



**calgaryarts**  
development

[pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com)

## **PINK FLAMINGO BLACK LIVES MATTER MURAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PHASE I**

***Oki, Danit'ada, Aba Wathtech, Tawnshi. We recognize this mural takes place on land with a deeply rooted history with the Nations of Treaty 7. As we organize this project we acknowledge the Blackfoot, Stoney Nakoda, and Tsuut'ina Nations, as well as Métis Region 3, as communities who continue to protect and take care of the land for generations to come. We hope this mural creates a space for us to remember our past, respond to our present, and look towards the future. We thank the Indigenous community for their work and knowledge.***

### **CONCEPT:**

Pink Flamingo, with the assistance of Katie Green and Suitaakii Black (PFA), Calgary Arts Development (CADA) and The Beltline Urban Mural Project (BUMP) are facilitating four city-wide murals in Calgary in two phases. Phase I includes a QTBIPOC (Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour)—created mural which will be unveiled in October of 2020.

The Black Lives Matter BIPOC Murals Project is a response to the current and historical Black Lives Movement taking place in our city and worldwide. Under the current circumstances of our socio-political climate, it is crucial that we find the capacity to come together to meet, rebuild, and reimagine our present way of relating to one another and to our future. The collective silence and irremediable damage that has been inflicted by systemic racism has gone on for far too long. It is clear that we need to be engaging in ongoing self-reflection, continuing education, relationship building and actual impactful, transformative anti-racism practices.

Public art plays an essential role in influencing culture. It presents the capability to help us question ideologies we've been taught and conditioned to accept—including the ideologies that uphold racism. It is imperative that Black, Indigenous and racialized folx not only see themselves reflected in their city, but that they see themselves organizing and leading within their city. This demonstrates the act of decentering whiteness.

At the centre of this initiative are Black-led organizations, focusing on the importance of BIPOC artists and voices. Now is the time where the stories and expressions of those who have been underrepresented in the past can be celebrated now and into the future.



**calgaryarts**  
development

[pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com)

The existing “Wings on a Dream” mural at this site was created by Doug Driediger for the Calgary Urban Projects Society (CUPS) in 1995. This was intended to be a metaphor for CUPS, a non profit society that reaches out to Calgarians whose lives are in turmoil to help them turn their lives around. It contains a message of hope for a better future. This new mural aims to reflect the evolution of hope and what it looks like in today’s current context. The affected community of this urban placement will be able to see themselves represented in the tone of “Nothing About Us Without Us”.

#### **WE ARE INTERESTED IN A MURAL THAT:**

- Represents Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities and responds to the Black Lives Matter movement
- Encapsulates the concept of “Nothing About Us Without Us”
- Supports and uplifts the QTBIPOC community
- Encourages equity and unity
- Is collaborative (not mandatory)

#### **SITE DETAILS:**

Location: 1 St. and 7 Ave. SE on the east facade on the former CUPS location, now Cityscape Crossfit

Size: 36 feet tall by 116 feet wide

Surface: Concrete brick

\*the wall surface will be primed a light grey prior to installation





**calgaryarts**  
development

[pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com)



Detail of wall surface. The wall will be primed with a light grey background colour as shown above.

### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

This murals project is open to artists of all levels of physical and mental ability. Any artists who have accessibility concerns regarding submitting a proposal can contact [pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com) for more information and to submit a proposal in person. The site for this mural is wheelchair accessible and a support crew will be arranged to assist in installation.

### **FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION:**

Once the final artist has been selected and their design has been submitted, the selected artist or artist team will enter into an artist agreement with Pink Flamingo detailing the fabrication of the mural. Artist Katie Green is available to help assist the selected artist with the installation process, including material gathering, equipment rentals, site set up, mural design transfer and painting. This call does not require that the selected artist have previous experience painting murals, which is why Katie will be available to help with this process. Having painted numerous large scale murals, Katie's role is to be of service to the selected artist, helping to bring their idea to fruition.

### **MURAL PROJECT AND ARTIST SELECTION SCHEDULE:**

**Deadline for Submissions:** Monday, August 17, 2020

**Artists Contacted:** Monday, August 24, 2020

**Production Phase:** August – September 2020

**Completion:** October 2020

**Dedication Event:** October 2020 (date TBD)

### **BUDGET:**

The total artist budget for the mural includes all artist fees and labour, artist assistance/volunteer fees, lift certification and artist materials. Pink Flamingo is responsible for covering equipment rentals, insurance, site permits, wall preparation and BIPOC crew members.

**Artist Budget:** \$20,000



**calgaryarts**  
development

[pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com)

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

This call is open to established and emerging artists, artist collaboratives and photographers. Candidates must be representative of Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities. Two Spirit, Indigiqueer, and Black LGBTQIP2SA+ artists will be given priority for the Phase I mural. No mural painting experience is necessary to apply—we will work with artists of any experience level to achieve their design.

- If you are an individual artist and have a group of people you would like to work with, please state this in your submission.
- If you do not, please state this in your submission and we will help source crew members to help you complete this project.
- If you're an artist collaborative please submit all names of the artists involved. If you require more crew members please state this in your submission.
- If you are open and available to work on the mural project even if your design is not selected, please state this in your submission.

### **COMMUNITY COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES:**

This mural can also be a collaborative project. Applications are open to individual and collaborative artists to apply. By opening the doors to collaboration, this may inspire the Indigenous, Black and racialized communities to work on a piece together. As stated earlier, priority will be given to Two Spirit, Indigiqueer, and LGBTQ2S+ artists. We want the chance for people to share space together in response to Black Lives Matter in this mural. Many times different communities have stood in solidarity with others and worked together in unity. This mural can be an opportunity to reflect that.

If you are an applicant but your application was not selected, you may have the opportunity to work on the mural as a crew member. You will also have the chance to apply for the Phase II call for artists.

Artists may be asked to participate in community events where their mural will be shown to members of the public, and to be featured in the documentary series that will follow the mural project phases. Participation is not mandatory.

### **DOCUMENTARY INFORMATION:**

By agreeing to the project, the artist or group agrees to allow documentary filmmaker, Suitaakii Black, to record video and audio of actions, process and appearances. A contract will be signed which gives permission to use any likeness and recordings to be solely used in connection to the Black Lives Matter BIPOC Murals Project Documentary mini-series. This series will consist of six to seven short films documenting this project from start to finish.



**calgaryarts**  
development

[pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com)

The first film will showcase the origins of this project, how Black Lives Matter inspired this idea, and will act as a tool to demonstrate how projects can be made accessible and inclusive to BIPOC artists. The next four to five shorts will spotlight each artist and their piece, including this QTBIPOC mural. The chosen artists will have the opportunity to plan and collaborate with the filmmaker on their short regarding how their story is told and seen. Lastly, the final short will document the community reveal and completed murals.

These films will be available to each artist and they will receive a copy of their film to keep. To ensure each artist understands the basis upon which the film is being made, every selected person will receive a document package outlining all the information about this series.

#### HOW TO RESPOND:

Please submit the following elements in one PDF document by email and labeled with your name:

1. Statement of Interest, one page maximum	
2. Current CV and/or Bio, two pages maximum	
3. Five image examples of your work that give a sense of your skill and approach to this project	
4. Your design for the mural (this can be a sketch, a photograph, a digital drawing or a painting. Please reference the site details for appropriate scale and layout)	
5. Indicate your proposed timeline including start and end dates within the production phase of August to October 2020.	
6. Indicate if you are applying as an individual, an artist team, working with volunteers or require hired assistance.	
7. Please indicate if you would like to be added to our crew member and/or volunteer list if your proposal is not selected.	



**calgaryarts**  
development

[pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com)

Submissions and/or questions should be addressed to: [pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com](mailto:pinkflamingomurals@gmail.com)

## ABOUT US:

**Suitaakii Black** is a Two Spirit and Indigiqueer Blackfoot Filmmaker living in Mohkintsis/YYC. She specializes in camera operating and post production editing. In 2016 she attended the Adam Beach Film Institute for Enhanced Filmmaking and Techniques course, and shortly after she founded the Treaty 7 Film Collective. This collective was to provide space and support for filmmakers of colour, and members of the LGBTQ2S+ community to share their stories through film. Suitaakii was also accepted into the Herland Video Mentorship Program, as well as the Parallel Tracks Program in Toronto. In 2017 she received the "Shine" award at the Southern Alberta Indigenous Youth Awards for her advocacy and work within in LGBTQ2S+ community that was nominated by her peers. Her present goals are to document and capture as much footage as she can because, "we are a part of our own history."

**Katie Green** lends her practice by working within community, helping to uncover social, relational and individual complexities. Naturally collaborative, her process empowers a shared experience for her audiences to access their own profound source of magic, expression and healing - revealing the true purpose of her work. In a recent installation located on the bridge abutments, sheds and public washrooms along Calgary's RiverWalk, the artwork – entitled Bridge – is a representation of the East Village community. By using masks as a tool to explore our relationship to self-embodiment and expression, this artwork encouraged a space to come together to witness one another and create a shared sense of belonging. This project celebrates the communities' individual stories and the collective neighbourhood landscapes in which they unfold.

Katie's public work has been executed in Canada, the United States, India, Taiwan, and Germany. She has worked in a number of different contexts, from puppet builder to mural painter, working with companies such as The Old Trout Puppet Workshop, cSPACE King Edward, Calgary Municipal Land Corporation, The Calgary Drop-In and Rehabilitation Centre, Nelson and District Arts Council, and the Beltline Urban Murals Project.

**Pink Flamingo** is a Black-led advocacy organization that uplifts the QTBIPOC community in our city by creating events, workshops, education and safer spaces. Pink Flamingo proudly employs BIPOC visionaries.

Pink Flamingo partnership initiatives have created a vast network of artists and organizers of diverse experience, including an ambassador program that provides access to far-reaching corners of the LGBTQ2SIA+ community. Pink Flamingo is also connected to VOICES, Treaty 7's coalition of Black, Indigenous, and racialized 2SLGBTQIA+, by representation of leadership on its board. Pink Flamingo has brought events to life and built artist networks with arts groups like Femme Wave, Sled Island, Vogue YYC, Snap Canada and Umoja Sessions.