

Arts Alley Initiative: Call to Artists Questions & Answers

Q1: What if an artist doesn't have much or any experience creating work involving a community?

A1: If the artist can express their passion and commitment to working with the community, that, along with your work samples and experience, are welcomed and will be considered.

Q2: Do the artists propose a budget for the project?

A2: No, mural and special art project budgets will be determined after the selection process and according to size and design. The size and locations of the murals are diverse; however, most will be either on wood fences or garages of property owners in the community as these are all residential alleys.

Q3: What fees will the artist be paid?

A3: The budget for Artists' pay is \$20 to \$40 per square foot, based on project size and artist experience. Individual mural assignments and compensation are TBD and will be discussed after artists are selected and assigned to the alleys.

Q4: Can an artist apply for more than one alley?

A4: Your submission is for the entire Alley program and will be used to determine where your work may be most appropriate. You may indicate, by text or graphic means, which alley(s) you prefer. As outlined in the packet, your past work will also be considered.

Q5: Do the artists have to include a design in the proposal?

A5: No, a design is not required since no alleys have been assigned. However, your submission will be used to determine where your work may be most appropriate. As outlined in the packet, your past work will also be considered.

Q6: For the murals, since the dimensions and specific sites of the murals won't be made public until selection, will a description of the mural concept suffice for the application?

A6: Yes, a description of the mural concept would suffice. You won't know which location until the selection committee has decided.

Q7: As an independent artist, I don't have a lot of solo mural experience, but I have examples of collaborative work. Would it be better that I submit some of my work examples of previous collaborative mural work, or should I stick to canvas pieces that are mine alone?

A7: Both options are welcomed. We would love to see projects you have worked on with others but would also appreciate reviewing your personal work and style.

Q8: Is this Call to Artists open to international and out-of-state artists?

A8: The Call is open to all International and U.S. artists.

Q9: Are the artists only limited to three examples to showcase?

A9: We are only asking artists for three samples of their work as part of the open call, but an artists may choose to submit an additional sketch to relay ideas for the Alleys. Art concepts and mural proposals will not be necessary until after artists have been officially selected to participate in the project and all chosen muralists will engage with the alley stakeholders to finalize art concepts.

Q10: Will the dimensions for the murals and special artwork be shared?

A10: Yes, all dimensions for the murals will be shared with the chosen artists. Special artwork will be decided once those artists are onboarded, and community engagement begins.

Q11: Will any of the walls need lifts or scaffolding?

A11: Yes, some of the walls will, but it will be discussed with the chosen artists.

Q12: Is the committee interested in seeing smaller works on canvas from the artist, or just past murals?

A12: Yes, the artists can submit smaller works on canvas if they think they will give the judges a sense of their own personal style and if they relate to the theme of the alley as well as the alley neighborhoods.

Q13: Can an artist be chosen for more than one mural?

A13: Yes, it is possible that an artist may be chosen for more than one mural.

Q14: Are zip files optimal for artists to submit work? Has there been trouble with artists sending their work through email?

A14: Most artists submit individual files of their work through email. However, if the artist believes their work is too substantial to submit individually, then zip files are welcome.

Q15: Do the artists apply for the call through the email provided in the Artist Packet, or through City Walls?

A15: All interested artists are to apply through the SpaceLab Detroit email, which is info@spacelabdetroit.com

Q16: Are artists still eligible to apply if they're currently in the DAAP City Walls Program?

A16: Yes, those artists are eligible to apply.

Q17: Is the call asking for two reference letters or two reference contacts?

A17: Letters are preferred but contact emails and phone numbers are also acceptable.

Q18: What location will the archways be placed and what will the sizes be?

A18: The Arbors are planned for the North End Alley at 9400 Oakland, Detroit, MI 48211 (not listed in Artist Packet). Arbor designs and dimensions will be determined as community engagement sessions with stakeholders progress.

Q19: For the kiosk, there are a variety of different kinds of kiosks for different purposes. Could you clarify which type you had in mind? Finally, is there a projected budget for this project?

A19: Currently, we do not have sizes or design ideas in mind. As with all art for the Arts Alley program, there will be community engagement sessions with stakeholders after artist is chosen for the Kiosk at Burrell Trail.

Q20: What are the chain-link fences sizes?

A20: The large fence at Bailey Park is 6' tall and about 300' long and the small fence at Yellow Brick Road is about 4.5' tall and about 28' long.

Q21: Can we apply for the murals and the art installations in the same application?

A21: Yes, submit one application, but indicate in your Artist Statement (or elsewhere) that you are interested in both murals and the special installations. You may also include additional work samples to show your experience with the art installation types.



Q22: Will community partners and artists be responsible for any structural issues at the art locations?

A22: The City of Detroit will ensure that all locations for art installations are structurally sound.