

Scrappy's Storm Drain Artscape Competition Guidelines

Presented by the University of North Texas We Mean Green Fund



About Scrappy's Storm Drain Artscape Competition

What is Scrappy's Storm Drain Artscape Competition?

The competition initiated as a We Mean Green Fund project supported by the UNT Smoke-Free Policy Committee in 2016. Through the installation of storm drain murals painted by students, the goal is to inspire UNT students, faculty, staff, and visitors to be mindful of our storm water system and take special care in assuring that only storm water enters storm drains. Cigarettes among other littered items pose a threat to environmental health when they enter storm drains; the murals serve as a reminder that our actions to prevent pollution can create a more sustainable campus and a healthier planet.



Why Storm Drains?

Storm drains are essential units of city infrastructure that drain excess rainwater off of paved areas into natural bodies of water to prevent flooding. Like many cities, Denton's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) drains directly from city streets, parking lots, and sidewalks to Lewisville Lake, a primary source of drinking water for the DFW metroplex. As storm water moves to and through the storm drain system, it can pick up anything in its path including litter and pollutants. Storm water discharges into local waterways untreated, meaning it does NOT get cleaned at a water treatment plant. This means that litter and pollutants that wash through storm drains end up in creeks, rivers, and lakes and impact the environmental health of those ecosystems as well as the water quality for populations that depend on clean water. The storm drain murals should raise awareness of the impact litter has on our waterways and should aim to prevent litter while promoting campus "Green" pride!

What is the University of North Texas We Mean Green Fund?

The University of North Texas' green fund, the We Mean Green Fund (WMGF), empowers members of the UNT community to improve our institution through campus projects that embody passion and spirit for environmental sustainability. The fund was initiated in 2010 by a majority vote of the student body and is continuously made possible by the UNT student body through a \$5 Environmental Service Fee collected from students during the spring and fall.

The fund supports the advancement of campus environmental sustainability efforts through community-driven project ideas and leadership. Through joint engagement and enthusiasm from students, faculty, and staff, the projects financed by the fund integrate sustainability into the culture of our university's many operations and activities. This project is made possible by the We Mean Green Fund.

Mural Guidelines and Details

Who can submit a mural?

Murals may be submitted by currently enrolled UNT students.

Do artists receive monetary compensation?

Mural artists will receive \$500 in compensation for their completed artwork. There may only be one artist per storm drain mural. Artist payment will occur after the completion of the mural. To receive payment, the artist must have an I-9 form on file with the university. This can be done through the Career Center.

Design Guidelines: What will the review panel be looking for?

Chosen designs will be selected based on their ability to 1) convey a clear and creative educational message about discouraging litter to protect water health and 2) illustrate UNT school spirit. Designs should be family friendly.

Additionally, mural designs must conform to the shape and proportional size of each mural location. [Downloadable templates](#) are provided for each of the three storm drain locations to illustrate the varying physical dimensions of each site. Artists may apply their designs directly on the provided templates or draft a comparable template of their own to accurately demonstrate the scope of the design.

All artwork should remain within the borders of the storm drain boundary. The mural design should *not* extend into the surrounding sidewalks/bricks/roads or cover the storm drain lid.

Paint is the only material allowed in the design.

Artists may attach links or examples of previous original artwork when they submit their design to demonstrate their painting abilities. The review panel may use these supplemental materials to decide between finalists.

What should the chosen artists expect?

- If chosen, artists will complete their mural during a 2-week window determined by the We Mean Green Fund. This will occur before April 22, 2021 as long as weather permits.
- Artists may be called upon for media events such as interviews or photo opportunities.
- Mural sites will be coated with primer prior to artist installation. A protective sealant and safety grip will be applied by staff after murals are painted.
- Paint brushes will be provided, but students may bring their own brushes if they choose.
- Artists must agree to follow competition guidelines and attend a meeting before painting.

Paint Colors

Artists will be provided with paint specified for concrete application and may not use their own paint. Artists should limit their mural color pallet to color combinations possible from the provided colors below.

Available Colors

Dark Blue Hex Code: 164576	Tan Hex Code: bc934d	Green Hex Code: 00853E	Gray Hex Code: bec1c3	Pink Hex Code: f0bcc9
Maroon Hex Code: 8e3738	Light Blue Hex Code: 89c6df	Orange Hex Code: e5613d	Yellow Hex Code: fccb2a	White Hex Code: FFFFFF

Installation Duration

Installations will be reviewed annually to determine continued display, or if a new piece should be installed in its place, or if art should be removed. UNT or the City of Denton has the right to remove art at any time if it is determined that the installation should no longer be displayed.

When is the mural due and how do I submit it?

1. All designs and entry forms must be submitted by midnight CT, Sunday, March 28, 2021.
2. You may apply your design to a [storm drain template](#) or make a comparable template of your own to closely resemble the proportional shape of the desired storm drain location.
3. Submit an [entry form](#) for each design and email your design to WeMeanGreenFund@unt.edu.
4. Before emailing, title your design file by the name of the mural, not by your name.
Designs will be judged anonymously.
 - a. Example mural file name: The Wonders of Water Mural Design
5. Remember, if you wish to submit more than one design, you must submit an entry form for each design.

What safety guidelines must be followed while participating?

- Pertaining to COVID-19, all [campus safety guidelines](#) must be upheld by participants.
- Murals shall be painted by one individual so that social distancing can be maintained.
- Group gatherings are not permitted while the artist installs their mural.
- Paintbrushes, paint, and other supplied materials will be sanitized prior to artist pick-up.
- Artists must wear a reflective safety vest while implementing their mural on-site.
- Barricades will be provided to protect the artists from potential traffic.

Storm Drain Locations

The three storm drain mural locations are indicated on the map below:

1. The Union Circle (Blue ★)
2. The intersection of Mulberry Street and Avenue A (Yellow ★)
3. The Science Research Building (Red ★)



Storm Drain Templates

Downloadable templates are provided at scrappysartscapes.unt.edu for each of the three storm drain locations to illustrate the varying physical dimensions and shapes at each site. Artists may apply their designs directly on the provided templates or draft a comparable template of their own to accurately demonstrate the scope of the design.

What is the competition timeline?

DATE	TIMELINE ACTIVITY
Monday, March 1, 2021	Scrappy's Storm Drain Artscape Competition Opens
Sunday, March 28, 2021	Scrappy's Storm Drain Artscape Competition Closes
Late March	The review panel will evaluate mural submissions and select final designs
Early April	Chosen artists will be contacted with instructions for mural implementation
April	Selected artists paint their murals by Earth Day, April 22, 2021

Helpful Tips

- It is strongly encouraged that each artist visits the storm drain location they plan to design a mural for before working on their design.
- Students may submit the same design for each mural location but will need to modify the design to fit each storm drain location because they differ in size and shape.
- [Read about the murals previously installed](#) through this competition. Please note, the competition guidelines no longer allow paint to extend onto the storm drain lid or the surrounding sidewalks and roads. Also, while previous murals paid homage to sea creatures, new submissions should focus more on flora and fauna that is native to North Texas if wildlife is part of the design concept.
- Possible design ideas to stimulate creative thinking: UNT traditions, UNT landmarks, North Texas native wildlife (please note, dolphins and sea turtles are not native to North Texas!), North Texas bodies of water, examples of litter that could go down a storm drain, clean drinking water, etc.

Questions or Concerns?

Any questions regarding the competition can be directed to wemeangreenfund@unt.edu.
Visit scrappysartscapes.unt.edu