



2023 BUMP FESTIVAL REQUEST FOR PORTFOLIOS

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OVERVIEW:

Land Acknowledgement

In the spirit of respect, reciprocity and truth, BUMP Festival honours and acknowledges the land of Moh'kins'tsis. We honour and acknowledge the Treaty 7 territory and oral practices of the Blackfoot confederacy (including the Siksika, Kainai, Piikani First Nations), as well as the Îyâxe (Stoney) Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations), and Tsuut'ina First Nation.



We acknowledge that this territory is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3, within the historical Northwest Métis homeland. Finally, we acknowledge all Nations – Indigenous and non – who live, work and play on this land and who honour and celebrate this territory.

Summary

The BUMP Festival is an award-winning project transforming Calgary, Alberta, Canada, into an expansive open-air contemporary art gallery. Starting as the Beltline Urban Murals Project in 2017, the community-led initiative has expanded to become a Calgary-wide, annual street art festival. BUMP Festival is creating accessible public art, growing the capacity of Calgary’s visual arts community, fostering community connection, and amplifying a diversity of voices through the arts.

Public art plays an important role in building community, promoting dialogue and enriching our cultural landscape. Since its inception in 2017, BUMP Festival has:

- Commissioned **100+ murals** celebrating a diversity of local, national and international artists
- Awarded the 2019 Mayor’s Urban Design Award for Community Initiative
- Gathered thousands of attendees at the annual BUMP Festival
- Guided mural tours for thousands of residents and visitors to the city
- Showcased outdoor film and live music performances as part of a celebration of community and the visual arts.

Mission

To create accessible public art that uplifts communities across Calgary.

Vision

To transform Calgary into an expansive, open-air contemporary visual art gallery that drives a thriving local arts community.

Values

- **Accessibility:** We create art that is experienced by all.
- **Diversity and inclusion:** We are inclusive of the diversity of Calgary and the traditional lands of the Treaty 7 First Nations.
- **Community:** We foster community connection through public art.
- **Artistic pursuit:** We celebrate creative liberty and exploration.
- **Education:** We facilitate artistic growth and development.
- **City building:** We seek to reimagine more vibrant public spaces.

Details on past years’ murals can be found at yycbump.ca



Intent

BUMP Festival is now accepting submissions from artists for 2023. The submission process is intended to solicit portfolios and qualifications for artists who will be chosen for the project. We are seeking artists and muralists with varied experience who can execute projects large and small and who want to contribute to the betterment of the community through art. BUMP Festival values creativity, diversity and talent in artists. We are an inclusive project intended to be enjoyed by all classes, genders, cultures, ages and abilities. It is important to us to create a safe and equitable space for our cultural diversity to be celebrated and represented through visual art.

BUMP Festival celebrates the diversity and talent of all artists and invites folks from BIPOC, Indigenous, LGBTQIAS+, and differently-abled communities to apply.

ARTIST REQUIREMENTS:

The following are required to paint for BUMP Festival:

- Artists must be available to start and finish their mural painting over a consecutive 8-10 day period during the month of August 2023;
- Artists from outside of Calgary, Alberta, must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements for the painting period (artist fees will reflect the additional travel expenses);
- Artists will provide their own paint, painting supplies and materials. Artists ordering paint from outside of Calgary must consider shipping time before the painting period begins. The BUMP Festival team is happy to help direct out-of-town artists to local paint suppliers. Some local discounts are available to all artists;
- Artists must be comfortable with using elevation equipment, depending on their paired wall (scissor or boom lifts, scaffolding, ladders);
- Artists will be working outside for the duration of the painting period and must bring/source all needed supplies and gear to work in any weather condition;
- Artists must purchase general liability insurance for the entirety of their painting period. Assistance/guidance purchasing insurance is available if requested.

BUMP Festival welcomes applicants new to murals and will provide mentors and assistance to support learning and skill development for artists.



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

Format

Each respondent should submit their portfolio with the required materials via the link below:

[ARTIST APPLICANT PORTAL](#)

Portfolio Requirements:

Length: Maximum five 8.5 x 11 pages

Size: 10 MB maximum

File type: Submissions should be in a single PDF file. Please use the following tool to convert the file type to PDF (Free online PDF converter: <https://doctopdf.com/>)

File name: Portfolios should **CLEARLY INDICATE YOUR NAME**. Please use the title format for your file "NAME - BUMP 2023.pdf"

Application deadline: February 6th, 2023, at 6:00 pm Mountain Standard Time

Each respondent is solely responsible for ensuring that their response is received at BUMP Festival before the specified closing. Late submissions may not be considered.

Artist Details

- Provide your legal name(s), preferred name(s), email, phone number, and address (including current residing country/province)
- Please include pronouns and how you identify (i.e.: Indigenous, person of colour, LGBTQIAS+, differently abled etc., including as much detail as you are willing to share)
- Optional: provide the artists' website, social media (i.e. Instagram) information

Artistic Practice (1 page maximum)

- A written description of your artistic practice with details on your artistic process, styles, influences, subject matter, chosen mediums and any focus outside of muralism
- A written description of your experience with murals, both interior and exterior if applicable. Describe the timelines and sizes of the murals you have painted, referencing images in your portfolio. Alternatively, describe your experience with other forms of painting or art if you are newer to muralism.



Portfolio (3 pages maximum)

- You may provide up to 18 images (6 per page) of previous works. Preference is for murals; however, other painting/artwork and graffiti art is encouraged
- The portfolio should approximately reflect the style of murals you would install. If any submitted references are created by more than one artist, please clearly indicate your contributions for each piece
- Optional: You may provide two concepts (one horizontal and one vertical) of a proposed mural. Clearly indicate if an image is a concept or a previous work

Application Assistance

If formatting or technical issues are a barrier to your application, please reach out to paint@beltlineyyc.ca for accommodations. We are happy to provide assistance where possible for anyone experiencing difficulties with their application. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions related to the submission process or requirements of this project.

SELECTION PROCESS:

A qualified jury will evaluate all responses based on the goals and criteria below.

BUMP Festival's mission is to showcase a diversity of:

- style/media (artworks of all schools, styles, scales, mediums and tastes should be considered);
- origin (local, national, and international talent);
- qualifications (established and developing artists);
- identity (gender, ethnicity incl. Indigenous).

BUMP Festival strives to include a significant number of local artists (Calgary and Alberta) as well as artists from the Indigenous, BIPOC, LGBTQIAS+ and differently-abled communities.

Successful artists will be advised they have been selected for the project by the end of May 2023. **Due to the volume of applicants, only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.**

Note: Our selection process involves creating a longlist first and then shortlist; artists are only contacted after we have successfully paired them with a wall. Oftentimes additional walls, funding or new projects are added to the festival after May. In these cases, longlisted artists are approached first.



TYPES OF PROJECTS

Festival Walls & Murals

Walls of varying sizes are paired with artists in neighborhoods across Calgary with most located in the Beltline. Almost all of these murals will be outside and in a publicly accessible space. These murals are the core of the BUMP Festival and a limited number of unique walls are programmed in August each year. The locations, details, and budgets for the murals will be provided to successful candidates. Artists will be assigned to walls with consideration of the artist's skill and experience, building owner preferences and the jury's evaluation of location characteristics. Artists are welcome to work in teams, bring assistants etc., provided they are also covered by the artists' insurance.

Artists selected for this element of the festival have a range of experience in muralism. Newer artists to the medium will be paired with an experienced mentor to assist with learning and overcoming challenges. Local, national and international artists are selected for festival murals and walls.

Road Works

The Road Works program was developed by BUMP Festival with help from the City of Calgary to create safer adaptive patios and road infrastructure. The Road Works program creates small scale public art installations on concrete traffic barriers that go on to be utilized in neighborhoods across Calgary. Artists who are curated to be a part of Road Works are given the opportunity to create a series of 2-5 Road Works pieces, encouraging them to think about art that is functional, playful and transient in the public realm.

Road Works barriers provide a canvas for artists who like working on unique surfaces, it can be an interesting opportunity to experiment with design and functionality, or it can be a way for emerging artists to learn and practice scaling up their work. Painting for the Road Works program will take place in spring 2023. Only artists local to Alberta will be selected for this program.

Special Projects

In addition to our typical festival projects, we may have opportunities for commissioned projects outside and adjacent to the festival. These projects are each unique and specific to the project funder/sponsor and are an opportunity for artists to create a mural with a design led by a creative brief. Most special projects take place in August alongside our annual festival. Examples of past special projects can be found on our website:



- [CBC Battle of the 'Burbs](#)
- [Parks Canada - Whitebark Pine Tree](#)
- [Developmental Disabilities Resource Centre of Calgary - Everyone Belongs](#)

Graffiti Jams

Mural art is rooted in graffiti. Each year as part of our annual festival, we host a graffiti jam and invite graffiti writers from across Canada to participate by creating a high quality piece which will be painted live alongside other artists. The graffiti jam is a central event in the BUMP Festival and is a day that brings together art, music and community while activating a public space in the Beltline. Graffiti tags must be completed during the hours of the Graffiti Jam event in a single day and writers are paid for their work, with paint supplied by BUMP Festival. These events are some of our favorites to host, and we welcome applications from graffiti writers across Canada to participate.

Please indicate in the [ARTIST APPLICANT PORTAL](#) if you would like to be considered for these opportunities and join our artist database.

BUMP Festival 2023 Timeline

January 6th - February 6th, 2023	Submissions open
February - March 2023	Jury deliberations
April 2023	Wall pairings, Road Works artists notified
May 2023	Successful Festival artists notified, Road Works painting
May - June 2023	Festival artists create design concepts
June - July 2023	Festival artists lineup announcement
August 2023	BUMP Festival; Festival artists painting