



February 12, 2024

Calling All Artists: Salem Arts Festival Mural Slam 2024

The City of Salem's Public Art Commission and the Salem Arts Festival are teaming up to present the 8th annual Salem Arts Festival Mural Slam (SAF Mural Slam). This dynamic live painting event engages the public with creative producers and contributes to downtown Salem's cultural vitality. Salem Arts Festival is a project of Salem Main Streets and Creative Collective.

The site for the 2024 SAF Mural Slam is Artists' Row, a historic marketplace that has evolved into a vibrant corridor of galleries and public art at the heart of downtown, located at 24 New Derby Street. Selected SAF Mural Slam artists will have the opportunity to present their work alongside the skilled artisans of Artists' Row and will benefit from exposure to Salem's million+ annual tourists.

In the interest of visually enlivening this creative hub for residents and visitors alike, the City of Salem and Salem Arts Festival are inviting twelve (12) artists to showcase their talents via a live painting opportunity, and contribute to centering Artists' Row and downtown Salem a destination for world-class, inspiring and engaging public art.

Deadline for Applications: Friday, March 15, 2024 at 11:59pm

Notification of Selection: April 2024

Salem Arts Festival Mural Slam: June 8 & 9, 2024

Apply Now through our easy online portal here: <https://salemartsfestival.com/2024-mural-slam/>

Details and Info

Who can Apply?: Anyone may apply, either solo or in small teams. Students are also encouraged to apply. Artists may come from anywhere, but preference will be given to local artists and to artists who have not participated in previous Mural Slams.

Timeframe: Live, on-site painting will take place Saturday, June 8 & Sunday, June 9, 8:30am – 8:30pm. It is anticipated that artists will complete the mural in this timeframe. Depending on weather and time needs, artists may begin work on Friday, June 7th.

Stipend and Awards: Each artist will receive a \$500.00 stipend for their participation. Artists will also be eligible to compete for a \$500.00 prize for the People's Choice Award. Stipends and the People's Choice award will be received within four weeks following the Mural Slam.

Painting Surface: There are twelve (12) available walls slots for the 2024 Salem Mural Slam. Each slot will be hung with a white primed ½ inch marine grade plywood sheet mounted to the existing brick walls. The format will be 8' wide by 4' tall. Murals must be oriented in the same horizontal configuration.

Materials/Supplies: Due to the close proximity to other artists and local businesses during the event, along with practical considerations for drying time paint markers and acrylic and latex paints with low

VOX rated for outdoor use will be the only media permitted during the 2024 Salem Mural Slam. Individual painting surfaces describe above will be provided. All paints, supplemental materials, brushes, and tools must be provided by the artist.

Finished Murals: Murals will be hung on the buildings along Artists' Row for up to a year from completion. All Murals become the property of the City of Salem and Salem Arts Festival if not claimed by the artist at the end of the year's display.

Submission Requirements & Review Criteria:

Artists will be asked to submit:

- Brief biographical statement
- CV or Artists Resume
- 5-10 examples of past work
- A brief descriptive statement about the proposed mural idea
- A sketch or mockup of the mural idea helpful but NOT required

Artists will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- High Artistic Merit
- Originality and Composition of the Work
- Suitability for a Family-Friendly Environment
- Fit within the overall theme of other selected works

Applications will be considered ineligible if they involve:

- A breach of intellectual property rights (i.e., somebody else's ideas or imagery)
- Trademarks, brand or business names, logos or copyrighted images
- Anything that is harmful to a third party
- Anything containing nudity or overtly Halloween themed
- Submitted after the deadline noted above

About the Salem Public Art Commission

The Salem Public Art Commission (PAC) is committed to enriching and enlivening the urban environment through innovative and transformative works of art in all media and modalities. With a focus on local artists, especially those historically underrepresented, and a global perspective of the art scene, PAC seeks to foster greater community awareness of and interaction with the arts, enhance the scope of Salem's public art collection, and celebrate diversity in all its forms among citizens and visitors of Salem's alike. The PAC feels Public Art in Salem should contribute to the community's identity as the cultural hub of the North Shore and a center for creativity and enhance the quality of Salem's built environment. Our goal is to nurture diversity & creativity; foster a sense of community pride & belonging; and enhance the quality of life for all.

Learn more at <https://www.salemma.gov/arts-culture>

To view other City of Salem Calls for Artists currently open visit: <https://www.salemma.gov/public-art-commission/pages/calls-artists>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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