Call to Artists: SWB Mural Project

Soccer Without Borders (SWB) is excited to invite artists to participate in a transformative project that will shape the identity of our new headquarters while enriching the Highlandtown neighborhood here in Baltimore. As a community-driven organization dedicated to promoting equity, inclusivity, and the power of soccer, we are seeking talented local artists to contribute their creative vision to our mural project.

Objective:
The goal of the SWB Mural Project is to create an inspiring and inclusive mural that reflects the values, culture, and diversity of the communities we serve. We aim to highlight the power of soccer to bring people together, regardless of their background or identity, and empower newcomer youth to thrive. Through this project, we strive to celebrate multiculturalism, diversity, and the spirit of inclusivity that defines SWB.

Project Details:
- **Location:** SWB Headquarters, 3700 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore. The mural wall is on Dean Street.
- **Theme:** The mural should depict the essence of our community, incorporating elements such as diverse soccer players, students, English language learners, girls in sports, family, shared meals, dancing, college acceptance letters, and a welcoming environment for all.
- **Style:** Open to various artistic styles and mediums, including but not limited to, realistic, abstract, illustrative, or graffiti art.
- **Size:** The mural will cover a significant portion of the building façade on a highly visible alley street with approximate dimensions: 21 x 30ft.
- **Compensation:** 3 finalists will receive an honorarium of $750 to submit a full proposal. The selected artist will receive further compensation for their artistic contribution, as we will work with them to secure funding for the project.
Submission Guidelines:
1. Eligibility: This open call is available to artists who are residents of Maryland and are over 18 years old.
2. Submission Materials:
   a. Artist's portfolio showcasing previous relevant work.
   b. A written proposal (no more than 1 page) outlining your concept, inspiration, estimated timeframe, project cost and how your art aligns with the project's objectives and SWB's values.
3. Contact information: Full name, phone number, email address, and mailing address.
4. Deadline: All submissions must be received by July 7th.
5. Submission Method: Please email your complete submission package to rgitonga@soccerwithoutborders.org.

Selection Process:
An Artist Selection Committee (ASC) composed of representatives from SWB, youth participants, and community members will review all submissions and select the artist(s) whose proposal best aligns with the project's objectives. The selection will be based upon artistic excellence, concept alignment, and the ability to create a visually captivating and meaningful mural.

Important Dates:
- Call for Artists Announcement: June 16th
- Deadline for Submissions: July 7th
- Artist Selection Committee selects 3 finalists: July 10-21
- Two-way interviews, share youth design ideas with artists: Aug 7 - Aug 11
- Full proposal with narrative, budget, estimated schedule, drawings, renderings submitted to the ASC: September 8th
- Winning artist selected and notified: September 30th
- Mural Creation: TBD

We encourage artists from diverse backgrounds to apply and share their unique perspectives through their artistic interpretations. This is an incredible opportunity to leave a lasting impact on our community and contribute to the mission of SWB.

For any inquiries or additional information, please contact Ryan Gitonga (rgitonga@soccerwithoutborders.org).
We look forward to receiving your submissions and collaborating with you on this exciting project!