



## “Adopt A Box” UTILITY BOX Painting

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

Main Street Columbus invites artists to participate in the Downtown Utility Box Painting Beautification Program. We are seeking artists to showcase their work to beautify utility boxes located throughout Downtown Columbus. The goals of the program are to use public art to contribute to the vitality and attractiveness of Downtown Columbus and bring art to unexpected places. *All artwork designs must be pre-approved by the Main Street Columbus Design Committee.*

### ARTIST INFORMATION

Artists are encouraged to showcase their talents on a painted utility box in Downtown Columbus. The Utility Box Painting Program aims to replace unsightly utility boxes by bringing art to unexpected places to enhance the beauty and vibrancy of Downtown Columbus for years to come. All Utility Box art proposals will be subject to the guidelines established by Main Street Columbus to determine final locations and designs. *Public art can transform a street, a community, a City and our Downtown; we appreciate your interest.*

## “Adopt A Box” GUIDELINES

- This art program is open to all adult and student practicing artists.
- All proposed artwork must be submitted in the form of a rough draft and color samples and must accompany this application. All proposals must closely resemble the art to be painted on the box.
- Themes corresponding with adjacent businesses are encouraged but not required (i.e. a postal theme or art resembling stamps on the box in front of the Post Office). Other artwork ideas are also welcome.
- The 4-inch “strip” at the bottom of each utility box should be painted black, as this is where the artist and sponsor name will be displayed. Artist and sponsor recognition will be uniform on each box and will be completed by Main Street Columbus (MSC). (Artists should not autograph their work.)
- All paint used will be “Direct to Metal”(DTM) and ordered through The Paint Store in Downtown Columbus. Prior to painting, boxes must be stripped, sanded and primed. All necessary materials should be ordered through MSC. Paint and supplies will be provided, but artists are encouraged to use their own brushes, drop cloths, tape and additional supplies needed. Any leftover paint purchased is property of MSC. Previously purchased paint used on other utility boxes should be used first and is housed at the MSC office.
- A clear anti-graffiti / UV sealant must be placed over the final artwork (14) days after artwork is completed. This sealant will also be provided by MSC.
- When painting the box, it should be done in a manner that no moisture gets inside the box through any vents. Keyholes and handles must be left unpainted. Vents may be painted, but not covered, as this will restrict airflow.
- Proposed artwork cannot contain copyrighted or trademarked images or brand names. Artwork cannot be offensive in nature including but not limited to sexual, political and religious images.
- The program is open to all artists, but local artists may be given preference. Submissions will be reviewed using the criteria of: evaluation of artistic excellence and originality, creative and innovative concepts relating to the space and appropriate regard for audience.
- Main Street Columbus reserves the right to reject or suggest revisions to any proposed artwork.
- A \$100 stipend will be provided to the artist upon satisfactory completion of work.
- Painted artwork must be completed in a timely manner and is limited to a 1-2 week time frame (This deadline does not include the proposal and application process or the 14 day wait period for the sealant.)

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## APPLICATION

**Please complete this application and attach a rough draft of your utility box art proposal, color samples and samples of prior work.**

Artist Name:

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Artist Name to appear on the Box (no logos):

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Mailing Address:

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Phone Number (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Online Portfolio/ Samples: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever custom painted a utility box, painted a mural or something similar? If so, please tell us about it on the reverse of this application. If you have images of your public art please include them with this application.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

***By signing you agree to the guidelines of the MSC Adopt- A Box Program.***

Do you know an individual or business that would like to sponsor your painted utility box? If so, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

*(All sponsors must be current MSC members.)*

*Return to: Main Street Columbus, 662.328.6305; 107 5<sup>th</sup> Street North, Columbus, MS 39701.*