

**NOMA**  
MURAL FESTIVAL **IN**  
**COLOR**  
SEPTEMBER 11-18, 2026



# CALL FOR ARTISTS

The NoMa Business Improvement District (NoMa BID) in partnership with WMATA (Metro)'s Art in Transit Program invites you to paint a large-scale-outdoor mural along the 900 ft Metro wall during our Public Mural Festival at **ALETHIA TANNER PARK**, 227 Harry Thomas Way, NE DC 20002.

## SUBMISSION DEADLINE

**MAY 4, 2026**  
DUE AT 5PM

## LOCATION

**METROPOLITAN BRANCH TRAIL  
(MBT) IN ALETHIA TANNER PARK**

(And other nearby walls within NoMa)

## ARTIST STIPEND

**\$2,900**

(Artist provides needed supplies. NoMa BID provides some equipment assistance)

MURALS WILL BE EXHIBITED FOR A MINIMUM OF TWELVE (12) MONTHS, MOST LIKELY FOR 2 YEARS.

## WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Visual Artists from the Washington DC Capitol Region who are current muralists or who are now choosing to include murals in their professional practice.

## DESIGN & ELIGIBILITY

The NoMa BID seeks to invite a diverse and dynamic group of local and regional artists to create public, large-scale murals in Eckington and NoMa. This opportunity is open to established and emerging artists who live in the Capitol Region, which includes, but is not limited to, the District of Columbia; Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties in Maryland; City of Alexandria; Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties in Virginia. Artists must be eligible to work in the United States. International or artists from other parts of the country are **NOT** eligible for this Festival.

Note that transportation and lodging is not provided. Any large-format artist in the DMV who wants to include outdoor murals in their professional practice is encouraged to apply.

ARTISTS WILL BE SELECTED BASED ON DESIGNS THAT ARE INSPIRED BY OUR NOMA AND ECKINGTON NEIGHBORHOODS. BOTH ABSTRACT AND FIGURATIVE WORKS ARE ACCEPTED.

FESTIVAL HOSTS: NOMA BID IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WMATA ART IN TRANSIT PROGRAM



CONTACT: Amanda Phillips | 202-841-3643 | [APhillips@nomabid.org](mailto:APhillips@nomabid.org)





# NOMA

## MURAL FESTIVAL

# IN COLOR

SEPTEMBER 11-18, 2026

### WHY APPLY?

The 2026 NoMa NoMa in Color Mural Festival is a central part of NoMa BID’s initiative to use public art to foster greater community, beautify the neighborhood for residents, workers and visitors to enjoy, and to support our local businesses and creative entrepreneurs.

Each year, NoMa in Color offers artists of varying skill levels a chance to learn from and network with their peers while creating impactful artworks that are loved by our neighborhood and the DC public at large.

Many prior Festival artists have taken advantage of opportunities that came about as a direct result of their participation. The NoMa neighborhood has logged more than 185 public murals in its history.

The NoMa BID offers a promotional engine and strong communications support. WMATA also offers media opportunities during the Festival. Thousands of visitors are expected to engage with the selected mural artists as they work between September 9th-20th.

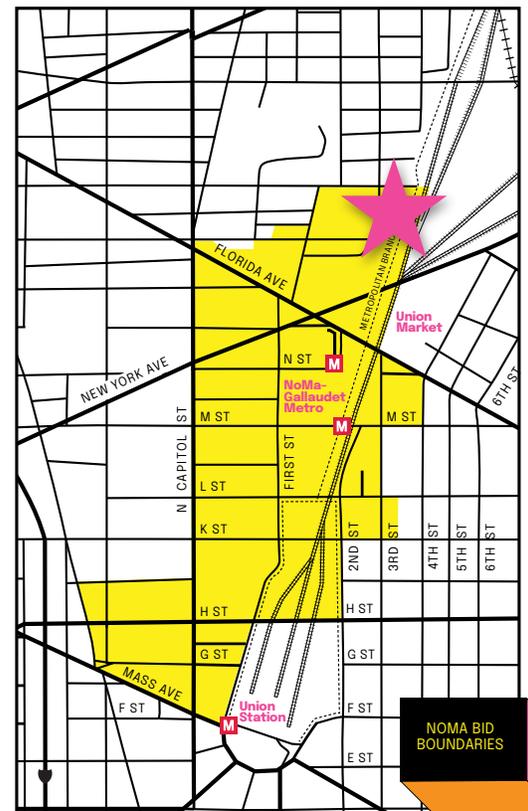
### SIZE OF EACH MURAL

Murals may vary in size but are approx. 260-330 square feet. **Refer to elevation on page 4** of this call for approximate size. Artist will not be able to select a preferred size.

ARTISTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO PAINT THEIR MURALS IN PUBLIC, BETWEEN SEPT 9-20TH, 2026. PARTICIPATING ARTISTS WILL ALSO BE EXPECTED TO ATTEND SOME KEY FESTIVAL EVENTS.

YOUR MURAL APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 4, 2026 AT 5 PM

Murals painted in Alethia Tanner Park along the MBT are on the public-facing side of the Metro wall at the Brentwood Rail Yard facility



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**CLICK TO APPLY!**



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## ADDITIONAL NOTES

All submitted images must be original work of the applicant(s) and must not include, be based on, or derived from any pre-existing or third-party designs, trademarks, or copyrighted images. Submissions created using AI can only be considered if the artist provides an explanation. WMATA requires that murals **NOT** include the following: commercial interests, imagery referring to religion, politics, violence or sexuality.

## SELECTION PROCESS

Up to Eighteen (18) Mural Festival artists will be invited to participate by a panel of community members and notified by mid June, 2026, NoMa BID staff with the community selection committee will approve the final design for the murals.

Each invited artist will receive a stipend of \$2,900 and will be required to sign an agreement between the Artist and the NoMa BID.

- Up to 3 images of previous murals or large paintings, with date created.
- Two images of your proposed mural as sketches or digital designs. You may also submit two different designs. Sketches must be detailed and include a color palette and be a clear representation of the final mural.
- An artist statement that includes why you are interested in painting a mural in NoMa/Eckington and how this proposed mural represents your body of work. If you submit more than one design, you will need to provide two narratives.

NoMa BID and WMATA staff and a community-based selection committee will select artists based on their submitted designs. Prior work – even if not a mural and a compelling narrative for the proposed mural design will be the most important criteria of your submission.

Each artist will be required to obtain a Certificate of Liability Insurance to be submitted to the BID at least a week before the Festival. The BID can provide a list of insurance providers who offer short-term insurance.

At the time that selected artists are notified, and before a final agreement is executed with the NoMa BID (no later than July, 2026), artists will be provided with a list of required equipment, as well as a list of items that can be shared by the group during the Festival period. Expectations of the artist for Festival participation will also be provided at that time.

Neither NoMa BID nor WMATA seek to determine the specific subject matter of submitted mural proposals. Final artists, however, WILL be selected based on designs that are inspired by our NoMa and Eckington neighborhoods. Your sketches or digital image must be presented as a mural image that translates well to a large-scale mural wall, situated in a busy outdoor park space.

ARTISTS ARE INVITED TO REFLECT ON THE COMMUNITIES THAT DEFINE THIS PLACE AND INTERPRET WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT HOLD FOR THIS EVOLVING GATEWAY TO THE CITY.

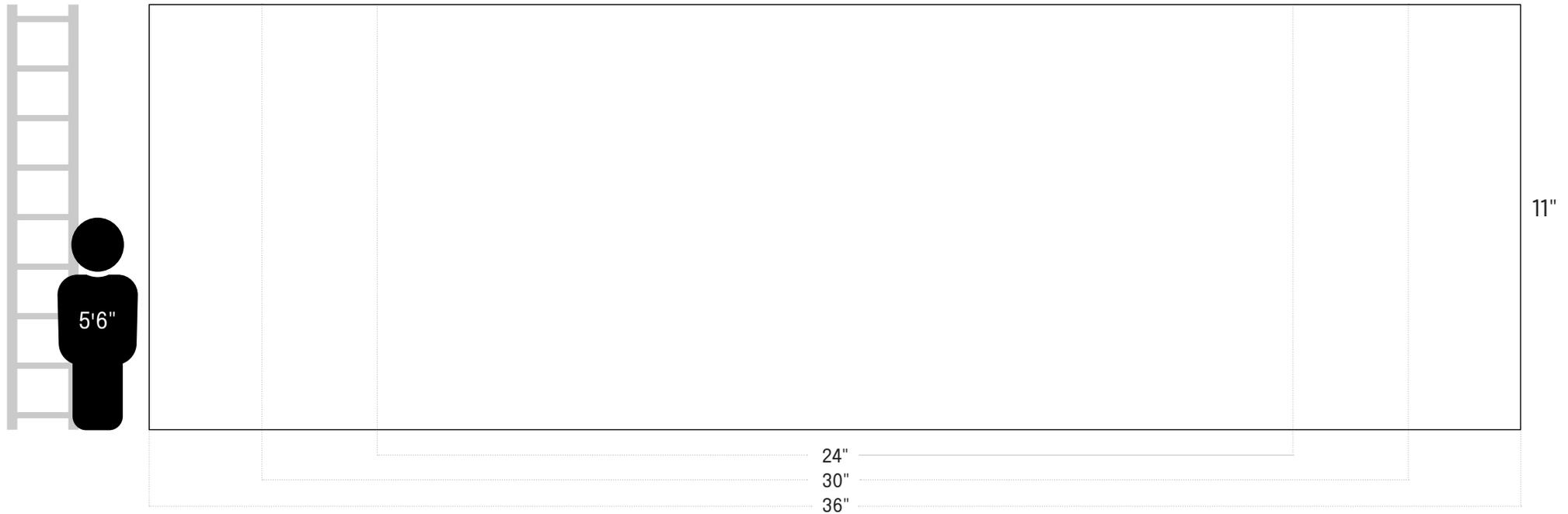
**MORE INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR SELECTED ARTISTS.**

**CLICK TO APPLY!**

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Use the template provided below if needed. Make sure to include clear images of previous work. If you have applied previously, you do not have to duplicate images already sent in. Both abstract and figurative works are accepted. Provide a detailed narrative if your inspiration is not immediately clear.



THREE POSSIBLE WALL SIZES

36" x 11"

30" x 11"

24" x 11"

**CLICK TO APPLY!**