Storm Drain Artscapes

Are you an aspiring artist? Want to have your original artwork displayed prominently on campus? The Storm Drain Artscapes competition will give winning artists the opportunity to beautify our campus, raise awareness, inspire others, and represent their fraternity or sorority, residence hall, or student organization at the same time!

**Why Storm Drains?**

Storm drains are a vital, but often misunderstood, part of our campus infrastructure. Most people may be able to explain the basic function of a storm drain, but many fail to make the connection to water quality and the health of our creeks, rivers, and lakes. Storm drains collect runoff from our streets, parking lots, and lawns before draining into local bodies of water without passing through any treatment facility or filtering process. This means the litter and debris that collects near storm drains is carried directly into our aquatic ecosystems, which greatly impacts the health of those ecosystems and the quality of the water. To add to the problem of unawareness, storm drains are popular areas to drop cigarette butts and other trash because people mistakenly assume their litter will be filtered out of the water.

Traditional storm drain labeling is ineffective at raising awareness and educating those who pass by about the impact they can have on the quality of our water. Our plan to attack this issue, which is modeled after initiatives in places like Dayton, Ohio, and the City of Plano, is to create and install visually appealing artwork directly onto storm drains that will grab the attention of those who pass by, raise awareness, provoke thought and dialogue concerning the importance of storm drains in the health of waterways, and inspire environmental activism.

**Artwork Guidelines**

- Artwork should clearly communicate the connection between storm drains and the health of our local aquatic ecosystems and the quality of our water.
- Artwork should seek to raise awareness and inspire change with a positive, encouraging message.
- Artwork should be designed specifically to fit the applicable storm drain collar and throat (see below for exact dimensions). Artwork cannot extend outside of the defined area. It is strongly encouraged that prospective artists visit the applicable location prior to designing their artwork.
- Artwork may include a 12-inch by 12-inch square “tag” in any one corner of the design which can be used to promote the organization (fraternity, sorority, residence hall, or student organization) with which the artist is affiliated.
- Artwork must be the original work of the submitting artist(s).
- Artwork will remain installed for a minimum of one year unless it is determined by the University of North Texas to have been damaged or otherwise inappropriate for continued display.
- Artwork will be installed using only approved paint. Paint will be provided by the University of North Texas. Each artist will be limited to a palette of five paint colors.
Locations

Three existing storm drains have been selected for the initial stage of this project due to their location in highly visible areas with heavy foot traffic and the amount of litter that gathers in those locations. See the map below for the exact location of each of the three selected storm drains. The winning artwork in the Student Organizations category will be installed at location #1 near the Science Research Building. The winning artwork in the Residence Halls category will be installed at location #2 near Curry Hall on Fry Street. The winning artwork in the Greek Life category will be installed at location #3 in front of the Union. Specifications for each location can be found below.
**Storm Drain Specifications**

Artwork should be designed specifically to fit the applicable storm drain collar and throat (see example below). Artwork cannot extend outside of the defined area. It is strongly encouraged that prospective artists visit the applicable location prior to designing their artwork.

Location #1 (Student Organizations)

**Site 1 - SRB - Chosen because of cigarette litter issue at location.**

- Dimensions
  - Width - 109"  
  - Collar Depth - 40"  
  - Throat Depth - 16"
Location #2 (Residence Hall Association)

Site 2 - Curry Hall/Fry - Chosen due to high visibility and cigarette litter problem

- Dimensions
  - Left - 92”
  - Back - 73”
  - Right - 67”
  - Front - 82”
  - Throat depth - 24”

Location #3 (Greek Life)

Site 3 - University Union

- Dimensions
  - Width - 132”
  - Collar Depth - 43”
  - Throat depth - 36”
Examples of Storm Drain Artwork

Submission Instructions
- Artwork submissions are due by March 4, 2018.
- Apply at sustainability.unt.edu
- Email application AND artwork design to WeMeanGreen@unt.edu
- Applications are due by March 4, 2018