



Royal Oak

Agenda

Royal Oak Commission for the Arts Meeting

Monday, August 19, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

City Hall, Room 122

203 S. Troy Street

Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the city clerk's office at 248-246-3050 at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting.

	Pages
1. Call to Order	
2. Public Comment	
3. Approval of Agenda	
4. Approval of Minutes	
5. New Business	
a. Discussion on Artist Laureate 2024-2025 Application Process/Interview Questions	
b. Mural Proposal at 4817 Fernlee Ave (RC Transit & Gear Inc.)	2
6. Old Business	
7. Subcommittee/Program Reports	
8. General Announcements	
9. Social Media	
10. Adjournment	

Public Art Application



I. Contact Information

First Name: Rick Last Name: Williams
Address: 27319 Marshall
City: Southfield State: MI ZIP: 48076
Email: info@distinctlife.com
Phone: 248-895-1001
Website: www.distinctlife.com

II. Proposed Locations for Artwork (Please prioritize.)

Priority 1:

Priority 2:

Site: RC Trans & Gear Inc 4817 Fernside Site:
Please attach visual representations of proposed sites.

III. Artwork Identification

Artwork Name: RC Cars
Year: 2024
Artist: Rick Williams
Medium/Material: Spray Paint
Dimensions: 53 Ft by 17 Feet
Footing Requirements:
Value of Artwork: 7K

IV. Visual Representation of Artwork Attachment

- Drawing, photograph or other visual representation of artwork indicating its height, width, and relationship to desired site are to be attached with proposal.
- Additional information including brief narrative of proposal including concept or visual representation of footing requirements may be attached if necessary.

V. Artist Statement Attachment

- Brief description of artist's work.

VI. Artist Bio and References Attachment

- Please attach an artist biography and three (3) professional references.

VII. Liability and Legal Requirements

- All installed public art is subject to a contract and license agreement between the artist, owner, or representative and the City of Royal Oak for the duration of display. Projects shall not be initiated until legal requirements are approved by City Staff and the City Commission.

VIII. Submission of Application

- Send completed application with required attachments to ROCFA@romi.gov.

Failure to provide the information outlined above may result in the City's rejection of this proposal until all the requested information is provided.

For any questions regarding this application or the Royal Oak Commission for the Arts, please contact Assistant to the City Manager Susan Barkman at 248-246-3204 or Susanb@romi.gov



ARTIST STATEMENT

Matthew Michael Hutton, known as Ghostbeard, and Rick Williams, also recognized as #METALFEET, form a dynamic duo of Detroit-based artists renowned for their impactful murals and diverse creative expressions. With over a decade devoted to painting city walls, Matthew, aka Ghostbeard, has adorned over 100 murals throughout Detroit and internationally. His artistic style is a fusion of aerosol techniques and acrylic canvases, drawing inspiration from childhood icons like Walt Disney and the vibrant cartoon culture of the 80s and 90s. Matthew's Irish heritage adds depth to his storytelling, enriching his art with cultural resonance.

Rick Williams, aka #METALFEET, brings a multidimensional approach to art, spanning design, photography, painting, and percussion. His journey since the early 2000s has been defined by vibrant murals distinguished by his signature camouflage motif. This aesthetic choice symbolizes his ability to blend into and stand out from urban landscapes, echoing the layers of meaning within his work. Inspired by the rhythmic beats of 90s hip hop and the soulful melodies of jazz, Rick weaves a tapestry of cultural influences into his creations, reflecting Detroit's rich artistic heritage.

Together, Ghostbeard and #METALFEET are the Superfriends (TM), a dynamic duo known for their creative synergy and impactful collaborations. Ghostbeard, with partnerships that include global brands like Netflix, Verizon, and EA Sports, uses his art to promote positivity and storytelling. His whimsical "CAR"toon characters and intricate narratives engage viewers in imaginative storytelling that celebrates creativity and community spirit. Meanwhile, #METALFEET brings over 20 years of design expertise and entrepreneurial ventures with major brands like New Balance, Puma, Reebok, Beats by Dre, and Comedy Central. Their partnership not only enriches urban landscapes with visually compelling works but also resonates deeply with communities, celebrating diversity and the cultural tapestry that inspires their art.

ARTIST BIO'S

RICK WILLIAMS

Rick Williams is a metro Detroit-based multidisciplinary artist, designer, and entrepreneur who has made a name for himself in the worlds of street art, sneaker design, and creative direction. As the founder and Creative Director of DISTINCT LIFE, a project-based creative agency, Rick has built a reputation for his innovative approach to branding, design, and marketing.

As a muralist, Rick's work can be seen throughout the city of Detroit, where he has created stunning pieces that reflect the city's rich culture. His murals are known for their bold colors, the camo pattern, and attention to detail, and have become a beloved part of the city's landscape.

In addition to his work as a muralist, Rick is also a highly sought-after sneaker designer, having collaborated with some of the biggest brands in the industry. Rick founded Burn Rubber Sneaker Boutique in 2007. His designs are known for their unique aesthetic, blending elements of storytelling, streetwear, and culture.

As the founder of DISTINCT LIFE, Rick has built a reputation for his ability to think outside the box and come up with innovative solutions for his clients. His agency has worked with a variety of clients, from small startups to major corporations, helping them to develop their brand identity and create compelling visual content.

With a background in graphic design and a passion for street art, Rick has become a leading figure in the Detroit art scene. His work is a testament to his creativity, skill, and dedication to his craft, and he continues to INSPIRE and captivate audiences around the world.

GHOSTBEARD Matthew Michael Hutton, also known as Ghostbeard, a Detroit-born street artist and muralist with a decade-long dedication to transforming city walls. I have painted over 100 murals across Detroit and beyond, including international projects.

My artistic journey is deeply rooted in a childhood love for the animated worlds of Walt Disney, Hanna-Barbera, Tex Avery, and the vibrant cartoon culture of the 80s and 90s. This influence shapes my signature style, blending aerosol murals and acrylic canvases.

Beyond my artistic pursuits, I have a strong connection to my Irish heritage, which adds layers of cultural inspiration to my work. After studying animation at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and earning a BS in Digital Media, I further refined my skills with a certification in Graphic Design from The College for Creative Studies in Detroit. My art has been featured in galleries nationwide and in prestigious contemporary art museums.

Collaborating with global brands like Netflix, Verizon, and EA Sports, I use my art to promote positivity and storytelling.

REFERENCES

Roula David- Spotlight/ Murals in the Market Detroit, MI 313-434-4679

Daniel Bombardier Director, Free for All Walls Windsor, Canada 519-551-3825

Bilal Saeed-Detroit Pistons 313-569-6182

THE ART-RC Trans & Gear 4817 Fernlee, Royal Oak, MI

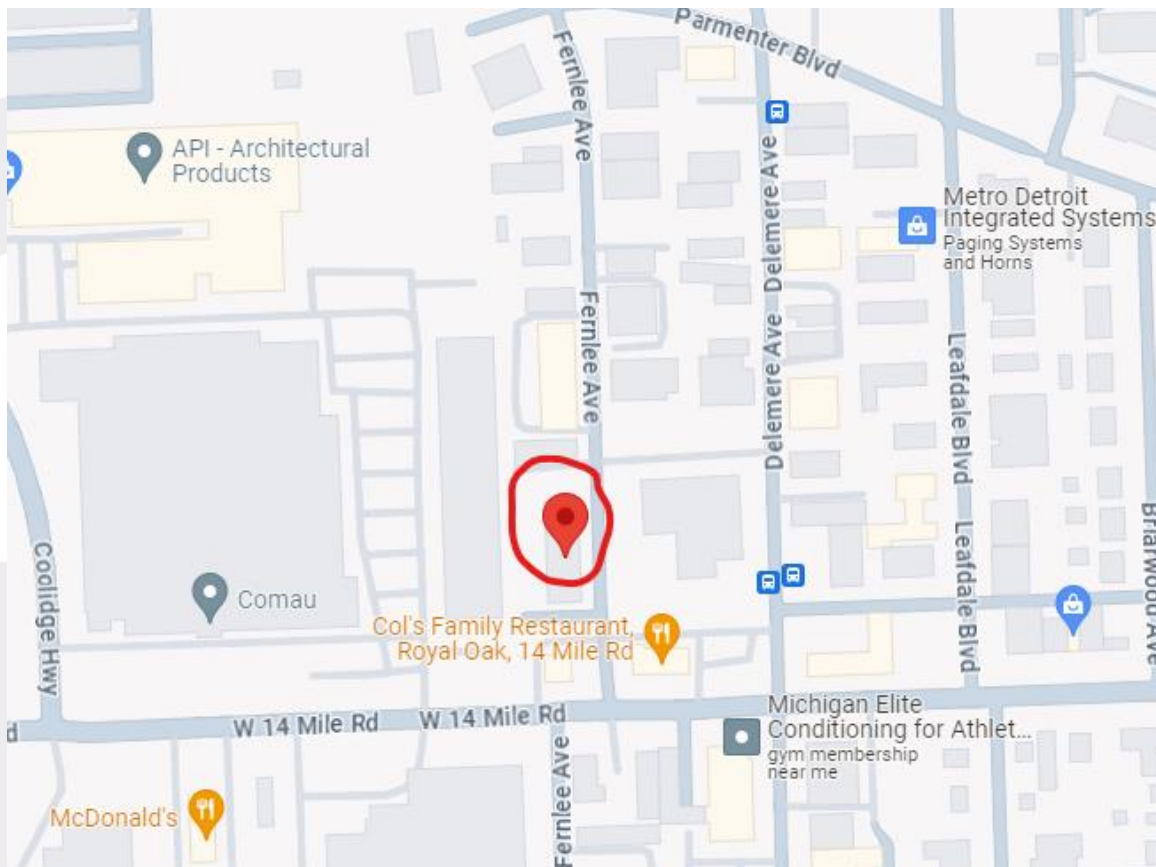


**Proposed Business Mural
Application Request**

August 19, 2024

Members of the Commission for the Arts:

We have recently received an application for a mural to be done on the side of RC Transit & Gear Inc., a building located at 4817 Fernlee Ave.



The business owner/artist is Rick Williams, and he is seeking approval so that he can begin painting. RC Transit & Gear Inc. is a family-owned transmission team providing clutch repair, differential service, wheel bearing repair, and transmission services. The idea for the mural is to include the white outline of a broken-down car and truck displayed against a rainbow backdrop.



Should the Commission for the Arts approve of this application request, the City Attorney will draft a contract and licensing agreement for the project.

Respectfully submitted,
Alayna Brasch
City Manager Fellow