

black cat alley

2023 Call for Artists



Released: August 3rd, 2023
Responses due: Friday, August 18th, 2023



OVERVIEW

The East Side BID is excited to announce plans to add a new mural in the fall of 2023. We are issuing this Call to Artists, in search of proposals for the wall selected for mural installation.

The East Side BID is seeking one (1) artist to create a new mural for Black Cat Alley (“BCA”). BCA is a public art and placemaking initiative located in a privately-owned alley on Milwaukee’s East Side. This unique street art destination was developed by a group of community members and artists back in 2016 in partnership with Wallpapered City LLC, and the East Side BID. BCA is managed by the East Side BID and it now contains 21 murals by 24 artists from Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Columbus and even Berlin. BCA is one of Milwaukee’s top ten tourist destinations and is visited by tens of thousands of visitors each year.

REQUIREMENTS

- Jurying is open to any Artist over 18 years old.
- All work must be the artists’ own, and original in design, concept, and execution.
- All submitting Artists must be able to create the mural on-site, during the month of September, for a completion date of September 19, 2023. Artists must be comfortable and experienced painting outdoors using a ladder, small scaffold, or construction lift to access the wall.
- The committee will reject any design submissions that include words or letters of the alphabet. The committee will reject any submissions that could be deemed to be advertising or billboards for a business. The committee will also reject any submissions that it considers rude, offensive, or political, as this is a community project, and its goals are to unify and draw the community together.
- Artists may submit up to 2 (two) proposals, with a color sketch of the proposed design(s) made to scale and proportions of the final wall, if they understand they will only be selected for one possible design.
- A committee will review the responses and invite the chosen artist to complete a proposed concept.
- The selected Artist will have approximately two weeks to complete the work, tentatively scheduled for the period of September 5th to September 19th, 2023). Artists must ensure that their work/personal schedules allow for availability during this time.

1. TIMELINE

- Deadline for submission is Friday, August 18, 2023 by 5:00 PM.
- Artist will be announced on the week of August 28, 2023
- Installation will take place in September. Artists will have approximately two weeks to complete the work, which will be created between September 5 – 19, 2023. Artists must ensure that their work/personal schedules allow for availability.

2. PAYMENT

- Artists will be paid a stipend in the amount of \$1,600 for their mural installation. Travel costs are not covered.
- There is also a budget of up to \$200 for materials and supplies.

3. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

- Artists are responsible for acquiring their own materials such as paints and supplies. If a ladder or any safety equipment is needed, the organizers of the project will be able to provide them if the Artist cannot. Any such logistics will be discussed with the artist once chosen. Artists will be asked to sign a liability waiver.

4. SUBMISSION PROCESS

Please review the proposed mural site below and create your concept of a specific mural with this actual site in mind. Please click on the link below to complete the application form. You'll be asked the following questions; [SUBMIT PROPOSAL](#)

1. Your full name
2. Home/Mailing address
3. Email address
4. Phone number
5. Any social media or website links
6. Age
7. Gender
8. Race
9. A short artist bio (300 word max). This project prioritizes featuring the work of BIPOC/LGBTQ+/Women artists, so please share this information in the bio if applicable. This information is meant to help inform the selection process and will not be actively promoted to the public unless that is the desire of the artist.
10. Number of murals you have painted
11. A minimum of three (3) examples of previous work in jpeg or PNG format. Ideally these would also be murals, but other painted works will suffice. Providing links to online portfolios is optional.
12. The short description of your mural
13. Proposed design (jpeg or PNG format)

MURAL SITE



September 2023 Mural Installation

- Mural to be painted on a brick surface.
- Dimensions of wall are approximately 10 feet wide by 8 feet tall.
- Wall will be prepped prior to mural installation (power washed and primed)
- Artist stipend: \$1,600 Commission

Contact: Contessa Lobley, Black Cat Alley Consultant at
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