



# Huntsville, Alabama

308 Fountain Circle  
Huntsville, AL 35801

## Cover Memo

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**Meeting Type:** City Council Regular Meeting **Meeting Date:** 4/13/2023

**File ID:** TMP-2771

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**Department:** Finance

**Subject:**

**Type of Action:** Approval/Action

Ordinance approving appropriations, goods, or services for district 1 Council Improvement Funds.

**Type of Document:** Ordinance No.

**Finance Information:**

**Account Number:** 3020-11-11100-515030-00000000-

**City Cost Amount:** \$ 30,000.00

**Total Cost:** \$ 30,000.00

**Special Circumstances:**

**Grant Funded:** \$ N/A

**Grant Title - CFDA or granting Agency:** N/A

**Resolution #:** N/A

**Location: (list below)**

**Address:**

**District:** District 1 ☒ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☐ District 5 ☐

**Additional Comments:**

\$30,000.00 - Dr. Robert Shurney Legacy Center Gymnasium Mural Project.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23 – \_\_\_\_\_**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama has approved the following appropriations, goods or services; and

**WHEREAS**, these appropriations, goods or services will be procured in accordance with the current laws, policies and procedures of the City of Huntsville, AL; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance Director is hereby authorized, without further action by the City Council, to make budget amendments to appropriate expenditure accounts for proper accounting of the approved amounts listed in this Ordinance; and

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama Budget Ordinance No. 22-736, adopted and approved on September 22, 2022, is hereby amended, if appropriate, by the following approved purchases:

District 1 – Keith:

\$30,000.00 – Dr. Robert Shurney Legacy Center Gymnasium Mural Project.

**ADOPTED** this the 13th day of April, 2023.

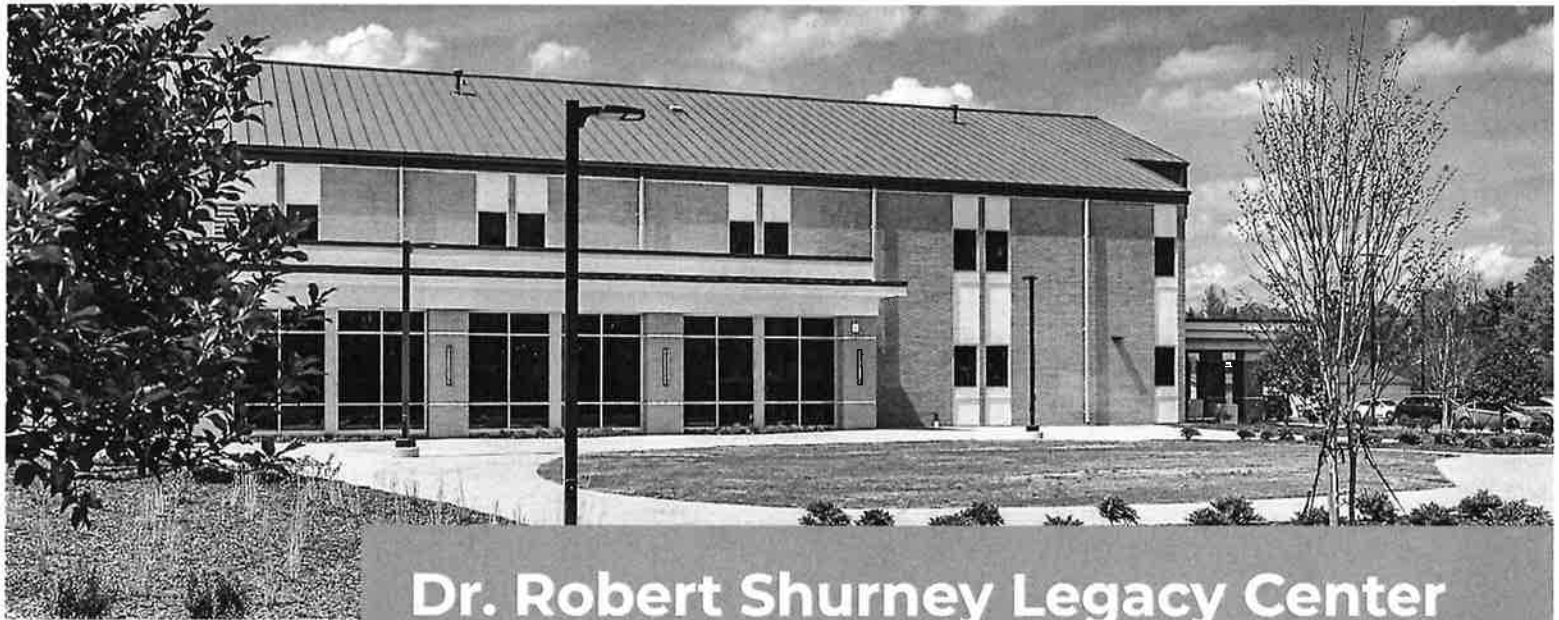
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President of the City Council of  
the City of Huntsville, Alabama

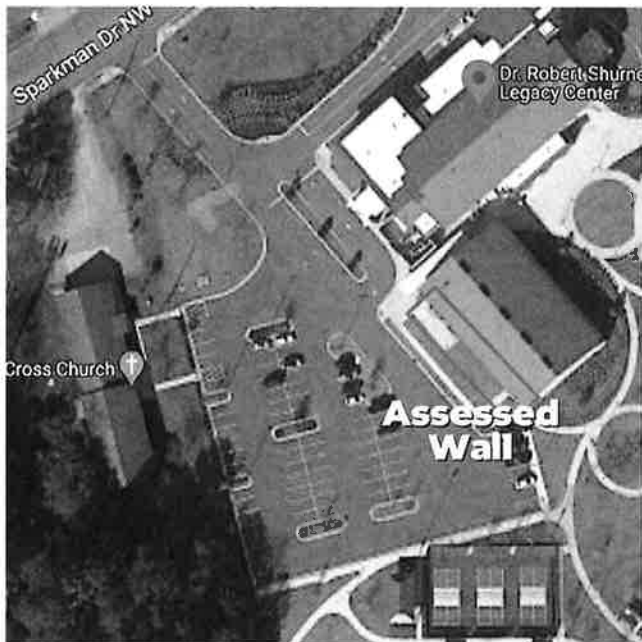
**APPROVED** this the 13th day of April, 2023.

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Mayor of the City of  
Huntsville, Alabama



## Dr. Robert Shurney Legacy Center Gymnasium Mural Project



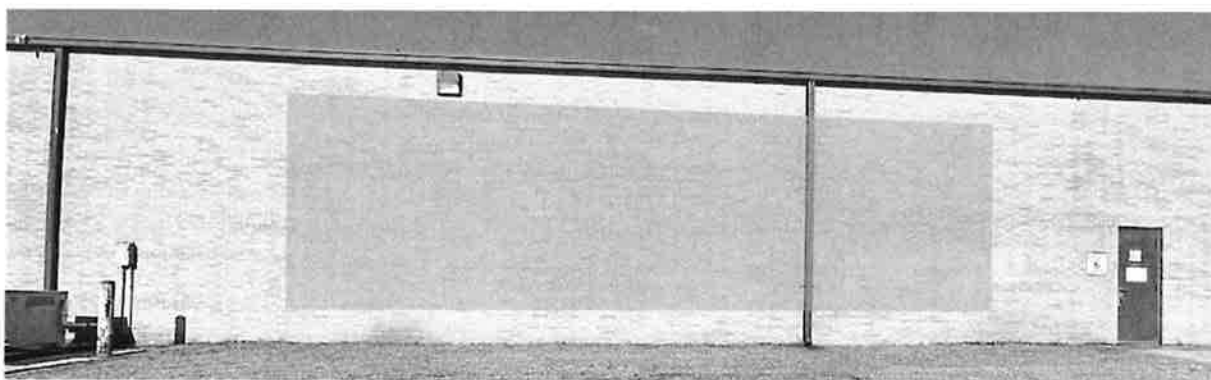
### Arts Huntsville Staff Site Assessment:

The designated wall at the Shurney Center as indicated by Councilman Keith is the southwest-facing wall of the gymnasium. The surface is in good condition. While textured brick impacts artist labor, the wall requires no prep work beyond pressure washing and priming. Mural downlighting and fencing to contain adjacent equipment is recommended.

Due to the size of the wall, it is advisable to select a subsection to keep the project expenditure reasonable. The all-inclusive target budget is \$30,000. Arts Huntsville advises avoiding the areas on the sides of the wall that contain various utility boxes. The space between the gym door and the left side utilities is recommended as the work area. This wall section is most accessible to both the artist and the public.

A downspout interrupts the wall of this area. An artist may paint on or around this, addressed, as discussed in the staff recommendation on the following page.





## Arts Huntsville Staff Recommendation:

To accommodate a \$15,000 artist award, Arts Huntsville recommends the RFP mural written for the highlighted space, which is approximately 585 square feet. This set the artist budget to a modest but fair \$25 per square foot, which includes materials, insurance, and wall prep labor. Arts Huntsville recommends that the RFP advise this area for the mural to artists as a general guideline, while still allowing for artists to propose designs with alternate or organic (non-rectangular) shapes that offer this same approximate coverage in the same area.

We recommend a Limited Selection for this project. This process entails inviting 3-5 staff-vetted artists to each submit a proposal sketch for the site. Each artist will receive a \$350 sketch fee.

An open selection is also an option. This approach will add approximately two months to the project, to allow for an application period, open call promotion, and two rounds of evaluations.

## Project Goals and Themes:

Arts Huntsville proposes a photo-friendly and family-friendly mural that celebrates the Huntsville-Madison Public Library's Blast Music Program. Launched in 2021 by the HMCPL as their contribution to Mayor Tommy Battle's Music Initiative, Blast is Huntsville's first streaming platform to feature local artists, build local music libraries and catalogs, and to engage and support local artists throughout the community. Art Huntsville recommends this theme as an opportunity to integrate space, music, and library imagery. This is suitable to the site as a library site, but also visually represents Huntsville's ecosystem of education, science, technology, and the arts.

Arts Huntsville will also encourage artists responding to the RFP to consider interactive, energetic mural elements that will encourage photo opts for park-goers and users of other Shurney Center facilities.



## Our Recommended Artists:

**Raven Armstead:** Raven is a newcomer to the Huntsville art and mural scene and demonstrates enthusiasm and professionalism. She has applied to every public art opportunity suited to her, and is a selected artist for the 2022 Artist-Initiated NEA program. That mural is currently in progress. She also recently completed her first commissioned mural at MidCity.

*More about this artist: [ravesakestudios.com](http://ravesakestudios.com)*

**Denise Onwere:** Denise is a local artist with a colorful and whimsical style suited to the family-oriented Shurney Center. She is our 2023 Panoply artist and runs a studio artist at Lowe Mill as well as art camps for children. While she does not have direct experience with murals, she has expressed interest in expanding to this medium. We feel confident that this is a project for which we can provide guidance if she is selected.

*More about this artist: [deniseonweregallery.com](http://deniseonweregallery.com)*

**Pete 'Float' Lucker:** Float is an experienced artist and muralist and recent selected artist for the 2022 Artist-Initiated NEA program. He often works with space themes, has experience working with youth and his street art/pop art style is popular with youth. His high-energy art may be a suitable match for the space. His mural-painting method is also suited to providing greater wall coverage.

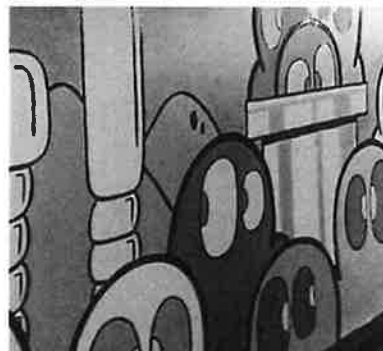
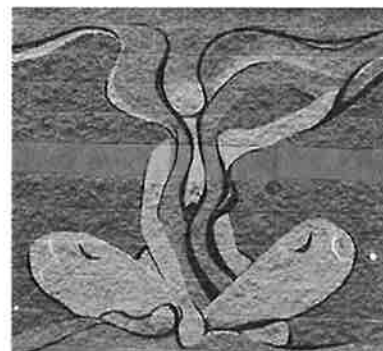
*More about this artist: [float782.com](http://float782.com)*

**Dariá Hammond:** Dariá is an experienced artist and muralist with past involvement Huntsville's public art program. Her work includes murals for Lantana Park and the Blue Spring Road project.. Her murals are bright and bring pops of color suitable to a high energy space such as the Shurney Center. She has also expressed interest in mentoring neighborhood youth on a mural project, and this project may suit that desire.

*More about this artist: [dariahammond.com](http://dariahammond.com)*

**Carston Culbertson:** Recent candidate that applied to the private Kroger mural open call. Has a style that might suit the site and an enthusiastic referral from Jahni Moore, his former teacher. This project affords a rising local artist an opportunity to submit a proposal

*More about this artist: [facebook.com/carstonc](https://facebook.com/carstonc)*



## Proposed Project Budget:

<b>Artist Award:</b>	\$15,000
Includes of all artists costs; surface prep, materials, labor, and insurance.	
<b>Sketch Fees:</b>	\$1,750
<b>White Vinyl Fencing:</b>	\$3,800
<b>Down-lighting:</b>	\$6,730
<b>Contingency:</b>	\$2,720
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

## Anticipated Timeline:

*This timeline is for a Limited Selection (Invitational) artist selection process.*

<b>April 10</b>	<b>- RFP Released to Invited Artists</b>
<b>May 12</b>	<b>- Proposal Sketches Due</b>
<b>May 19</b>	<b>- Artist Selected</b>
<b>May 26</b>	<b>- Artist Contract Finalized</b>
<b>May 27 - August 30</b>	<b>- Mural Project Window</b>
<b>Early Sept</b>	<b>- Media Activities</b>