work together to produce collaborative artwork that embodies this concept and produces public artwork in various locations across the city.
- 20 emerging artists will be selected for the project
- Each artist will receive a \$10,000 award
- 4 Mentors will be selected for the project
- Each Mentor will receive a \$10,000 award
- Each mentor will have a cohort of 5 emerging artists
- Each emerging artist will paint 5 murals not to exceed 120 square feet each

Project Goals

- **Build strong mentor-mentee relationships:** Create a supportive environment for artistic growth and knowledge sharing.
- **Explore the concept of "whole > parts":** Investigate how individual contributions combine to form a cohesive and impactful artwork.
- **Develop collaborative artistic skills:** Enhance communication, compromise, and teamwork.
- **Produce collaborative artwork:** Create a tangible representation of the mentor-mentee partnership that results in the ability to complete larger and more complex future projects for the emerging artist. While these walls are small the skills learned will be transferrable and be able to be skilled up to scale.

Project Process

1. **Mentor-Mentee Pairing:** Thoughtfully matched mentors and mentees based on shared interests, artistic styles, and experience levels.
2. **Conceptualization:** Mentors and mentees will engage in open dialogue to develop a shared artistic vision that aligns with the "whole > parts" theme with input from the local stakeholders where the artwork is created.
4. **Individual Contributions:** Each participant will create individual artworks.
5. **Reflection:** Participants will reflect on the collaborative process, the challenges and successes, and the growth achieved through the project.

Here's How it Works:

- **Mentees & Mentors:** Apply online and be matched with a compatible mentor/mentee based on your interests' style and goals.
- **Mentors & Mentees:** Work together to create a personalized mentorship plan that outlines processes goals and expectations for each project.
- **Mentorship Sessions:** Engage in regular meetings with each other and/or with City Walls (in-person, on mural sites, or virtual) to discuss your progress, receive feedback, and gain valuable insights on how to get projects completed.
- **Mentees are Expected to Create Murals individually at the Discretion of the Mentors and/or City Walls.**

Project Schedule:

- 8/12/2024: Open Call released
- 8/28/2024: Deadline for question submissions
- 9/3/2024: Open Call closes
- Mid to Late September: Artist or artist team announced
- Murals to be completed by Summer 2025

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to connect, collaborate, and grow!

Application 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.

Submit your portfolio, qualifications, and artist statement to City Walls Detroit.

We'll review applications with a panel of Detroit Residents, community members, stakeholders, & arts professionals to select the 4 mentors and 20 mentees to participate in the WHOLE > parts residency/mentorship.

Selection Criteria:

Mentors will be selected based on the section panel's evaluation of the following criteria:

- 20pts Experience in creating permanent, durable, outdoor public artwork
- 15pts Ability to accomplish projects of a similar complexity within the budget, timeline, and technical constraints presented, based on examples of prior works
- 15pts Experience in community engaged art process and research
- 25pts Artist Statement
- 15pts Detroit Based Artist

Mentees will be selected based on the section panel's evaluation of the following criteria:

- 25pts Portfolio
- 15pts Ability to accomplish projects of a similar complexity
- 15pts Experience in community engaged art process and research
- 30pts Artist Statement
- 15pts Detroit Based Artist

The Selection panel consists of 1 member from each category below:

- City Walls
- Arts Professional/Community Member
- Arts Professional/Community Member
- Arts Professional/Community Member
- Arts Professional/Community Member
- Arts Professional/Community Member

Applications 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 5 images of past work you consider relevant to this project

If you have any questions, contact citywalls@detroitmi.gov before August 28th .

Together, let's make the whole greater than the sum of its parts!