

Bagley Alley: Call to Artists Questions & Answers

Q1: I would really like to apply to the Bagley Arts Alley Murals, but I am wondering about the timeline. Is there a hard deadline? Could it extend to June?

A1: Due to funding requirements. We're looking for them to be completed by the end of May. We are asking Artists to review their schedules and be committed to working toward this deadline.

Q2: I submitted a proposal for Arts Alleys Initiative Call. I am also interested in submitting for the Bagley Arts Alley Call. The Bagley Call reads that one can use their Arts Alley submission to apply for Bagley. Do I need to resend all of the information again or just email indicating that I want to apply?

A2: An email stating that you would like to use your Arts Alley submission for your Bagley Alley submission as well will suffice. However, if there are any changes to the Arts Alley submission for Bagley, please submit a new packet.

Q3: Is the call asking for two reference letters or two reference contacts?

A3: Letters are preferred but contact emails and phone numbers are also acceptable.

Q4: What do the walls look like and what are the dimensions?

A4: There is an image of the walls on the Call to Artists flyer. The walls are just beyond the Utility pole. The dimensions are: 1) 20 ft W x 25 ft H, 2) 23 ft W x 21 ft H; and 3) 30 ft W x 18 ft H.

Q5: Is the space for the community art an outside wall?

A5: Yes, All Alley Initiative walls and surfaces, including the Bagley Alley, are exterior walls.

Q6: Is there a set budget or do we make our own?

A6: The budget 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.

Q7: Are the sketches expected to be fully rendered with exact details, or can it be a rough sketch with a collection of reference photos and a write up?

A7: Preliminary sketches do not have to be fully rendered. Artists can share a written or sketched idea with as much detail as they would like.

Other questions and answers that may be useful to this project:

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

A: 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.

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

A: 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.

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

A: 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.

Q: Would a description of the mural concept suffice for the application?

A: Yes, a description of the mural concept would suffice.

Q: 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?

A: 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.

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

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

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

A: 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 Bagley Alley 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.

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

A: 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.

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

A: Yes, artists should be experienced at using a lift during painting and wall preparation.

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

A: 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.

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

A: 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.

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

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

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

A: Yes, those artists are eligible to apply.