

NEWS RELEASE



WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION

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CITY OF DETROIT

Office of Arts, Culture and Entrepreneurship

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Nation's largest 3-D mural lands in Detroit to call attention to hunger issues within African American communities

A new Detroit mural to be unveiled Saturday at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, one of the largest murals of its kind in the U.S., is designed to raise awareness of hunger issues, especially those involving African Americans during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The 3-D mural, which will be displayed on the building's 19-story wall, is the work of internationally renowned artist Carlos Alberto GH with support from the World Food Program USA, Street Art for Mankind and the Kellogg Co., as well as local support from Wayne County, the City of Detroit and the Detroit Marriott.

"Hunger and food insecurity issues have only grown during this pandemic, especially among those in the African American community," said Wayne County Commission Chair Alisha Bell. "While we as a county and as individual commissioners have joined with local businesses in distributing food to those in need, the issue existed even before the pandemic took hold and this major artwork reminds us all that more must be done to fight hunger."

Rochelle Riley, the City's Director of Arts and Culture, reminded that Detroit is a mecca for social justice art.

"We have one of the largest creative arts communities in the country," she said. "But we also draw the best here when there is a need for art to give voice to those who need it."

Chairwoman Bell will host a press event at the mural's dedication at 3 p.m. **Saturday at 461 Gratiot** (the corner of Gratiot and Beaubien) in Detroit.

The mural is among six commissioned throughout the U.S. in support of the United Nations World Food Programme, which has established Zero Hunger as a sustainable development goal. Other murals have been created in New Orleans, Houston and Oakland, Calif. Additional murals will be created in Washington D.C. and Battle Creek, Mich., headquarters of Kellogg's.

The United Nations World Food Programme received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020 for its efforts to end hunger globally. World Food Program USA is an affiliate of the World Food Programme.

Street Art for Mankind is a 501(C) (3) non-profit organization which uses work from 80 artists throughout the world to promote social change, especially on issues involving children. A free mobile app called "Behind the Wall [®]" was created by Street Art for Mankind to allow individuals to view the mural, learn the story behind its creation and the artist, receive statistics on hunger and learn how they can take action.

For more on the mural and Saturday's event, call (313) 600-2821, or visit <https://streetartmankind.org/artists/carlos-alberto/>.