More than Murals

A Three-Day Intensive on Using Art to Address Community Challenges

While many people think of art as only a fun concert or a pretty mural, the arts can be a powerful tool for cities to use to address community challenges as well as to encourage economic growth.

This three-day intensive will offer teams of three from ten different cities the opportunity to see what Thomasville has accomplished through strategic partnerships with artists, arts organizations, local businesses, and the city. After meeting with those responsible for Thomasville's growth and seeing their arts-related projects, attendees will participate in a crash course in creative placemaking and public art to learn how to plan and carry out effective arts-based programming. Each community team will come into the workshop with a specific challenge that their city is facing. The staff teaching the workshops will then work with each team to develop an arts-based strategy that addresses their community challenge. This workshop is being organized by the City of Thomasville Downtown & Tourism Development, Georgia Council for the Arts, Georgia Municipal Association, and Thomasville Center for the Arts

Details
- The workshop will take place February 22-24 in Thomasville, GA.
- There is no charge for the workshop; however, cities must apply and be accepted to attend.
- Each participating city will receive a $500 stipend to apply towards travel, lodging, and meal expenses.
- The workshop is limited to teams from 10 cities. All cities in Georgia may apply, but priority will be given to those with a population under 50,000.
- Each city that applies and is accepted must put together a three-person team that meets the criteria outlined below under Guidelines for Application.
- Deadline to apply is November 4, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

Four photographers were asked to capture the faces of the people we often miss when our heads are focused on our gadgets. Drew Balfour, Taylor Brandon, Justin Allen, and Michael Serine exhibited a powerful display of 80 larger-than-life portraits of the people who are creating our Thomasville community.

Agenda

Day 1- walking tour of Thomasville's public art projects
        Panel discussions with Thomasville's leaders who partner on the projects
Day 2- how-to workshops on creative placemaking and public art
Day 3- (half-day) attendees work with the workshop staff to develop an arts-related plan to address their local challenges

Guidelines for Application

The deadline to apply to participate is November 4, 2022 at 5:00 PM. Applicants will be notified via email the week of December 5. Upon notification of selection, chosen cities will receive an agenda, intensive details, and lodging options.

Each participating city must send three people to the 2-day intensive, and each must commit to staying for the duration of the workshop.

- Attendee #1 - An artist, or a staff or board member of a local arts organization
- Attendee #2 – A city official such as the mayor or a city council member
- Attendee #3 – A representative of the community's tourism authority, Main Street association, or downtown development authority

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via the online application portal at
https://www.cognitoforms.com/GDECD1/MoreThanMuralsApplication .

Questions

If you have any questions about the More than Murals workshop or the application, please contact Tina Lilly at Georgia Council for the Arts at tlilly@gaarts.org or 404-962-4827.

Application

These are the questions that will be found on the online application:

- City Name
- Contact Person for this application
- Email
- Phone Number

This workshop will focus on ways to leverage art to connect community and address local challenges.
- What challenges are you facing as a community that you would like to address during this workshop? Examples could include empty downtown storefronts, retaining young people in your community, attracting tourists, workforce development, etc.
- Why would you like to address these issues?
- What arts programming already exists in your community?

<u>Attendee #1</u> – **Artist, or staff or board member of an arts organization**

Name _____

Email _____

Phone number _____

Organization (if applicable) _____

Position with organization (if applicable) _____

Please attach a short bio, or a list of this person's qualifications, training or experience, along with answers to the following two questions:
1) Why do you want to attend the workshop?
2) What do you hope to gain from the experience?

<u>Attendee #2</u> - **City official such as the mayor or a city council member**

Name _____

Email _____

Phone number _____

Position with the city _____

Please attach a short bio, or a list of this person's qualifications, training or experience, along with answers to the following two questions:
1) Why do you want to attend the workshop?
2) What do you hope to gain from the experience?

<u>Attendee #3</u> - **Representative of the community's tourism authority, Main Street association, or downtown development authority**

Name _____

Email _____

Phone number _____

Organization _____

Position with organization _____

Please attach a short bio, or a list of this person's qualifications, training or experience, along with answers to the following two questions:
1) Why do you want to attend the workshop?

2) What do you hope to gain from the experience?

Sponsors
- City of Thomasville Downtown & Tourism Development https://thomasvillega.com
- Georgia Council for the Arts https://gaarts.org/
- Georgia Municipal Association https://www.gacities.com/Home.aspx
- Thomasville Center for the Arts https://thomasvillearts.org