

CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Project:

Branches of Honor Mural Experience



The city of Goodyear invites Arizona artists to submit qualifications for a unique temporary public art project honoring the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Six artists will be selected to each create one temporary mural representing each branch of the U.S. military.

Each mural will be installed on an 8'x8' double-sided temporary mural wall. While one side will feature the artist's original artwork celebrating the assigned military branch, the reverse side will serve as an interactive Community Gratitude Wall where veterans, military families, and community members can leave messages of appreciation, remembrance, and support throughout the week and at the Veterans Day celebration.

Artists will complete their murals during Goodyear's Veterans Week, the week leading up to Veterans Day. During this time, the city will host programs and resources recognizing veterans and supporting military families. The public will have the opportunity to watch the murals come to life, meet the artists, learn about the inspiration behind each work, and engage in the Community Gratitude Walls.

The completed murals will serve as a centerpiece of the City's Veterans Day celebration, creating meaningful opportunities for reflection, gratitude, and community connection.



Location:

Goodyear Civic Square Park
1900 N. Civic Square
Goodyear, AZ 85395

Artist Expectations:

Selected artists will:

- Create one original mural honoring their assigned military branch
- Work collaboratively with City staff and the Arts & Culture Commission to finalize artwork prior to painting
- Complete the mural during the designated Veterans Week, November 2-6, 2026
- Schedule painting hours to allow the public to observe the creative process during park hours (6 a.m.-10 p.m.)
- Demonstrate professionalism while working in a public setting and interacting with community members
- Use only approved materials provided or approved by the City
- Design artwork that is welcoming, respectful, family-friendly, and appropriate for audiences of all ages
- Supply all materials needed to complete the mural, including paint, equipment, water, and drop cloths. Artists must also maintain a clean and safe work area, ensuring the site is free of splatter, overspray, and debris
- Attend the Veterans Day event on Saturday, November 7, 2026 from 4-7 p.m. at Goodyear Civic Square Park to engage with the community and assist with facilitating the Community Gratitude Wall
- Attend two meetings:
 - Project kick-off meeting to discuss project expectations and logistics
 - Public Art Subcommittee meeting for concept approval

Mural Surface:

The City will provide the designated 8'x8' primed plywood surface for the mural. Both the mural surface and the completed artwork will remain the property of the city of Goodyear.

Theme:

Branches of Honor celebrates the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Each mural should honor the unique history, mission, values, traditions, and spirit of one military branch while recognizing the shared commitment to service that unites them all.

Artists will be assigned one of the following branches of the U.S. military:

- U.S. Army
- U.S. Marine Corps
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Space Force

During the application process, artists will identify their top two branch choices to represent. While the City will consider artist preferences whenever possible, final assignments will be determined by the city of Goodyear to ensure that all branches of the U.S. military are represented.

Artists are encouraged to create artwork that is inspirational, respectful, and welcoming to audiences of all ages.

Artist Eligibility:

The project is open to all Arizona artists, artist teams, and educational institutions.

Compensation:

Artists will be compensated \$1,250 for design, materials, and time. Payment schedule:

- Upon selection artists will receive an initial payment of \$500
- Final payment of \$750 payable upon completion of painting and final approval and attendance at the Veterans Day event

Apply:

Interested artists shall submit their application that includes the following submission materials no later than Monday, **September 28, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.**

Submission Materials:

1. Narrative questions:
 - a. Describe your artistic and creative practice: what mediums do you use, what is your style, what are your artistic values and/or your approach to creating art?
 - b. Why is your preferred military branch(s) meaningful or significant to you? This may include personal experiences, family connections, military service, historical interest, or another meaningful relationship.
 - c. Describe your vision for creating a mural that respectfully honors the selected military branch while engaging a broad community audience.
2. No more than five digital images of relevant past work and an annotated image list.

Do not embed images into PowerPoint or submit moving images or audio files. Submit only high-quality JPGs (no GIFs, TIFFs or other formats). Files must be less than 5 MB. Files must be titled with a number indicating the viewing order followed by the artist's last name. The numbers must correspond to the accompanying Annotated Image List. Use "0" in front of single-digit numbers. Do not use more than 30 characters, and use only letters, numbers and underscores. **Example: 01_Smith.**

Materials may only be submitted electronically [via the online application form](#). Submissions that are incomplete or late will not be accepted.

If you have any questions, contact Layne Ruiz at 623-882-7544 or by email Layne.Ruiz@goodyearaz.gov.

Selection:

The selection committee, representing diverse interests and expertise of the City and community, will convene to review images and information sent by artists and/or artist teams.

Selection criteria include:

- Excellence of past work
- Artists ability to communicate a theme
- Technical skill

The panel will select finalists who will be engaged in this interactive pop-up mural experience and demonstrate the ability to communicate a theme that honors and celebrates Veterans.

Project Timeline:

Monday, September 28, 2026	Deadline for receipt of materials by 11:59 p.m.
Friday, October 9, 2026	Finalists notified
Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Project kick-off meeting
Wed, October 21, 2026 @5 p.m.	Artists present concept to Public Art Committee
Tuesday, October 27, 2026	Artists digitally submit final mural design and artwork statement
November 2-6, 2026	Artists on-site to paint murals and engage with the community
Saturday, November 7, 2026	Artists attend event from 4-7 p.m. Murals removed at conclusion of Veterans Day event.

Selected Artists Responsibility:

- Selected artists shall sign an agreement for the scope of services that include:
 - Intellectual property rights to the art for display and marketing to the city of Goodyear.
 - Indemnification and hold harmless for the city of Goodyear
- Any images of real people or text that requires a release will be the responsibility of the artist to obtain and provide a copy to the City.
- Selected artist shall submit a W9 to the City for payment.
- Artist compensation includes all services and materials:
 - Total artists compensation \$1,250