

**Contact:** Ana Bermudez  
**Phone:** 773.508.5885

**Email:** [abermudez@rpba.org](mailto:abermudez@rpba.org)  
**Website:** [www.rpba.org](http://www.rpba.org)

## Mile of Murals Project - Celebrating the Human Spirit

Chicago – [Rogers Park Business Alliance](http://www.rpba.org) (RPBA) and [Clark/Morse/Glenwood Special Service Area #24](http://www.ssa24.org) (SSA #24) are thrilled to join the [City of Chicago's Year of Public Art](http://www.cityofchicago.org) (YOPA) festivities by adding two murals for the [Mile of Murals](http://www.mileofmurals.org) (MoM) project. This year artist [Gretchen Hasse](http://www.gretchenhasse.com) designed *Resilience* was selected from 17 artist submissions and will be painted on the north side viaduct on Pratt Ave. The second mural named *Be Happy* will be located on the southeast corner of Glenwood Ave. at Estes Ave. This mural is a collaboration between local artists from [Roman Susan Art Foundation](http://www.romanartfoundation.org) and local collage artist, resident and business owner Tae Kong.

*Resilience* - is a mural bursting with images showcasing the perseverance of the human spirit. “The word acknowledges trauma, but also strength and ingenuity. It deeply resonates with me, in relation to my years of physical struggle. I see evidence of resilience expressed in countless, unique ways by the residents of this neighborhood” – Hasse.



*Resilience* - Gretchen Hasse

*Be Happy* - is inspired by the collages that Kong has created over the years and displays in his corner store. The design concept was developed with an aim to optimize visual movement along the embankment through a blend of dynamic color, playful, elegant abstraction and selective photo-realistic elements that will honor and reproduce the collage materials of the design.



*Be Happy*- a collaboration of Roman Susan Art Foundation and Tae Kong

In addition, to these two murals, RPBA launched a Public Art in Rogers Park map in July that includes more than 70 public art pieces in Rogers Park. The map can be found at [www.rpba.org/public-art](http://www.rpba.org/public-art).

The [MoM](http://www.mileofmurals.org) project was created in 2007 as an effort to promote Glenwood and Morse Avenues as an arts district. It is a public art initiative in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago, located on the far north side of the city along a CTA embankment. When completed, the project will showcase 19 large-scale murals: ten block-long walls, seven viaduct walls and two overpasses; and will feature local, national and internationally respected mural artists.

RPBA and SSA #24 are partnering with Mix Masters artists, Lea Pinsky and Dustin Harris to coordinate both murals and both murals will be completed by October 2017.

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*Strengthening Business, Building Community.*

*Rogers Park Business Alliance cultivates and sustains a thriving economic environment in Rogers Park, serving businesses and residents.*