



CALL FOR ARTISTS

[Special Service Area #61 – Hyde Park \(SSA #61\) aka/Downtown Hyde Park Chicago \(DTHP\)](#) invites artists to submit proposals to transform the vacant wall located at the vicinity of 5279 S. Lake Park Avenue in the Hyde Park neighborhood, through artistic activation. One artist will be chosen for final project implementation.

MISSION: Special Service Area #61, aka Downtown Hyde Park, comprises the 53rd and 55th Street corridors connected by Lake Park Avenue. Special Service Areas, known as Business Improvement Districts or BIDs in other cities, are local tax districts that fund expanded services and programs through a localized property tax levy within contiguous areas.

LOCATION OF PROPOSED SITE:

- Vicinity of 5279 S. Lake Park Avenue (See site photo below)

PROJECT TIMELINE:

- Application Open: Friday September 1, 2023
- Application Deadline: Friday September 22nd, 2023
- Review Period: September 25th – 29th, 2023
- Artist Interviews and Final Selection: October 2nd and 3rd, 2023
- Installation Start Date: October 9th, 2023
- Projected completion: October 31st, 2023
- Ribbon Cutting: TBA

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

SSA #61 is seeking community-driven artists to activate the vacant wall located within the vicinity of 5279 S. Lake Park Avenue (see site photo below) in the Hyde Park Neighborhood of Chicago. This mural project aims to highlight Hyde Park as a destination, provide neighborhood identification and highlight diversity and inclusion, specifically, its businesses (retail, services, restaurants), residents (ethnic/cultural mix, 40% white, 30% Black, 15% Asian, 10% Hispanic), destinations (beyond the University of Chicago and the Museum of Science and Industry) and landscaping (flora/fauna, parks, gardens, open spaces). The mural will be unveiled to the community in a formal ribbon cutting.



BACKGROUND:

For residents and visitors alike, Downtown Hyde Park is its own small town – embracing and supporting a rich blend of shopping, dining, cultural attractions, and business services. The area invites those who walk its streets to experience the neighborhood’s storied history of eclecticism, warmth, and individuality. The mural will highlight these elements of Downtown Hyde Park, in tandem with the theme, “Welcome to Hyde Park.”

ARTIST PROFILE:

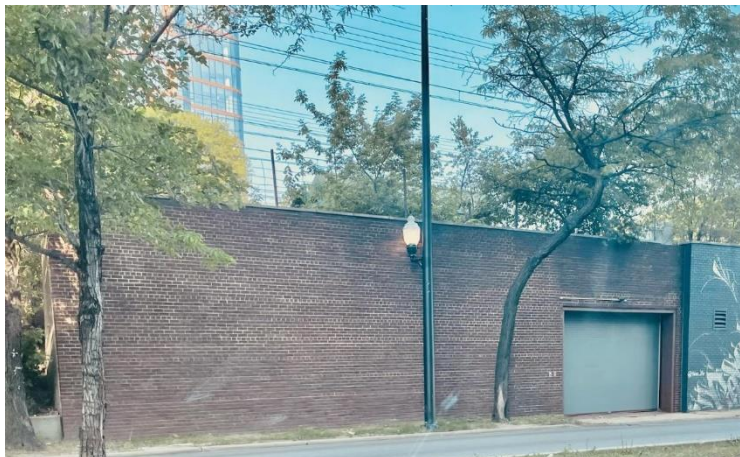
Project partners are seeking artist candidates with the following:

1. Public art installation experience, in particular painted murals.
2. Working geography: South Side of Chicago—especially familiarity with Hyde Park and direct experience either living or working in the area.
3. Community driven or oriented artist practice preferred.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

One artist will be selected. The total budget includes artist’s fees, supplies, insurance, permits and equipment. The maximum budget shall not exceed \$10,000.

CURRENT SITE:



Dimensions: Approximately 20’x60’

TO APPLY:

Please fill out the online submission form by 5:00pm on Friday September 22nd, 2023, for consideration: <https://forms.gle/yuviKoCyBeiSne5U7>

Questions can be directed to Rod Sawyer at rod@secc-chicago.org