

## CALL FOR ARTISTS Downtown Elyria

Submissions Deadline is April 5, 2024

Elyria Community Partnership (ECP) in collaboration with the Project Ready youth program of the Lorain County Urban League (LCUL) are seeking an artist or artist team to work with community youth to create and paint a mural in downtown Elyria at 354 Broad Street. This is an extraordinary opportunity for Elyria youth to collaborate with a professional artist to develop an inspirational work of art that speaks to their lived experience.

This mural project is a part of realizing the Downtown Elyria Vibrancy Action Plan. In addition to this mural, the overall project will include another mural, landscaping, and seating with the goal of enhancing the pedestrian experience along this stretch of Broad Street. The collaboration with LCUL's youth program and making young residents feel welcome downtown is another important component of the Action Plan.

The budget for the youth collaboration, artwork development, materials and mural execution is \$10,000. The mural will be approximately 25' tall by 20' wide. Selected artists should plan to begin artwork development on April 22, 2024 and install the murals before July 18th, 2024.



### **Project Eligibility**

This call is open to any artist at any stage of their artistic career with experience in successfully creating a mural with youth. ECP and LCUL strongly encourage submissions from artists residing in the city of Elyria and Lorain County.

### **Application Requirement and Submission**

Artists should submit their application materials (see below) to [tom@thomasstarinsky.com](mailto:tom@thomasstarinsky.com) with the subject title "Downtown Elyria Youth Mural" by April 5, 2024.

### **Application Materials**

All applications must be emailed in PDF format with a file size no greater than 15MB. The application contents should highlight projects where the artist/artist team worked with youth groups and include the following:

- Name of Artist/Artist Team Members with contact information (email, phone, and mailing address)
- Website and Social Media Handles
- Artist/Artist Team Members' Biography
- Artist/Artist Team Statement of Interest (500 words or less)
- Resume/CV (if a team, one for each member)
- No more than 10 examples of previous work of similar scale with notes that could include title, media, dimensions, location, brief description, date of work, and project partners if applicable.
- Optional: Professional References from past projects

### **Selection Process**

Artist/team will be selected from this call as a pool of eligible artists/teams and will be selected by the LCUL youth group with the guidance of program advisors and ECP. The process may include an in-person interview with finalists. Artists/teams will be reviewed on the criteria of the integrity of past work of similar scale and demonstrated experience working with youth groups.

### **Project Timeline**

Call to Artists released: March 8, 2024  
Responses due: April 5, 2024 at 12:00 noon  
Selected artist contacted: April 19, 2024  
Artwork development: April 22, 2024 – May 30, 2024  
City review processes: June 1 – June 30, 2024  
Installation: Before July 18, 2024

### **Project Contact**

If you need assistance with your application, please contact Thomas Starinsky, project manager, [tom@thomasstarinsky.com](mailto:tom@thomasstarinsky.com) or Monet Roberts, Executive Director, Elyria Community Partnership, [mroberts@elyriatogether.org](mailto:mroberts@elyriatogether.org).

### **Elyria Community Partnership**

Elyria Community Partnership is a nonprofit organization developed to revitalize the city of Elyria including downtown and its neighborhoods, respecting the history of the city and improving the quality of life for residents. The organization seek to ensure that Elyria is a thriving, racially equitable, vibrant, economically growing community with quality and affordable housing and a vibrant downtown.

### **Lorain County Urban League**

The Urban League is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to economic empowerment in order to elevate the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities. Our mission is to empower African Americans and underserved people to thrive through direct service, collaboration, and advocacy. Our vision is to create a pathway for clients to increase their income, secure housing, and become financially stable using a holistic coaching approach to deliver housing, employment, financial, and educational services. For 44 years the Lorain County Urban League has worked in a variety of ways to strengthen and support the local African American community. Founded in 1978, the Lorain County Urban League is devoted to empowering African Americans and other disadvantaged groups to enter the economic and social mainstream. From its earliest days in the civil rights movement, through years of partnership with government and public agencies, the Lorain County Urban League has been a beacon of hope and a catalyst for change in Lorain County.