BLACK HUMANITY NOW!

Street Art Mural Project

Submitted by Scott Terry Mahogany Gallery & Sentinel Mentors June 2020



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June 14, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I am submitting a proposal to create a street mural in the City of Racine. The mural will say the phrase "Black Humanity Now". This is a community wide-effort supported by residents, businesses and organizations within the Racine community. We have over 2,000 signatures and support from elected officials, as well as from several long-standing organizations in Racine.

I am excited to present this opportunity to the City of Racine. We envision this beautiful street mural to represent the community's support of its black residents, to begin to acknowledge local black history, the contributions of its black residents and the rich black culture that has contributed to the fabric of Racine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Scott Terry

Mahogany Gallery, Owner www.mahoganygallery.com 262-676-7108 www.mahoganygallery.com

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// What....

The *Black Humanity Now Street Mural Project* is the brainchild of artist, educator, community activist Scott Terry. It came as a result of similar mural projects that sparked up on street right-of-ways from all over the United States. From Washington DC to Milwaukee, to Los Angelese, It is a grassroots effort to bring attention to the pandemic of police brutality against black people, and to honor the lives lost as a result of hundreds of years of trauma that is the lived Black experience in America.

The Black Humanity Now Street Mural Project is community wide, widely supported initiative consisting of Sentinel Mentors, Mahogany Gallery, citizens and other organizations from all walks of life throughout Racine County. Scott Terry will lead and manage this project from start to completion.

// Why....

In a Wall Street Journal news article, it was reported that racial disparities in the Racine metro area are made worse by disproportionate incarceration rates. In Wisconsin, black residents are nearly 12 times more likely to be imprisoned than white residents. In addition, high school graduation rates of black students are the lowest of any ethnic group. The article indicated Racine as the 2nd worst city in America for black people. The purpose of the mural is to communicate, in a very creative, artistic and unique way, that our beloved City of Racine has much more work to do to be a safe, inviting community - specifically for its black residents and that we as a city must continue to build equity, inclustion and foster opportunities to prosper. Racine was known as an abolitionist community that was home to many safe houses throughout the Racine community during the times of American slavery. This is a history that has been lost and the crusade to abolish injustice, racism, and discrimination to continues to this day.

The goal of this project is to unite the community to stand up, advocate and support black lives.

// Logistics / Installation plan

The desired location of the mural is Wisconsin Avenue, between 7th and 8th Streets, in front of the courthouse and Racine County Jail. The mural will be layed out in chalk first, and then painted in the center of the street, centered lengthwise to be situated spanning from the middle of the block. We anticpate the dimensions of the work to be roughly 30 feet in height with a width of approximately 200 feet.

The base layer will be yellow traffic marking paint. The layout will be first temporarily drawn on the street by Scott Terry and the team of volunteers. Painted by the community and a group of professional, practicing artists and volunteers from the community. Finally, the topcoat will be embellished by professional artists from the Racine community.

Completion timeframe is estimated to be approximately 3 days over the course of a weekend.

- Day 1 Design layout of the street.
- Day 2 Community painting with designated volunteer teams.
- Day 3 Embellishment from professional artists.

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// Maintenance

A team of volunteers and youth will repaint as necessary every summer as needed. The volunteer maintenance effort will be organized and led by Scott Terry.

// Community support

We are proud to have the support of elected officials, the community and organizations who have had a strong presence in the city.

Racine Coalition for Peace & Justice
Racine Interfaith Coalition
Racine Arts Council
Longshot Vinyl

Black Hand Tattoo Shop
Sentinel Mentors
Mahogany Gallery
Clarity Cutz

Alderperson Maurice Horton Kathi Wilson Jada Pfarr Alderperson Jennifer Levie Chester Todd Joan Roehre Alderperson Trevor Jung Carl Fields Marty Alderperson John Tate - Council President Fiona Murphy Linea Anthony County Supervisor Nick Demske Carmen Avers Jamie McClendon County Supervisor Fabi Maldanado

// Fiscal Note

We are not requesting funds from the city at this time. This an entirely volunteer, self-funded initiative.

