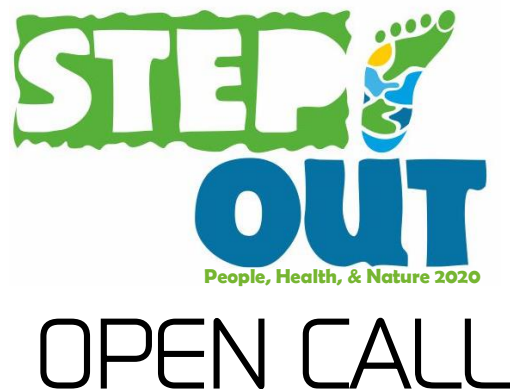


During the time of COVID-19 and as our communities' grapple with generations of racial and environmental injustice, clean air and green spaces take a new meaning in the lives of people. These traumas, recent and historic, have created a mental barrier between people and nature, as many residents are fearful of leaving their homes. Whether in solitude or in solidarity, nature has, is and will continue being a place to clear the mind, re-energize the body and de-stress the soul. During these uncertain times, the natural environment can be a place where there is a lack of clean air, safety and a sense of fear imposed among our communities. Now, more than ever, is a time when people would benefit greatly from reconnecting with nature. Whether going to state or local parks, community gardens, our porches, patios and backyards, whatever allows you to breathe, take in the sun and reset.

We invite you to create works that demonstrate the relationship between people and nature. Consider the following:

- How is our health impacted by limited access to clean air and green spaces?
- What role does clean air and green spaces (the outdoors) play in bringing us together?
- Has fear altered our connection with green spaces in our communities?

OPEN Center for the Arts, The Nature Conservancy, and Latinos Progresando are excited to announce a call-for-artists based in the North Lawndale and South Lawndale communities of Chicago presenting an interpretation and/or approach focusing mainly on Air Quality and Green Spaces.



BASES

Artists are invited to submit proposals in a full color sketch with their interpretation on air quality and green spaces.

Artist submissions must meet the following requirements:

- Must live, work and/or be connected to North Lawndale (Lawndale/Homan Square/Douglas Park) and/or South Lawndale (Little Village/Marshall Square)
- Artists must be 18 years of age or older
- Submit a horizontal full color sketch (selected proposed murals will be approximately 8'(long) x 4' (tall))
- Sketch must be original and owned by submitting artist.

Note: Preference may be given to live/work applicants

SUBMISSION

Send an email with the following information to info@opencenterforthearts.org

1. Write in subject line: **STEP OUT**
2. Send Jpeg images of sketch with minimum resolution of 300dpi
3. Complete the registration form (attached)
4. Send up to 3 JPEG images of proposed work.
5. Name each JPG image with first initial, last name and image number (example: ARodriguez1.jpg, ARodriguez2.jpg)
6. In the body of the email include:
 - Artist name
 - Photo of the artist creating
 - Title or work
 - Artwork statement
 - Artistic discipline and artist's statement (no greater than 50 words)
 - Artist bio/cv

Note: Submissions with incomplete information will not be accepted.

**** Submission deadline: November 3rd 2020 ****

Date of finalist announced: **December 23rd 2020**

Supply pickup: **Week of January 4th 2021**

Unveiling Event: **Spring 2021 TBD**

Important information for selected Artist:

- Four (4) Artists will be selected on **December 23rd** and notified via email.
- After the notification, selected artist will receive an 8' x 4' plastic board to recreate the submitted sketch
- Selected Artist will be required to fill out and sign agreement, registration, and waiver forms
- Selected Artist will be required to present at two locations (Locations TBD)
- Selected Artist will be required to participate in interviews
- Selected Artist will have until March 5th to complete and drop off their Mural.
- A commission of \$1500 will be granted to selected artists. All expenses must be covered within this commission.

Questions: Fernando.abuito@opencenterforthearts.org or 773.396.7202

****Deadline for submissions November 3rd 2020****