

# CALL FOR ARTISTS



## Project Overview

The Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI), in partnership with the City of Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), and SOMO Walls invites local and regional artists to apply for a large-scale public art initiative designed to establish South Monroe Street as a bold, recognizable arts destination in Tallahassee.

SoMo Walls is part of a broader placemaking effort that celebrates Tallahassee's creativity, talent, and sense of place—reinforcing the idea that “Tallahassee has that.” This project will feature eight large murals, measuring 16'x20' each. Each "canvas" will be painted on the side of two stacked shipping containers, transforming a highly visible corridor into an immersive, walkable outdoor gallery.

The goal is to create a photogenic, iconic, block-long art installation that will create an accessible year-round destination in the Southside, advancing the CRA's goals and neighborhood goals. The landowner has installed sidewalks to make it handicap accessible and lighting for 24 - 7 viewing. There is also a 14' metal-works sculpture by Ian Gallo, graduate of Lively Technical Advanced Welding Program, near the center of the public art initiative.

Professional artists that have experience painting on corrugated metal are encouraged to submit original designs that will contribute to a cohesive destination experience while maintaining individual artistic voice. Selected works should feel impactful, contemporary, and engaging at scale—art that invites people to stop, explore, photograph, and return.

There is no application fee. Up to eight artists will be selected. Each selected artist will receive up to \$5,000 per stacked set. Artists may submit a design for one or two stacked sets. (There is an 18 foot gap between each stack.)

Professional artists may submit up to three (3) original design concepts for consideration.



## **Artist Selection**

- Submitted artwork will be reviewed by a selection panel convened by KCCI.
- The decision of the selection panel is final.

## **Art Design Goals**

- Create visually compelling, destination-worthy public art.
- Be uplifting and positive with an edge. Something that would draw people to take pictures with the artwork and share the artwork on social media.
- Contribute to a strong sense of place for the South Monroe Street area.
- Be bold, legible, and engaging at a large scale and from a distance.
- Artists are not required to follow a prescribed theme but should consider how their work complements a collective visual experience across all eight walls. Artists are encouraged to visit the site and see what murals already exist on Monroe Street and in the nearby Southside area. The project site can be visited from either Oakland Avenue or E Harrison Street (more details in location section).

## **Eligibility**

- Open to Professional artists with the ability to paint on corrugated metal. .
- Artists may be based locally or regionally.
- All submissions must be original artwork.
- Video submissions will not be accepted.

## **Entry Procedure**

- Applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline.
- Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
- Each artist may submit up to three design concepts.

## **Schedule of Process (Spring 2026)**

- Artist submissions due: Friday, Feb. 27, 2026 by 3:00 p.m. EST
- Selected artists announced: March 2026
- Artist coordination, surface prep, and approvals: March 2026
- Artwork installation / painting period: April–July 2026 (Specific painting dates and schedules will be coordinated with selected artists.)



## **Art Design Criteria**

- Artwork is being painted on a corrugated metal surface.
- Artwork should be positive, uplifting and iconic.
- Artwork must be appropriate for a public, all-ages environment.
- Nudity, explicit content, or religious imagery will not be considered.
- Advertisements, logos, or trademarked imagery are not permitted.
- Artwork must not include traffic signage, signals, maps, or elements that could be confused with traffic control devices.
- Designs should use colors and compositions that read clearly at a large scale.
- The selection panel reserves the right to reject designs that do not meet project standards or safety requirements.

## **Agreement & Conditions**

- Selected artists will be required to sign a standard artist agreement prior to installation. 50% of payment will be provided at the beginning of the project, and 50% will be paid once the artwork is successfully installed.
- Artists must use exterior-grade paints approved for outdoor use. Once artists are approved and design(s) is finalized, KCCI may be able to negotiate reduced rates for exterior paint local specialty paint stores. KCCI cannot guarantee provision of supplies at the time of application.
- Artwork may not be altered, substituted, or removed once accepted.
- Artwork may be photographed or reproduced for documentation, promotional, and educational purposes without additional compensation.
- After 5 years from the install date, artwork may be removed, relocated, or repainted due to site needs, redevelopment, or maintenance considerations.
- KCCI, nor partner agencies, shall act as a sales agent.

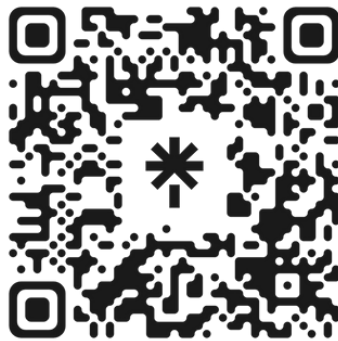
## **Locations & Scale**

- Murals will be installed along the South Monroe Street corridor. This location is between Oakland Avenue and East Harrison Street.
- Professional artists will paint on the side of two stacked shipping containers facing the parking lot. This will create a large vertical canvas visible from the parking lot and streets.
- Following is a site picture showing 7 of the 8 stacked shipping containers.
- Each canvas (two stacked shipping containers) is 16 feet in height by 20 feet in width with approximately 18 feet between stacks.



**SUBMIT PROPOSAL BY 3:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27.**

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to access the online form to submit your proposal.



## Questions

Questions regarding this Call for Artists may be directed to KCCI's Executive Director Betsy Couch at [betsy.couch@KCCITallahassee.com](mailto:betsy.couch@KCCITallahassee.com). Additional details regarding exact dimensions, site photos, and technical specifications will be provided to selected artists.