

The Downriver Council for the Arts (DCA), in partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Opioids Task Force and Vital Strategies, a global public health organization, will commission up to thirty artists that have been impacted by the opioid epidemic to complete two pieces of work reflecting their stories.

In 2000, 183 Michiganders died of an overdose. By 2019, that number was more than nine times higher. Overdose Awareness Day is recognized globally on August 31st to raise awareness about the risks of overdose, honor the individuals whose lives have been lost, reduce stigma of drug-related harm, and acknowledge the collective grief felt by friends, families, and communities impacted by the epidemic.

This is a call for community artists that have experienced the impact of the opioid epidemic to submit works of art. The exhibition seeks to elevate the voices of artists who are people with lived experience directly impacted with substance use and/or recovery, and in particular artists of color. The exhibited pieces may be on any theme about personal or community stories and may, but do not necessarily need to be, on the theme of drug use and recovery. Disabled, Black, Indigenous, people of color, trans and gender non-conforming artists are highly encouraged to apply.

Please note that this is a family-friendly exhibition space and any art to be shown must take this into consideration. The exhibit will run online and in-person from August 31, 2021 through September 18, 2021 and will be open for public viewing. Artists will retain ownership of their pieces and have the option to sell their works during the exhibition.

ELIGIBILITY – This opportunity is open to Michigan artists with the ability to produce up to two pieces of quality work to be exhibited at the Downriver Council for the Arts (DCA) in Wyandotte, Mich. during a group exhibit August 31, 2021 - September 18, 2021. The exhibit will also be published online.

TO APPLY – Artists will be selected to participate through an online juried process. Interested artists must submit the following items via this link:
<https://overdoseawarenessexhibit.artcall.org>

1. A brief artist statement explaining your art and how it relates to the theme of representing the impact of the opioid epidemic.
2. Three (3) images either as a representation of the type of art you will be creating to exhibit OR completed artwork that demonstrates your ability to design, create and exhibit quality art. If the application is to receive a commission for new artwork, the artists should submit a description of the concept for the new piece.
3. Artist bio and any relevant links.

FINALIST AWARD – Thirty (30) artists from the applicant pool will be commissioned to produce up to 2 final artworks to be displayed in a group exhibit at the DCA. Each artist will receive \$500 payment total for exhibition of previous work, and an additional \$1,500 if the commission is for creation of new work. Artists will be given the option to sell their work.

SCHEDULE/TIMELINE

Deadline for artists to submit qualifications online: Monday, August 23, 2021 by midnight
Online jurying of artists and entries: Ongoing with submissions
Notification sent to accepted artists: Ongoing with submissions
Deadline for artists to accept participation: Ongoing with submissions
Artists drop off completed artworks at the DCA: August 25-27, 2021
Opening reception: Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Exhibit run: August 31-September 18, 2021

Artists pick-up unsold artworks: September 22-24, 2021

Upon notification of accepted artworks, you will be given more details about the drop off days and times, opening reception and activities. You will receive your commission payment when you drop off your completed artworks.

DCA GALLERY PRESENTATION:

- Mixed media (2-D, 3-D), performance and installation will be accepted.
- No restrictions on size; please contact us to discuss large pieces.
- Artists are welcome to submit display items for their artwork if needed.
- Spoken word that is submitted as 2-D art, must be framed and matted.
- Entries must be ready for installation in a professional manner. 2-D work **MUST** be framed and ready for hanging with wire attached. Artwork without a wire will be declined.
- We advise not to use breakable glass on frames larger than 11"x14". Prints can be hung with either Plexiglass or no covering.

Each entry **MUST** have the following information on the **BACK**:

NAME - TITLE OF WORK - MEDIUM - PRICE

NOTE: The DCA reserves the right to remove artwork not suitable for installation in the galleries. Any submissions not meeting these requirements will be rejected from the exhibit. By taking part in this exhibit, you agree that the Downriver Council for the Arts shall not be responsible for any losses or damage to artwork.

VIDEO AND ANIMATION SUBMISSIONS:

In-person exhibit: 1280 x 720 .mov or .mp4 uploaded to Google Drive or Dropbox where we can download is the best scenario. We will accept files on a thumb drive or CD/DVD. Do not format the CD/DVD as an auto play. Piece should be between 2-5 minutes in length. Longer submissions will not be considered. Online exhibit: Link to Vimeo, YouTube, Animoto, and Wistia will be accepted.

PICK UP OF UNSOLD ARTWORK: All unsold works of art must be picked up within the dates listed above. Please contact us if you need to make special arrangements to pick up at a later date. You **will only be contacted if your work was sold**. The DCA is not responsible for artwork left after this date. You **MUST** pick up your artwork!

SALES: *DCA retains thirty (30%) commission on the artwork sold during the exhibition. Artists will be paid no later than thirty days (30) after the close of the exhibition.

RIGHTS AND IMAGE REPRODUCTION: The DCA reserves the right to photograph/reproduce selected artists' work for the purpose of publicity and promotion.

Questions? Call: 734-720-0671. Email: dc4arts@downriverarts.org





Collective Healing Through Art: 2021 Overdose Awareness Day Exhibit

*A call for community artists that have experienced
the impact of the drug overdose crisis*

Exhibit Run: August 31, 2021 – September 18, 2021
Parking and admission are free to the public to view.

Call for Artists! Deadlines extended.

**Deadline for artists to submit qualifications online:
Monday, August 23, 2021 by midnight**

Please check www.downriverarts.org for
current hours, closures, or covid restrictions.

downriver
council
for the
Arts
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Our mission

To enrich the quality of life in the
Downriver communities by advocating
and promoting the arts and providing
opportunities for involvement and
participation in arts and cultural activities.

Please check our website for current
hours or restrictions.

www.downriverarts.org

Email: dc4arts@downriverarts.org

Stay connected!



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