



CALL TO ARTISTS

2014 Tacoma Murals Project Lead Artist Roster

Application Deadline: March 28, 2014, midnight



Photos clockwise from top left: Stadium District mural at 120 Tacoma Ave. N. Artist: Janice Lee Warren; assistant artist: Liza A. Brown. 2013.
Tacoma Buddhist Temple mural at 1717 S. Fawcett Ave. Artist: Chelsea O'Sullivan. 2013. Photo by Chelsea O'Sullivan.
Detail of 43rd Street Bridge mural at E. 43rd St. & E. C St. Artist: David Long. 2013.
Theater District mural at 616 St. Helens Ave. Artist: Natalie Oswald; assistant artist: Joel Barber. 2013.

Opportunity

The City of Tacoma is seeking experienced artists or artist teams to design and implement outdoor painted murals in select communities in Tacoma to fight blight and combat vandalism. Mural designs will be based on the lead artists' aesthetics and based on input from the communities regarding themes or messages.

Artists selected through this call to artists will be added to the 2014 Tacoma Murals Project Lead Artist Roster. Community groups approved for a mural in their community through the Tacoma Murals Project will select an artist for their site from this roster of artists, with a limit of one mural per artist.

The City of Tacoma will provide mentorship to artists selected from the roster who do not already have extensive outdoor public mural experience.

Artists who have graduated from the Tacoma Murals Project as either an apprentice artist or lead artist between 2010 and 2013 AND were selected for the Tacoma Murals Project public roster must still apply to be considered for this opportunity. Applications received from these artists will automatically be included in the 2014 Tacoma Murals Project Lead Artist Roster.

Mural sites will be selected by the City of Tacoma from a pool of applications received from community groups. Approximately five mural sites will be selected by April 15, 2014. In general, mural sites are highly visible commercial or public walls located within the official city limits of Tacoma. Mural sites are generally in areas without a good representation of public art and/or in areas that have a history of blight and/or vandalism. The scale of each mural is variable, depending on the site. Past murals have ranged from 80 square feet to 3000 square feet.

Tacoma Murals Project Overview

The Tacoma Murals Project joins artists and communities through the collaborative process of mural-making to create powerful artworks that can transform public spaces, neighborhood identities, and individual lives.

Talented adult artists work with communities to design and implement high quality painted murals that reflect the stories and content researched from the community. Murals cannot be advertisements or signage for any business, group, or organization. Murals are designed to fight blight and combat vandalism throughout Tacoma.

The community groups are provided with funding to complete a mural, an artist/artist team to implement ideas, technical assistance, and general promotion of the project. In return, the selected community groups assist the artist/artist team through community coordination, input of stories and content, preparation of the wall, and maintenance of the mural after its completion.

Twenty one murals have been completed between 2010 and 2013. To see photos of these murals, visit our [Completed Murals webpage](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/arts) under Programs and Tacoma Murals Project at www.cityoftacoma.org/arts.

Eligibility

You are eligible to apply if you answer 'yes' to AT LEAST ONE of these:

- Do you reside in Pierce County?
- Have you graduated from the Tacoma Murals Project as either an apprentice artist or lead artist between 2010 and 2013 AND been added to the Tacoma Murals Project public roster?

AND, you need to answer 'yes'; to ALL of these:

- Are you a professional artist, dedicated to producing artwork on a regular basis?
- Are you at least 18 years or older and not a full-time student?
- Are you available to lead a mural in summer 2014?

Duties

The Tacoma Murals Project includes participation by lead artists, an artist team (when needed), community groups, and property owners who agree to be active participants in the process.

Artists selected from the 2014 Tacoma Murals Project Lead Artist Roster will:

- Participate in periodic meetings with City of Tacoma Arts Program staff
- Notify Arts Program staff in advance of all meetings with community group and property owner
- Report back to Arts Program staff any observed or reported concerns related to artist team (if applicable) or community member involvement in the program
- Work with Arts Program staff to select or line up artist team members, if needed for your mural. City of Tacoma will contract directly with artist team members
- Meet with community group at least one time to collect input about the community, themes, messages, stories, vision, etc...

- Conduct additional research of surrounding community to inform design
- Develop a mural design, based on your aesthetics as an artist and based on the input from the community regarding theme or messages
- Submit initial mural design to Arts Program staff for review
- Present initial mural design in-person to community group and property owner. Artist must obtain approval from community group and property owner before proceeding with implementation of mural
- Revise initial design, if requested by Arts Program staff, community group, or property owner
- Present any revised mural designs in-person to community group and property owner. Artist must obtain approval from community group and property owner before proceeding with implementation of mural
- Coordinate with community to ensure they have properly prepared the mural wall
- Develop supply lists, purchase required supplies (upon approval of Arts Program staff), and submit receipts in a timely manner. The City of Tacoma will pay for all mural supplies and equipment rental. Leftover supplies must be returned to Arts Program staff
- Coordinate and guide the implementation of the approved mural, with the assistance of an artist team, if needed
- Periodically photograph mural painting progress and submit photos to Arts Program staff for use in promotion of Tacoma Murals Project
- Keep track of time and materials to stay within assigned budget
- Submit periodic invoices for time worked on mural
- Be compensated for their work at the following rates:
 - Meeting time: \$30/hour
 - Mural design time: \$30/hour
 - Mural implementation time: \$30/hour
 - Travel time and/or expenses, meals, and other miscellaneous expenses are not covered

The City of Tacoma will provide:

- Funding to implement a mural, including supplies & artist compensation
- Technical assistance and mentorship as needed
- Oversight of the entire program
- Promotion and assistance

Selected community groups will:

- Participate in the selection of an artist/artist team for their mural from the 2014 Tacoma Murals Project Lead Artist Roster
- Work cooperatively and be open to the creative ideas of the lead artist
- Be a resource to the lead artist for research, stories, content, etc...
- Assist in community coordination including community meetings and mural dedication
- Contribute in-kind services and/or materials as required to prepare the wall (e.g. removing overgrowth covering wall, pressure washing, priming)

Selection Criteria

- Artistic quality as exhibited in past work
- Ability to think and work in a scale and with materials appropriate to this project
- Ability to think conceptually and create artwork responsive to a site
- Demonstrated ability to :
 - Complete an exterior painted murals
 - Work with community to develop concepts
 - Organize schedules and processes to stay on track with minimal assistance
- Willingness and ability to work collaboratively with community groups
- Willingness and ability to work at mural sites that are potentially in rough shape

Timeline

March 28, 2014, midnight	Deadline for application submissions
By April 15, 2014	Review of applications & selection of artists for roster
By May 16, 2014	Notification of roster artists selected for murals
Throughout summer 2014	Mural design and implementation

Help

For assistance, please call Naomi Strom-Avila at 253-591-5191 or email nstrom-avila@cityoftacoma.org.

Submission Process

Eligible artists interested in this opportunity must submit the following four items by email to tacoma.submissions@cityoftacoma.org. Please include "Murals_(Your Last Name)" in the subject line. If your email is over 10 MB in size, please send attachments in several batches; do not send .ZIP files.

1. Application Form

Fill out the online application form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/14MuralRoster>

Or

If you do not have internet access, fill out the application on page 6

2. Images

15 digital images of the artist's completed work. If available, work samples should include documentation of similar past projects. Artist teams are encouraged to submit work that was previously completed as a team. Artists applying as a team who have no examples of joint work in the past may submit 10 images of each artist's work.

- Submit only "High" quality JPEG files (do not use GIF, TIFF, or other formats.)
- *Image Size*
 - Images must be at least 72 ppi resolution
 - Images smaller than 600 pixels per side are not recommended
- *File Size*
 - Files must be less than 5 MB each
- *File Labeling*
 - Files must be titled with a number indicating the viewing order, followed by the applicant's name. The numbers must correspond to the Image List. Use a "0" in front of single digit numbers and use only letters, numbers, and underscores. For example: 01_Smith.jpg; 02_Smith.jpg.
 - If using Mac OS 8 or later, be sure to include a ".jpg" extension at the end of each image title.
- Do not embed the images into PowerPoint or submit moving image or audio files.

3. Image List including:

- Name, address, phone, and email address at the top of every page
- Images should be numbered consecutively and listed in the order in which they are to be viewed, and include:
 - Title of artwork
 - Medium
 - Dimensions (H" x W" x D"), if applicable
 - Location of work (City, State, Neighborhood, if relevant)
 - Funding agency or owner
 - Budget
 - Date work was completed
 - Brief and succinct description of artwork

- If work is presented as part of a collaboration, explain your role in the larger project and credit design team or individual collaborators by name and role (e.g. John Smith, designer)
- A PDF file is recommended; a Word document is acceptable
- Name the file with the applicant's last name. For example: Smith List

4. Resume

- Resume should not exceed 3 pages. Artist teams should submit a resume for each artist. Resume should include artist's name, address, phone, and email address, and relationship if part of an artist team, at the top of every page.
- List most recent public art and/or art experience first
- A PDF file is recommended; a Word document is acceptable
- Name the resume file with the applicant's last name. For example: Smith Resume

Tacoma Murals Project - 2014 Lead Artist Roster Application

NOTE: Only fill out the following paper application form if you do not have internet access. Otherwise, fill out the online application form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/14MuralRoster>

Mail completed paper applications and other support documents to: City of Tacoma, Tacoma Murals Project, 747 Market Street, Room 900, Tacoma, WA 98402

Name

Full Address

Phone

E-mail

Website (if applicable)

Have you graduated from the Tacoma Murals Project as either an apprentice artist or lead artist between 2010 and 2013 AND been added to the Tacoma Murals Project public roster?

Yes / No (circle one)

Why are you interested in being the lead artist on a mural?

What experience do you have either as a muralist or that would translate to mural art?

What are your areas of competency that would translate to mural art and/or in working with community?

How would you approach creating a mural for a specific site and community?

What is your philosophy when it comes to creating artwork with community input?

Do you have a maximum or minimum size mural you would be comfortable working with?

What is your general availability from May through September 2014?

Can you stand on a ladder/scaffolding?

Yes / No (circle one)

Do you have a fear of heights or other condition that might preclude you from working up high?

Yes / No (circle one)

List three professional references including names, titles, phone numbers, and email contact information.