

ENGLEWOOD ARTS COLLECTIVE

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Englewood Arts Collective Awarded Halsted Gateway Project from INVEST South/West *Artists to develop mural artwork for Englewood Line Halsted viaduct*

(Chicago) Englewood Arts Collective (EAC) is proud to announce it has been commissioned to create community art for the Halsted Gateway Project. The artwork is commissioned from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (**DCASE**) and the Department of Planning and Development (**DPD**) as part of Chicago's INVEST South/West initiative. The project, titled ***Our Englewood Mural***, will revitalize the street level walls and bridge spanning the Englewood Line Halsted viaduct, located at 5800 S. Halsted Street.

The arts collective, composed of an array of professional artists with roots in the Englewood community, will celebrate their efforts on October 31, 2020 with a community-inspired celebration. To ensure residents and community stakeholders are engaged, EAC has created a virtual hub: ourenglewoodmural.com as a way to collaborate with the community. Currently, visitors to the website are able to vote on elements that will be included in the mural. Site users can also sign up to volunteer or to become a partner during the unveiling event. The hub will be continuously updated with announcements throughout the rest of the month as the event develops with our community partners. #ourenglewood

The Englewood Line Halsted viaduct originally featured murals created in 2018, that was created via a partnership between Grow Greater Englewood and TRACE (Teens Re-Imagining Art, Community & Environment). Just Flo, one of the EAC's artist members, was the lead muralist who led the teens from TRACE in creating the murals. The commission of the *Our Englewood Mural* represents a circle of evolution in tribute to the original artwork.

Our Englewood Mural will be unveiled at the Englewood Line viaduct on October 31, 2020 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm at the 5800 South Halsted location. This socially-distant free event will feature PPE giveaways, live painting, music, seasonal treats, yoga, children's books and opportunities for organizations to have vendor tables all in the name of safe celebration, unity and community.

As of the date of this release, current associated partners and collaborators include:

Lead community engagement and logistic partner:
Resident Association of Greater Englewood (R.A.G.E.)

Other partnerships and participating organizations:
[Alderman Coleman office of the 16th Ward](#)

[Brown Books and Paintbrushes](#)
[Made in Englewood](#)

[Grow Greater Englewood](#)
[Growing Home](#)
[ImagineEnglewoodiE](#)
[Children's Home & Aid](#)
[Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce](#)
[Southeast Chamber of Commerce](#)

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About Englewood Arts Collective

Comprising professional photographers, writers, musicians, graphic designers, clothiers, fine artists, and street-art/graffiti muralists, we're a collaboration who either hail from or currently live in Englewood. The ultimate goal of the Englewood Arts Collective is to reflect the beauty of, enrich the community within, and help produce events and interactions that reflect the Englewood Chicago community in a positive way—reframing the mainstream narrative, from the inside out. Learn more at englewoodartscollective.org

About INVEST South/West

INVEST South/West is an unprecedented community improvement initiative under Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot to marshal the resources of multiple City departments, community organizations, and corporate and philanthropic partners toward 10 communities on **Chicago's South** and **West** Sides. About the Department of Planning and Development: As the principal planning agency for the City of Chicago, the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) promotes the comprehensive growth and sustainability of the City and its neighborhoods. The department also oversees the City's zoning and land use policies and, through its economic development and housing bureaus, employs a variety of resources to encourage business and real estate development, as well as a diverse and stable housing stock throughout the City. www.chicago.gov/dpd.
