

VISION CLARK STREET MURAL 2023 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



About Rogers Park Business Alliance

Rogers Park Business Alliance (RPBA) is a nonprofit organization that has proudly served Chicago's diverse Rogers Park neighborhood for 30 years. RPBA works to cultivate and sustain a thriving economic environment in Rogers Park, serving businesses and residents with a variety of public events, public art initiatives, business/entrepreneurial programs and numerous Rogers Park strategic planning efforts. RPBA programs include the GROW/PROGRESANDO entrepreneurial training program, Chalk Howard Street Festival, Taco Crawl, Mile of Murals and the Glenwood Sunday Market farmer's market.

About Vision Clark Street Master Plan

The Vision Clark Street planning effort was initiated in April 2017 by RPBA to elevate Clark Street into a more vibrant and sustainable commercial corridor. The project focuses on the stretch of Clark St. from Howard on the north and Devon to the south, which consists of a mix of uses, building types, transportation options, and a diverse population of residents and business owners. The result of a year of studies and community roundtables is the Vision Clark Street Master Plan (Plan). This master plan describes the vision for the corridor, resulting from what the community voiced, and lays out an implementation framework to make sure that vision is achieved.

In recent years, we have commissioned murals, intersection stamps and decorative crosswalks that have supported the efforts to make the commercial corridor more inviting, safer and welcoming. Our revitalization efforts have always prioritized the preservation of existing residents and businesses and enhancing the elements that make Clark St. in Rogers Park so unique.

2023 Project Overview

This year, RPBA and the Clark/Morse/Glenwood Special Service Area #24 are moving the Plan forward by commissioning a new mural on the south facing wall of the property located at 7015 N. Clark St. The wall is 5' from the ground and it faces the parking lot of a plaza that houses Wild Onion Food Coop, a few chain restaurants and a loan business. The wall has one panel and is approximately 50' width x 8' height. See image below.



We are seeking a single artist or artist team for this mural. Artist stipend is \$10,000. Artist(s) is responsible for preparation of the wall, priming, design and materials including; paint, tools, any rentals if needed, and sealing with anti-graffiti coating the wall once the mural is completed. RPBA will incur the cost of the power washing, rental of scissor lift and liability insurance for the property. Artist(s) should make themselves available, when possible, for interviews, ribbon cutting and any other promotional activities. *Please note that artists will need to get their own insurance and that there is no additional stipend for travel or accommodations.*

Theme: Abundance

The theme should illustrate the eclectic, authentic and inclusive aspect of the Clark Street commercial corridor in Rogers Park that is multicultural and that offers welcoming experiences for everyone. RPBA would like artists to think of the abundance of joy, opportunities, ethnicities, languages, ideas, etc. in the community. The mural will be adjacent to a food co-op which can also be used as inspiration for abundance, however that should be just one aspect of the mural. Things to consider are what does abundance mean in the context of community and how power of representation matters. We urge artists to demonstrate their vision via vivid colors and getting inspiration from the design elements from the Clark Street branding [clarkstreetbrandguide](#).

Goals

- Create an impactful public art piece for the community to enjoy that represents the vision of Clark Street in Rogers Park and provides opportunities for thoughtful conversation and activation of the space
- Promote the corridor as a multicultural corridor
- Embrace the diversity that enriches our community
- Incorporate elements of the Clark Street brand (see link above)
- Catch the eye of pedestrians and vehicular traffic as they pass by the mural

Selection Criteria

Preference will be given to artists from Rogers Park and with bicultural backgrounds. Each application will be reviewed by a panel designated by RPBA and considered with the following criteria in mind:

- Experience and qualifications of the artist(s)
- Thoughtful and creative interpretation of the theme
- The sketch/rendering must be original
- Capability to carry out the project

Project Timeline

May 12	Deadline for RFP submissions
June 12	Artists notified on acceptance status
June 23	Contract is signed with all required documents, first payment is made (30%)
July 14	Final mural design is due if revisions are requested
August 31	Wall is to be completed. Final artist payment made (70%)

How to Apply

All components of the application must be in digital format and sent in one email if possible. Artist(s) must submit their sketch/rendering as a PDF or JPG. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed and/or accepted.

Email completed proposals to abermudez@rpba.org. Please use the subject "Vision Clark Street Mural 2023_Lastname_First Name" (Ex: Vision Clark Street Mural 2023_ Alvarez_Carmen).

The parts of your proposal are as follows and should be labeled as indicated:

- Application form (see next page), typed
 - Label as “LastnameFirstname_2023VisionClarkStreetMural”
(Ex: AlvarezCarmen_2023VisionClarkStreetMural”)
- 4- 6 images of 2-D artwork for each artist. Include murals please.
 - Label as “LastnameFirstname_Work#”
(Ex: AlvarezCarmen_Work1, AlvarezCarmen_Work2)
- Professional resume for each artist
 - Label as “LastnameFirstname_Resume”
(Ex: AlvarezCarmen_Resume)
- Color sketch/rendering of mural to scale
 - Label as “LastnameFirstName_Design”
(Ex: AlvarezCarmen_Design)

If you have questions, please email Ana Bermudez at abermudez@rpba.org.

The deadline to submit proposals is Friday, May 12, 2023 at 5 p.m. (CT)

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VISION CLARK STREET MURAL 2023 PROPOSAL FORM

CONTACT INFO FOR LEAD ARTIST OR ARTIST TEAM

Name		Email	
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Street Address		Phone	
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City		State	
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Zip Code		Website	
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If applying as an artist team, please list the names of the artists below.

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Please describe your work as an artist or team, specifically your experience painting murals. You may include part of your artist statement, your history, personal philosophy, aesthetics, etc.

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Please describe how you are approaching the theme: Build in interactivity to create reasons for people to visit Clark Street and reinforce the corridor as a Multicultural Corridor & incorporate elements of the Clark Street brand [clarkstreetbrandguide](#).

Do you have any conflicts with the schedule as outlined in the project description? Please explain. (500 characters max)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Please submit the following items with this application form:

- 4 to 6 images of your 2-D artwork for each artist (please include murals)
- Resume/s for each artist
- Color sketch of mural

Please refer to page 3 of the RFP for file labeling instructions. Send all materials in one email, if possible, to abermudez@rpb.org, with the subject line, Vision Clark Street Mural 2023_Lastname_First Name" (Ex: Vision Clark Street Mural 2023_ Alvarez_Carmen).

If necessary, you may send it as a Google Drive or Dropbox link.