

ALL HERE TOGETHER Production's 3-Building Mural Project
1660 8th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

APPLY NOW

Contact Email: carmenmitzi@gmail.com
Call Type: Public Art
Eligibility: National
State: West Virginia
Entry Deadline: **Friday, March 12, 2021 by noon EST**

REQUIREMENTS:

Media

Images - Minimum: 3, **Maximum:** 6

Video - Minimum: 0, **Maximum:** 1

Total Media - Minimum: 3, **Maximum:** 7

Request for Qualifications

ALL HERE TOGETHER seeks experienced muralist to design and produce Public Art Mural for Ebenezer Day Care Facility in Huntington, WV.

Project Description

The first building to be painted in the "Fairfield: Past to Our Future" 3-building Mural Project will be the Ebenezer Day Care Center. Our goal is to solicit proposals by 2 or 3 experienced public artists for the site with the expectation of realizing one of the proposals in spring 2021. Especially seeking artists that enjoy creating energized "youthful" images with a mastery of faces from the African diaspora.

The Fairfield Past to our Future Building Mural Project intends to rightfully expand the dominant narrative of Huntington WV to include the rich cultural contributions that African Americans have made to this community, in large living color. By claiming our shared history in this way, we believe the murals will be an energizing symbol of empowerment for African Americans, inspiring new and formerly practiced cultural events back to the neighborhood.

ALL HERE TOGETHER production's collaborative design process and outcomes for this project point clearly in the direction of our future work and the need for

healing and restoration. Devoting these efforts on the 8th Avenue corridor demonstrates how investment in our civic assets and marginalized communities can be a powerful initiative towards racial reconciliation, cultivating trust, and connecting people of all backgrounds.

Design concept development must be inspired by staff and students of Ebenezer Day Care Center and local historian. Design should incorporate community ideas along with the artist's vision for bringing them to life.

Application Guidelines (Incomplete Submissions will not be accepted)

Apply online through Friday, March 12, 2021

- Up to 6 digital images of past mural / artwork in .jpg format no larger than 500 kb each. Each file must be named with the artist's surname and image number to correspond to an image list (e.g. 01 Brown).
- A 1/2 page artist statement describing public art experience and interest in the project.
- A current resume (no more than three pages)

For more information, please contact Mitzi Sinnott at 740-550-2477 or carmenmitzi@gmail.com

Project Budget

The total project budget is \$18,000. The budget is all inclusive to complete the mural including artists fee, research, execution, insurance, taxes, site preparation equipment rental and materials. Selected artists will be asked to submit a project budget breakdown with design concept submission.

Travel & housing stipend provided. Food provided daily during execution of mural.

Project Site

EBENEZER DAY CARE FACILITY

1660 8th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

The selected site is an existing day care facility in the historically Black community of Huntington, WV. The mural design and color will cover all four walls of the building along with extending design to the wood fencing around playground. **Building is somewhat of a rectangle:** height **15ft**, while both the "north & south" ends **71ft** (front & back), and each side east & west is **80ft**.

<https://vimeo.com/508128676/d952774af3>

Timeline

Deadline for Artist Qualifications	Friday, March 12 , 2021
Artist Notifications	Friday, March 19 , 2021
Concept Submissions	Monday, April 12, 2021
Finalist Proposals Due	Friday, April 30 , 2021
Mural Production	May 17-June 4 , 2021

Eligibility

ALL HERE TOGETHER is committed to a policy of providing opportunities to people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, veteran status, or physical disability. Any artist may apply.

Selection Process

The submitted qualifications will be reviewed by a small selection committee comprised of art professionals, director of center and staff and neighboring CBO directors. The committee will identify three RFQ applicants to submit rough sketches and color mock-ups. Design concept compensation is \$250. ALL HERE TOGETHER will schedule individual Zoom calls with the artists. The committee will select based on art submission, interview, and references.

***Particularly seek artist who has worked in community and can manage painting the space with citizens.**

Finalists

Selected concept artist will be paid \$750 upon delivery of a complete site specific final design including written description with title, project budget breakdown, and timeline for completion. A review of the final design will be conducted by the selection committee. One artist or artist team will be selected to realize their proposal.

Critical Selection Factors

- Artistic distinction
- Experience creating high-quality largescale murals
- Low maintenance, durability
- Experience working within community.
- Ability to collaborate and find inspiration from community on subject matter
- Site specific design
- Readily express the Black American experience in artistic creations

The strength of the submitted images of past artworks demonstrating ability of the artist(s) to complete similar or related projects will be considered critical selection factors. In addition, the Committee is interested in a wide variety of creative solutions to the challenges of an outdoor public artwork.

Brief history of Huntington, West Virginia and the Fairfield Area

During the unrest that plagued the country during the pre-civil war times, Western Virginia claimed fidelity to the Union cause. They went with the Union to save the then United States from the attempted sundering of our pledge of "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." And, WV was the only state to achieve statehood by seceding from a southern state to the northern cause.

Today it is one of the most scenic states in the country, living up to its "Almost Heaven" designation. Among WV's eight state forests and fifty-five counties, it is known for its scenic rolling hills and amazing vacation sites. During its heyday of coal production and railroad building, the state captured the imagination of folklorists. It is the home of the folk hero, John Henry; the stage for John Brown's raid; the birthplace of the national Mother's Day celebration, and provided a temporary home to the Father of Black History Month- Carter G. Woodson.

In African American History it served as one of the places that birthed the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples by hosting the first meeting of its precursor organization, the Niagara Movement, at historic Storer College in Harper's Ferry, WV.

Among its fifty-five counties **Cabell County** is located on the southwestern banks of the Ohio River where it joins with Kentucky and Ohio in forming metropolitan tri-state area. **One of the largest cities in Cabell County is Huntington, often called the Jewel city of that area. It became a city within Cabell Co in 1871** and was named after the railroad magnate, Collis P. Huntington, who completed the C & O line of the western terminal to the Ohio River Valley, Collis P.

Huntington hired large groups of freed Black men to build that line. Many settled in the area and formed the beginnings of an African American community in the surrounding counties. Carter G Woodson's father was one of the Black men who built the city alongside Collis P.

These communities prospered and in **1891**, the town established **the Douglass School for African Americans (grades 1-12), during that period of segregation.** Students from the Huntington community and from communities beyond attended Douglass which was one of few schools for Black students then. **One of its early graduates was Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who later returned to the school and served as the principal of the school.** In 1926, a new Douglass High School was built and still stands today, although it closed to students when integration took place in 1961 for all Cabell County (white) Schools.

During the period of segregation, **Eighth Avenue in Huntington became the hub of the Black Community** for business, entertainment, and worship. This is the current locale of the Three-Building Mural Project.

Douglass School graduated many prominent Black citizens some of whom were:

- **Dr. Carter G. Woodson**, who became known as the father of Black History and created Negro History Week;
- **Constantine Barnett** established the Barnett Hospital in 1912 and the nursing school in 1918; the hospital served the city of Huntington until 1939. The hospital known nationally to be the only hospital in the state and surrounding area to have a "no infection rate" post surgeries. Black students traveled from various areas in the southeast to attend this school.
- **Memphis T. Garrison**, Educator and National NAACP Contributor, who initiated the NAACP
- Established Easter Seals and the Christmas Seal campaign in 1927 which continued until 1977;

- **Herbert H. Henderson**, Huntington Attorney who served and led The WV State NAACP for 20 years;
- **Hal Greer**, Huntington's First professional Basketball player
- **The Explosive Dynamiks**- Nationally known soul band from the 1960s
- **Archie Hammonds of The Parlements "Big Archie"**- nationally successful song writer and musician
- **Joseph Williams**, a Huntington Businessman, former Mayor of Huntington, and founder of the Ebony Golf Classics (1971-1987),
- **Marie Redd**, WV State Legislature;
- **Joseph Slash**, Educator, Principal, First AA Cabell County Schools Superintendent;
- **Mae V. Brown**, Elementary Teacher who started the Child Development and Improvement Club for AA Children.