

CALL FOR ARTISTS: MURALIST TO DESIGN PRINTED MURAL



Issue Date: 5/9/2025

Deadline: 5/27/2025

Project Title: *Epic Center Building Murals*

Artist Fee: \$7500 for the design

Project Overview: The Epic Center, in its mission to house art and artists to collaborate is looking to install four separate murals on the exterior of its building located at 359 S Kalamazoo Mall, in Kalamazoo, MI. One of the four murals will be celebrating the building's 3rd floor tenant Public Media Network, and the other three will celebrate the disciplines of the other nine tenants of the building. To learn more about the Epic Center and its tenants, please visit <https://EpicKalamazoo.org>

Objectives:

- **To showcase Kalamazoo's vibrant arts culture:** To brand the building as a culturally active and arts-vibrant center, welcoming to all.
- **To beautify the urban landscape:** To brighten the surrounding urban landscape with artistic and cultural references of the organizations housed within the building
- **To invite curiosity:** To entice individuals of all backgrounds and artistic talent to explore the center
- **To provide long-term impact:** The murals created and installed on the Epic Center will brand the space as the artistic hub of downtown for many years.

Timeline:

Artist RFQ issued – Friday, May 9, 2025

Artist RFQ Deadline – Tuesday, May 27, 2025

Finalists invited to the RFP – Friday, June 6, 2025

RFP designs and supporting materials due – Friday, June 25, 2025

Artist selection deadline – Friday, July 11, 2025

Contract issued no later than Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Last day for artist to accept contract – Friday, August 1, 2025

City signage approvals and Mural Installation no later than Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Artwork Specifications:

The mural work will be printed on vinyl and attached to frames, and it will be in four locations on the building, located at 359 S Kalamazoo Mall in downtown Kalamazoo.

Panel A: Is on the south-facing wall of the building and will be installed on gray corrugated metal and is 403" wide by 72" high. This mural should specifically celebrate the Public Media Network, which is the third-floor tenant of the building. Depictions of storytelling, capturing or

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broadcasting stories, or the equipment used in this activity should be considered when designing this mural. The use of the PMN and Epic Center logo should also be used within the mural.

Panel B: Is on the south-facing wall of the building below Mural A and will be installed on a multi-colored, predominantly red-toned brick and is 403” wide by 102” high.

Panels C – F = Is on the west-facing wall surrounding a 62” wide by 51” high window, and will be installed using **4 panels to make one mural**. The dimensions of each panel is as follows:

Panel C is 48” wide by 180” high

Panel E is 62” wide by 87” high

Panel D is 147” wide by 42” high

Panel F is 85” wide by 160” high

Panel G – 120” high x 422” wide, located in the parking ramp on the north-facing wall – only artificial light. The Epic Center plaque would be the central sign around which the mural is designed. The existing Epic Center sign will be re-used and 47” high by 64” wide. The mural will be printed on a wall wrap and applied directly to the wall.

Panels B – G should include at least one element from each of the current tenants. A list of tenants can be found at <https://epickalamazoo.org>. Items for consideration might include musical instruments, including violins, pianos, guitars, timpani, horns, etc., musical notes, dancers, visual artists, art supplies, microphones, and media production equipment. This list is not intended to be exhaustive, but suggestions.

Panels A and B



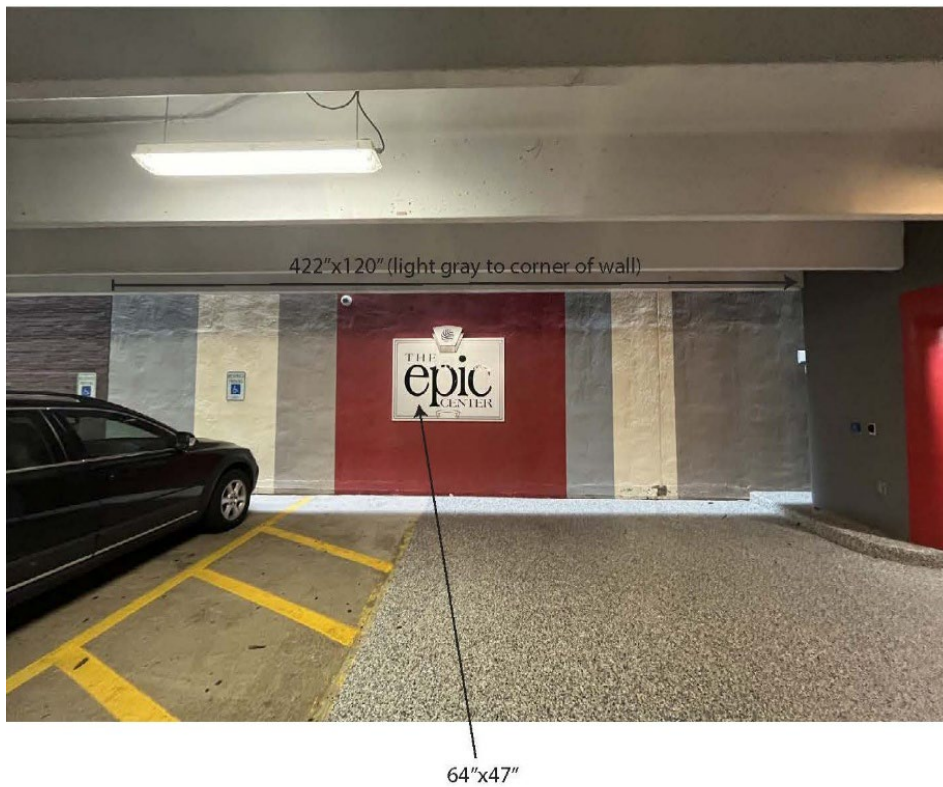
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Panels B – F



Panel G



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Eligibility:

This opportunity is open to all professional artists, or team of artists that meet the following requirements:

- Aged 18 years or older
- Able to provide final print-ready high quality artwork in the sizes required for the murals

Submission Process and Questions:

The following will be asked of you on the submission form located [here](#):

1. Legal Name
2. Address
3. Phone
4. Email
5. A personal history of public work:
 - How many murals have you completed and where are they located?
 - Who was involved in these murals – other artists, community members, students, children?
 - What medium do you use?
6. A statement of interest that includes:
 - The interest you have in contributing to the beautification of the urban landscape in Kalamazoo
7. A Resume
8. A portfolio that includes at least 5-10 images of previous artwork relevant to this scope of work. Images should be labeled to match the description document in #9.
9. A description of the images provided, including medium, location, size, and date of work using the image labels in #8.

Submission Procedure:

The RFQ process for the Epic Center Building Murals will begin on Friday, May 9, 2025, when the Artist RFQ is officially issued. Artists will have until Tuesday, May 27, 2025, to submit their responses. From the pool of applicants, finalists will be selected and invited to submit detailed proposals in the form of an RFP by Friday, June 25, 2025.

Finalists invited to submit proposals by Friday, June 25, 2025, will receive \$250 for their work in developing a comprehensive mural design, provided the design is submitted prior to the deadline.

Each finalist must submit a complete proposal packet that includes full-color conceptual renderings for each space described. Mural concepts must fit the described dimensions exactly. The layout should reflect the artist's understanding of the building's tenants, its cultural significance, and the artistic experience they aim to create while also aligning with the aesthetic of Kalamazoo.

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Invitations to participate will be issued along with a contract by Tuesday, July 22, 2025. Artists will have until Friday, August 1, 2025, to accept the invitation and sign contracts. Final design, fabrication and installation shall be no later than September 2, 2025.

Selection Process:

The RFQs will be reviewed by the staff at the Epic Center, and the board and staff of the Epic Center will make the final selection for who to invite to the RFP and the final designs.

Questions:

Please submit your questions about the murals or submission process to:

Jeff Weber, Epic Director
Kalamazoo Cultural Center
359 S Kalamazoo Mall, Ste 203
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
269-342-5059
Email: jweber@epickalamazoo.org

RFQs WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH THE SUBMISSION PORTAL – [Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo - SlideRoom - Login](#)