



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CALL FOR ARTISTS LAUNCHED TO SHOWCASE LOCAL TALENT ON IKE INTERACTIVE KIOSKS IN DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Partnership between the City of San Diego, Downtown San Diego Partnership, and IKE Smart City offers artists the opportunity to display their art on digital kiosks, enhancing public art access and community engagement.

SAN DIEGO – Feb. 21, 2025 – The Downtown San Diego Partnership, in collaboration with IKE Smart City and the City of San Diego, is enhancing the pedestrian experience and public art accessibility in San Diego's urban neighborhoods through a new initiative for local artists, cultural institutions, and community organizations to showcase their work on IKE's digital interactive wayfinding kiosks. The newly opened call for artists invites local talent to submit their work for consideration to be featured on kiosks located in high-traffic areas across Downtown.

The submission portal is now officially open for artists to submit their work for consideration. Artists selected for this program will receive an honorarium generously provided by Orange Barrel Media and have their artwork displayed on IKE kiosks for a six-month period. The initiative seeks to celebrate San Diego's diverse artistic community and integrate public art into the daily lives of both residents and visitors.

"This initiative is a great example of how public spaces can be assets in our effort to create vibrant and welcoming spaces in America's Outdoor Downtown," said Betsy Brennan, President & CEO of the Downtown San Diego Partnership. "By showcasing local art on IKE's digital kiosks, we're not only beautifying Downtown San Diego but also creating an immersive experience that invites pedestrians to engage with the city in new and inspiring ways. It's another way we are committed to enriching the public realm for both residents and visitors."

IKE's digital kiosks provide pedestrians with interactive tools, including wayfinding resources, local business listings, and real-time city updates. As part of this collaboration, each kiosk will feature the work of local artists, effectively creating a public art gallery in the heart of Downtown San Diego.

"This partnership is a powerful way to amplify the voices of San Diego's artists and enhance the vibrancy of our Downtown," said Christina Bibler, Director of Economic Development for the City of San Diego. "By seamlessly integrating art into the city's infrastructure, we're creating a more engaging, visually

stimulating environment that reflects the diverse spirit of our community and invites everyone to connect with art in new and meaningful ways.”

Artists based in the City of San Diego are encouraged to review the eligibility criteria and submit their artwork for consideration. The selection process will occur semiannually, with four artists featured per six-month cycle. The upcoming round of selections will be based on submissions received by **April 20, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. (PT)**.

Key Dates:

- **Feb. 21, 2025:** Art submission form opens
- **April 20, 2025:** Submission deadline
- **April 21 – April 30, 2025:** Selection committee reviews and selects artists
- **June 1, 2025 – Dec. 1, 2025:** First four artists featured on IKE kiosks
- **Dec. 1, 2025 – June 1, 2026:** Second four artists featured on IKE kiosks

Artists can submit their work, find full submission details and learn more about the program [here](#).

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About the Downtown San Diego Partnership

The Downtown San Diego Partnership is a nonprofit organization that serves as the principal voice and driving force behind the economic and cultural prosperity of Downtown San Diego through membership, advocacy and enhanced services. It also serves as the managing organization for several special districts including the Property and Business Improvement District, otherwise known as the Clean & Safe program, which has provided enhanced public services in 275 blocks of Downtown for more than 20 years. For more information, visit downtownsandiego.org.

About IKE Smart City

IKE Smart City pioneers smart city technology to improve lives in cities. The company aims to develop and operate the premier interactive kiosk platform with the goal of building a wayfinding and city communication system for the digital age and delivering it in a self-sustaining business model at no cost to city partners. IKE kiosks help cities, business improvement districts, and destination marketing organizations connect with the public, encourage a pedestrian-oriented environment, and tell the story of their city. IKE is currently live in over 20 cities: Atlanta, GA; Aventura, FL; Baltimore, MD; Berkeley, CA; Cincinnati, OH; Cleveland, OH; Columbus, OH; Coral Gables, FL; Denver, CO; Detroit, MI; Houston, TX; Miami, FL; Minneapolis, MN; Oakland, CA; Phoenix, AZ; Raleigh, NC; San Antonio, TX; San Diego, CA; St. Louis, MO; Tampa, FL; and Tempe, AZ. For more information, visit ikesmartcity.com.

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