

THE BLEED

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Mixing Mediums





EUGENE MURAL PROJECT

is the initiative of the City of Eugene Cultural Service's Public Art Program "to create twenty or more world-class outdoor murals in Eugene between now and the 2021 IAAF World Championships," and it's getting a ton of help locally to complete it. Debbie Williamson-Smith, communications manager at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, as well as a committee member of the 20x21EUG Mural Project, gives us some insight on who else is a part of the project as well as why and how they're doing it.

Emily Smith Words **Athena Delene** Photography **Destiny Stringer** Design



“Sidewalk Games (and Kindness)” - “Jogo de Calçada (e Gentilezas)”



IF YOU'VE EVER BEEN TO EUGENE, OREGON

you know there are beautiful buildings downtown and throughout the valley, with multiple hills that are fun to hike and rivers flowing through it. There is so much to do here; biking, running, rafting, rock climbing, kayaking and more. The city is referred to as the “Emerald City,” and “A Great City for the Arts and Outdoors,” and the most common, “Track Town, USA.” The last name was given because the University of Oregon has had some incredible athletes in the past, and therefore is home to some renowned and artistically stunning athletic venues including Autzen Stadium, Hayward Field and Matthew Knight Arena. Because of this title, Eugene has hosted the US Olympic Trials six times since 1972, and will be hosting the IAAF World Championships in 2021.

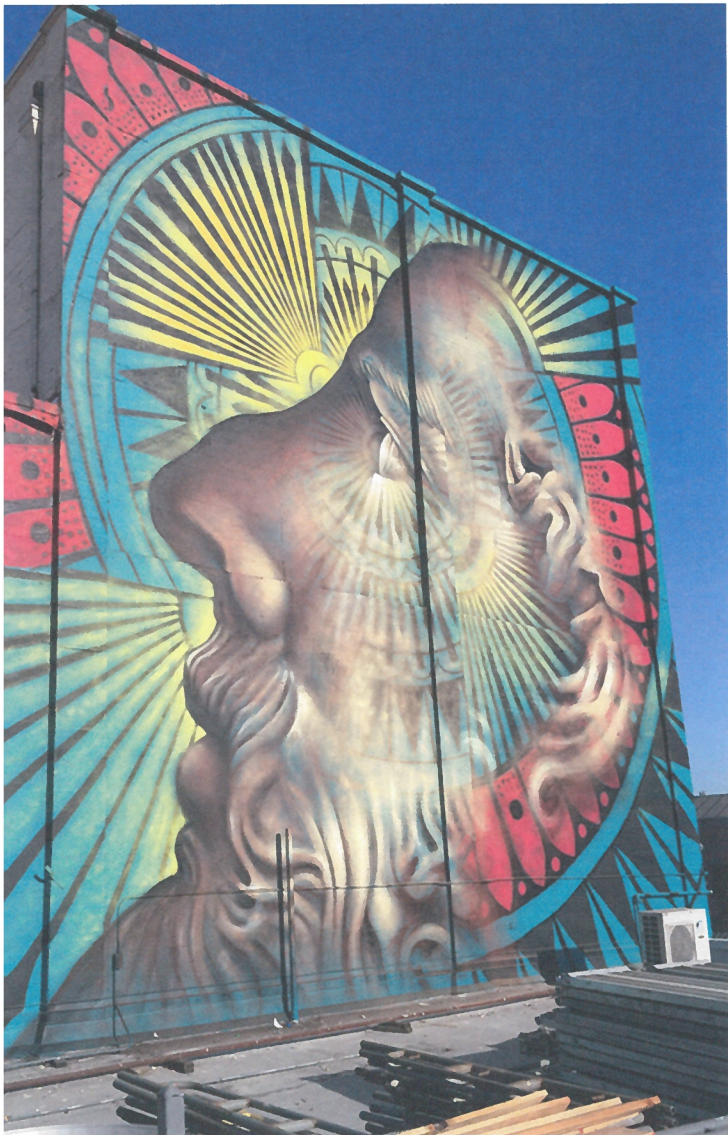
The concept for a large scale public art project such as 20x21EUG came from Isaac Marquez, public art manager for the City of Eugene. The project is rooted in Eugene’s rich history of public art, and dates back to the Oregon International Sculpture Symposium in 1974. Marquez gathered a committee of arts organizations and community members that are passionate about this project and street art. The committee includes: Pal Denis Godin, ADR Chambers/Stitt Feld Handy Group, Isaac Marquez, public art manager with the City of Eugene, Joseph Moore of GMA Architects, Thomas Pettus-Czar with The Barn Light, Jessica Watson with the Lane Arts Council, and Debbie Williamson-Smith of the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art. The original project goal of ten murals

The first mural was created by Brazilian artists Robézio & Terezadequinta who make up the urban art collective, Acidum Project. Find it in the alley next to Cowfish dance in downtown Eugene.

in five years changed to twenty because of the immense interest from the artists and public. As the project continues to grow, 20x21EUG seeks to engage local artists in creating murals and international artist exchanges, while creating internationally recognized street art as our community prepares to host the world.

The committee compiled a roster of the most renowned street artists and muralists from around the globe, reached out to several of them and have been overwhelmed with the enthusiastic response. Murals make a big impact on the city landscape, and 20x21 aims to bring color and life to Eugene’s urban landscape to foster pride and contribute a sense of identity. And when the athletes and visitors arrive for the 2021 IAAF World Championships, they will be able to look up and see the world in art. “I think the biggest boost from the murals we’ve seen so far is in civic pride,” Williamson-Smith says. “Our community is doing a lot to prepare to host the 2021 IAAF World Championships, and tourism will certainly impact the community in the years of planning and by the time the events occurs.”

The second mural, by Beau Stanton, an American painter and mural artist, is on the back wall of the historic McDonald Theatre, overlooking the LTD bus station. Measuring over 3,500 square feet, this is his largest mural to date.



Beau Stanton | @beaustanton





Steven Lopez | ikeepmoving.com

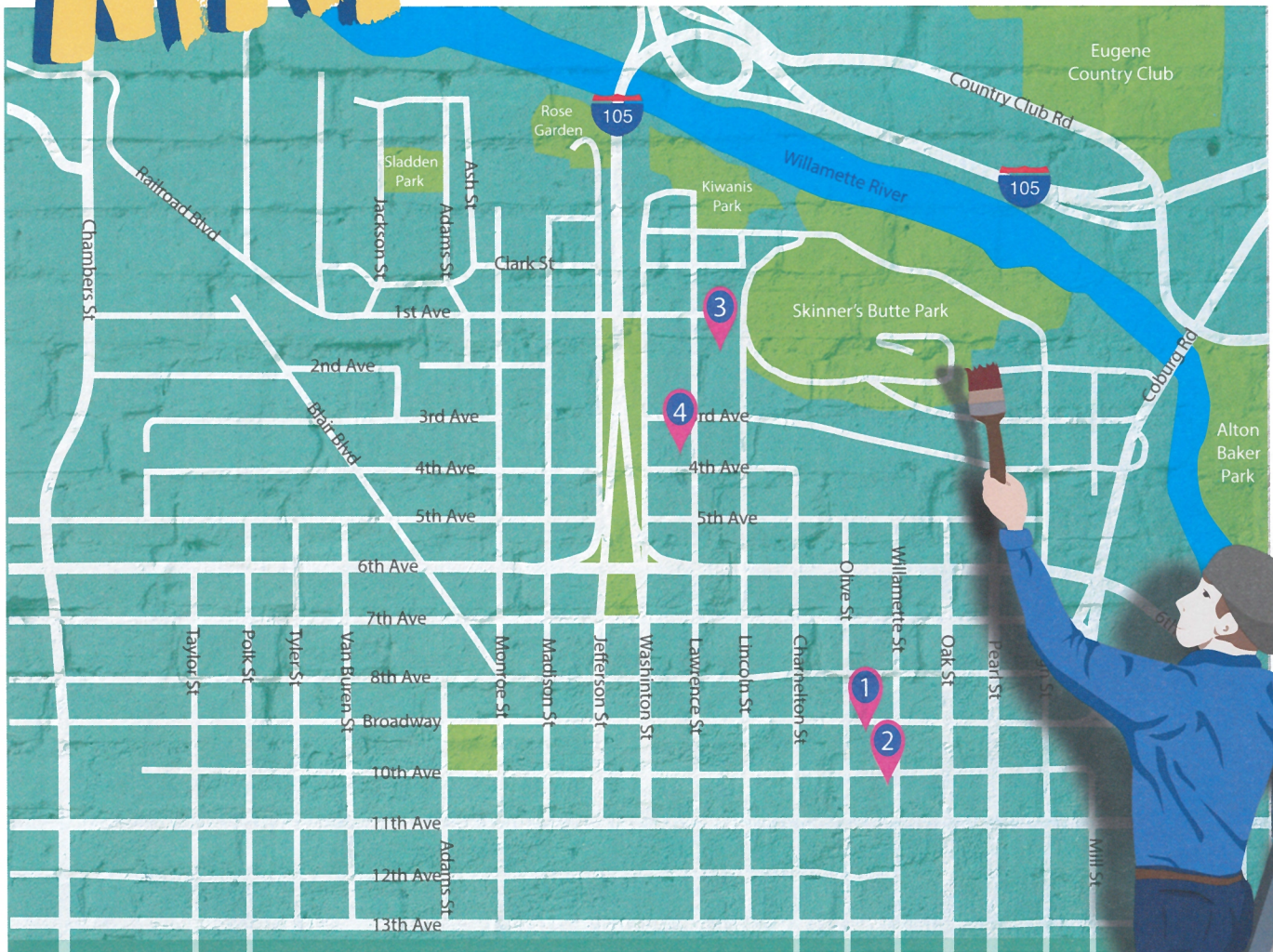
The third mural is by Steven Lopez, another American artist who studied at the University of Oregon. The flowers need the bees and the bees need the flowers and Eugene needed this bright beauty in the Whitaker neighborhood! Located on the Wildcraft's press house at 232 Lincoln St.

Funding for the project is being provided by City of Eugene Cultural Services, Epark Eugene, and a variety of local business partners. Williamson-Smith states, "Community members and businesses have helped us with each mural and visiting artist. From meals to paint, all of our needs have been met through in-kind donations and steep discounts."

The 20x21EUG project will also be hosting Eugene Walls, a week-long event featuring international artists, **Blek le Rat** (France), **Telmo Miel** (Netherlands), **Hyuro** (Spain and Argentina), **Jaz** (Spain and Argentina), **Dan Witz** (United States), **Hush** (United Kingdom) and **Ila Rose** (United States), creating mural magic in the city. There will be car-free fun along Broadway in downtown Eugene, a reception, an outdoor film and a mural tour on Lane Art Council's First Friday ArtWalk, followed by a downtown EUGfun! concert. Throughout the week, stop by the mural sites and check on the progress. They still have yet to match every artist with a wall to paint, but we can keep up with the project through their Facebook page or Instagram @20x21EUG. The project will culminate with an exhibition at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, opening in June 2021. ■

MURAL MAP

The next visiting artist is Hua Tunan, a Chinese artist that combines traditional Chinese art with western graffiti art. He will be visiting in June and creating a mural on Vistra Gallery in the Whiteaker district.



Rob Callahan Illustration

- 1) Acidum Project | COWFISH ALLEY
- 2) Beau Stanton | MCDONALD THEATER/LTD STATION
- 3) Steve Lopez | WILDCRAFT PRESS HOUSE
- 4) Hu Tunan | VISTRA GALLERY