

**Location:** Selden Manor – 686 Selden

**Artist:** Ivan Montoya

**Description of Project:** Ivan is an artist in the City Walls Blight Abatement Artist Residency Program (which is detailed below). Ivan’s proposal included a cohesive theme with separate elements for each wall, in this case, floral vases representing the four seasons. Ivan pulled inspiration from the ornamental millwork at the front entrance of Selden Manor to incorporate that into designs of the vases. The color palettes and flowers themselves symbolize each season, going from Summer to Spring. Ivan received feedback from the residents and stakeholders to leave the masonry as the background for these flowers, along with determining the height of the artwork.

In addition, Ivan walks his dog and goes for runs in this area almost daily and to him, it always felt as though those walls needed a bit of color, especially in the great golden hour light that hits that wall directly. Ivan’s hope is that this mural livens up Selden & Third St. up during the winter season. Ivan was a “shoe-in” after he shared this story with the residents and building owners, ultimately, they agreed that Ivan should paint the mural.

Since the completion, the mural has been well received and by residents, visitors, and neighbors alike.

**Before Mural:**



**Current Photograph of Mural:**



# Blight Abatement Artist Residency Program

- Goals:
  - To transform blighted walls and interested business walls into vibrant murals that celebrate the diversity and creativity of Detroit.
  - To empower Detroit artists and give them a platform to share their work with the community.
  - To improve the public image of Detroit and make it a more attractive place to live, work, and visit.
- Scope:
  - The program will select three Detroit artists to participate in City Walls residency.
  - The artists will work with the community, business owners, and stake holders and the Blight Abatement team to select three walls to paint murals on.
  - The murals will be in high-traffic areas of Detroit.
  - The artists will be provided with a stipend, materials, and assistance from the Blight Abatement team.
- Deliverables:
  - 5 completed murals.
  - A final report from the artists on their experiences in the program.
- Success Metrics:
  - The murals are well-received by the community.
  - The artists are satisfied with their experiences in the program.
  - The program helps to improve the public image of Detroit.

In addition to the above, the following are some additional considerations for the BAARP:

- The selection of artists should be diverse and represent the different cultures and communities of Detroit.
- The murals should be visually appealing and reflect the values of the city.
- The murals should be in areas that are easily accessible to the public.
- The program should be well-publicized so that the community is aware of the murals and their significance.