



## Summer 2026 Dossin Great Lakes Museum Mural Criteria for Submissions

Local artists are invited to submit an original piece of art that is developed for the 2026 Dossin Mural Project. The Detroit Historical Society aims to be transparent in our guidelines for entries. Factors that are taken into consideration are as follows:

The artwork submitted for this project needs to be original and may not have been used in any other public mural projects or public art showings.

**The inspiration for the artworks** should spotlight Detroit's history through the lens of Great Lakes maritime, fishing, Belle Isle history, flora and fauna, and other related Detroit-specific stories. The Detroit Historical Society is looking for content that tells a story about Detroit's long history and relationship to the Great Lakes, through a visual lens.

- The artists must live in Southeast Michigan
- The artwork must be scalable to a 32' x 8' mural at a 4:1 ratio
  - Pieces should be no larger than 4'x1' and no smaller than 12" x 3"
- All artwork must be full color – no black and white or sepia tones
- Mediums allowed:
  - Acrylic on canvas, paper, or board
  - Watercolor on canvas, paper, or board
  - Oil paint on canvas, paper, or board
  - Collage on canvas, paper, or board
  - Digital prints
  - Photography
  - Pastels
  - **NO wet work will be accepted** – please keep that in mind when choosing a medium
- The artwork must be able to be easily photographed or scanned by the submission deadline – by the DHS exhibition team
- The selected artwork will become part of the DHS collection
- Selected artist must be available to be onsite in early September to help prepare the mural for installation
- An Artists statement and CV/resume must accompany the submission
- Upload 2-3 digital images of the submission to the project webform at **[detroithistorical.org/mural](http://detroithistorical.org/mural)**.

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[detroithistorical.org](http://detroithistorical.org)

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**Additional information:**

The winning artist shall receive a \$3,500 award for their artwork and the artist will be invited to cut the ribbon at the unveiling in September.

The winning piece will be temporarily displayed at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum inside the museum during the launch of the mural. The selected artists' name and statement will be displayed with the original artwork. (reminder: the original artwork will be translated into a Paint-by-Number interactive piece for the community to paint) All applicants will be contacted after the submission deadline has concluded and the winning artwork has been selected.

**All applicants** will be given an individual membership to the Detroit Historical Society. Valid for one year at both the Dossin Great Lakes Museum and Detroit Historical Museum.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is located at 100 Strand Drive, Belle Isle, Detroit, MI 48207 for reference and inspiration. Please do not ask the staff on site to review your artwork. Submit all submissions via the webform at **[detroithistorical.org/mural](http://detroithistorical.org/mural)**.

Feel free to reach out to Tracy Irwin, Chief Exhibitions and Enrichment Officer with any questions at [tracyi@detroithistorical.org](mailto:tracyi@detroithistorical.org).

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