

## STUDIO STORIES – A2AC MURALS

The Art Center's "Studio Stories" is a series of interviews with local and independent artists about creating art in today's rapidly changing world. We want to see why the arts and independent artists are adaptable and important during times of change! Overall, we're looking to reflect a message of hope and positivity. We'd like to source at-home interviews with artists in our network and assemble videos to be distributed by email and social media. The following is a framework for artist interviews, content we would need from you, and artist resources.

[CHECK OUT SEASON ONE OF STUDIO STORIES HERE](#)

### ARTIST INTERVIEWS

Feel free to respond to as many of these questions as you'd like! This is a loose framework so don't be afraid to get creative.

#### INTRODUCTION

- Tell us about yourself
- Your name, your medium
- Tell us your background and relationship to the art center
- Tell us a little bit about your work generally
- Plug your social media and/or website

#### MURALS

- How did you become involved in the arts and when did you discover murals as an art form?
- Describe some of your other murals? Where are they?
- Can you tell us about a particular project you worked on that made an impact on you personally or artistically?
- What equipment do you use? Do you have any special tools that are unique to your process?
- Who are your inspirations? Why does their work resonate with you?
- Does your work have any relationship with the wall or the building you'll be painting?
- Do you have a specific connection to Ann Arbor?
- What do you believe the responsibility of a muralist is when it comes to the local community?
- Why do you think that murals and public art in general are important during these times?
- What's next for you?

#### STUDIO

- Show us where you create (see notes in the "what we'll need from you" section on format)
- How do you set the stage for creativity?
- How does your studio space impact your work?
- Has quarantine affected how you relate to your studio space?
- Describe your typical day, being as specific as possible.
- Do you have music that you like to listen to while you work?
- Do you work on one project at a time or several?

## CURRENT EVENTS

- How have current events affected your art practice?
- How are you using this time?
- If you've been making work, show us.
- How did you make this work?
- What processes are you experimenting with?
- Are you redirecting your creative energy to any other projects outside of art? (ie. protesting, gardening, writing, etc.)
- What do you do to recharge yourself?
- What discoveries have you made about making art during this time?
- Has this changed how you relate to your materials? To your studio?
- Has this changed your perspective about art that you had already made?
- How are you keeping your self-expression as an artist viable and vital?
- How are you taking care of your mental health?
- What are you surprised by about the world in this moment? What are you grateful for?
- How are you staying connected during this time of quarantine and social distancing?
- Have you heard from your audience? From other creatives?
- Why do you view arts organizations like the Art Center as vital community resources right now?
- Is there anything that people can do to help independent artists and arts organizations?
- Why do you think that art is important in the world right now?

## WHAT WE'LL NEED FROM YOU:

- Between 5 and 10 minutes of video 'interview' responding to some or all of the prompts above
  - Please record in the horizontal orientation
  - Please make sure there is no background noise if possible (including white noise – fans, air conditioning, etc)
  - Bright, indirect lighting is best for interview footage – in front of a window is perfect, for example but make sure you're not backlit
  - Feel free to lightly edit your video – we will make final editing choices and will be cutting footage down to 2-4 minutes
  - Please be honest and candid but remember that we are looking to reflect an overall message of hope and positivity
- Optional studio walkthrough footage with phone
  - Show us your workspace!
  - Please record in horizontal orientation
  - Walk us through your process of creating work
  - Walk us through a day in your studio
  - Show us some of your pieces and tell us about them
  - See other prompts in the "STUDIO" section above!
- Please include any additional content that you would like to share, for example:
  - Timelapse of you creating your work
  - Extended studio tour

- Digital “takeaway” – photo/video downloads for a screensaver, a digital copy of your art that can be printed and colored, coloring book style, prompts for an at home art project in your style, etc.
- We’re open to hearing any other ideas of content you’d like to get out there!
- High quality photos of your work – lots of photos! Old work, new work, in progress work, all of it!
- The best way for viewers to see more of your work – website, instagram handle, etc.
- Please email all materials to Andrew Cohen, the Art Center’s content specialist, at [acohen@annarborartcenter.org](mailto:acohen@annarborartcenter.org)
- We will be editing your footage down to 2-4 minutes of video with intro and outro bumpers, photos of your work, footage of your studio
- Please let us know if you have any questions, comments, suggestions!

## RESOURCES FOR ARTISTS AND ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

Foundation for Contemporary Arts – COVID-19 Relief Fund

<https://www.foundationforcontemporaryarts.org/grants/emergency-grants>

Emergency Grant for Painters Printmakers and Sculptors

<https://www.gottliebfoundation.org/emergency-grant>

Relief fund supporting Black and Indigenous artists and administrators

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/artsleadersfund?utm\\_source=Master+List+-+All+Contacts+Combined&utm\\_campaign=d126d8b00-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2019\\_01\\_28\\_10\\_27\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3ff658fb65-dd126d8b00-79220459&mc\\_cid=dd126d8b00&mc\\_eid=204f069ce6](https://www.gofundme.com/f/artsleadersfund?utm_source=Master+List+-+All+Contacts+Combined&utm_campaign=d126d8b00-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_01_28_10_27_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3ff658fb65-dd126d8b00-79220459&mc_cid=dd126d8b00&mc_eid=204f069ce6)

Starting an Emergency Relief Fund

<https://springboardforthearts.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Springboard-for-the-Arts-Emergency-Relief-Fund-Resource-3.17.2020.pdf>

Funder? Here are 7 things you can do to support your arts community

<https://www.americansforthearts.org/news-room/americans-for-the-arts-news/funder-here-are-7-things-you-can-do-to-support-your-arts-community>

Freelance Artist Resources

<https://covid19freelanceartistresource.wordpress.com/>

NEA resources

<https://www.arts.gov/covid-19-resources-for-artists-and-arts-organizations>

COVID-19 Resource and Response Center

<https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/disaster-preparedness/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-and-response-center>

Southeast Michigan Focused COVID 19 resources

<https://culturesource.org/covid-19-response-resource/>