City of Lakewood
MLK – Beloved Community Black History Celebration
2027 Youth Arts Showcase – Rules and Regulations

The City of Lakewood and its MLK Committee invites all students who live in Lakewood and Clover Park School District students in grades 6-12 to participate in an art showcase highlighting a vision of Lakewood as a Beloved Community. Dr. King envisioned the beloved community as a society based on justice, equal opportunity, and love of one's fellow human beings. Dr. King's words were for the present age, both national and global. For him, the human community meeting the basic needs of every person becomes beloved.

One of Dr. King's most powerful statements is: **"Our youth are not just the leaders of tomorrow; they are the leaders of today."** King's message to youth was rooted in his vision of active citizenship. He saw young people as alert, responsible, and ready to take on the challenges of their time. This is one reason we want to see youth driven talent and ideas. All work will help define, express, and foster a beloved community.

There are 20 traits of a beloved community that we ask the youth to consider when creating artwork that captures this vision and how it would look in Lakewood. At least one of the 20 traits of a beloved community needs to be expressed in the art.

20 Traits of Beloved Community

1. Acting authentically
2. Avoiding physical & verbal abuse
3. Being a life-long learner
4. Building Trust
5. Caring for our planet
6. Committing to justice
7. Connecting community members
8. Embracing diversity
9. Empathizing
10. Encouraging creativity
11. Forgiving
12. Self-Healing
13. Honoring relationships with each other
14. Letting go of grudges
15. Loving
16. Nurturing antiracism
17. Promoting human rights
18. Restoring neighborhoods
19. Showing Compassion
20. Using wise speech



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OFFICIAL RULES:

This is a juried competition for grades 9-12. **All submissions are to be submitted by December 10, 2026 in order to be judged.** They will all be included in an Art Showcase on display at City Hall from January – March 2027.

From there, **twelve (12) visual art pieces and three (3) performing artists** will then be selected to participate in the MLK Beloved Community Black History Celebration that will be held at **Pierce College on February 4, 2027.** Each of these artists receives a $100 award.

Deadline – All labeled art must be dropped off, with the attached waiver, and received by a signing staff member by **4pm December 18, 2026.** The receiver will provide a receipt. No art will be accepted without the signed waiver that allows for the art to be displayed. This deadline provides time to receive, review and prepare the art for display at City Hall.

Visual Art Formats:

- Any 2-D medium can be used (watercolor, oil, ink, pencil, photography, digital, fashion, video production)
- Artwork minimum size is 8 ½ by 11" and maximum is 12x18" not including matting.
- All Artwork must be matted & attached to the back the artist's name and contact.
- Art must be accompanied by theme statement and the waiver.

Performing Art Formats:

- A video recording of theatre/vignettes, dance, written word/spoken word/poetry or original music may be submitted.
- Submissions must be no longer than 3 minutes
- Submissions can be emailed to Gretchen Hayes at ghayes@cityoflakewood.us , with the information in the label and the signed waiver included.
- Emails must be received and recorded, with all materials, by the 4pm deadline.

Art Drop Off Location:

- City Hall – between 8:30-5pm, and no later than 4pm on **December 18, 2026.**

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Art will remain on display at City Hall through March 31, 2027. **Artwork can be picked up anytime before 5:00pm on Friday, April 9, 2027** by the artist or the artist's parent or guardian. Art will need to be signed back out.

Selection:

We intend to display as many works of art as possible from January-March as part of the Youth Art Showcase. The number and type of art displayed will be subject to capacity and may be limited to providing a variety in art medium and school, grade representation. For visual artists, time will be allocated during the Art Reception held on Lakewood City Hall on January 24, 2027 and for performances to be juried.

Other notes:

- Art received from students who are homeschooled or who live in Lakewood but attend a school outside of the Clover Park School district **are eligible** to enter the Youth Art Showcase.
- The City of Lakewood's Youth Council and Clover Park Superintendent's Leadership Cadre are ambassadors for this project. You can connect with one of these school representatives for more information or contact Gretchen Hayes, ghayes@cityoflakewood.us; 253-985-9195 for more information.
- All entries, visual images, videos that are submitted or taken during the Art Showcase, Art Showcase Reception or MLK-Beloved Community Black History Celebration may be used in publicity campaigns for these events, as well as future promotions of Beloved Community.
- Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Plagiarism is the act of passing off someone else's work or ideas as your own. Should an entrant use a piece of existing art (including photographs) as a reference for their submission, a printed picture of the reference or a web address link should be provided to give due credit to the original artist.
- The decision of the jurying committee for which art to present in the Art Showcase, at the Art Showcase Reception or the MLK-Beloved Community Black History Celebration is final.
- Artwork Release – By entering into the contest, the artist agrees that any submitted artwork can be used on any of our social media pages or website.

We look forward to seeing your vision of Lakewood as a Beloved Community!

2026 Youth Art Showcase Application

Name: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

CITY OF LAKEWOOD PHOTOGRAPHY WAIVER AND RELEASE

I, (Citizen)_____, hereby grant the City of Lakewood the irrevocable right and unrestricted permission to use and publish photographs and/or video images of me and members of my family, or in which I may be included, for any purpose authorized by the City of Lakewood, including but not limited to: website or social media, publications and advertising use. This grant includes the right to modify the images at the discretion of the City of Lakewood. I understand that the circulation of such materials could be worldwide (i.e. internet) and that there will be no compensation to me for this use. Furthermore, I understand that I will not be given the opportunity to inspect or approve the finished products or the printed matter that may be used. In granting this permission to the City of Lakewood, I am fully and without limitation releasing the City of Lakewood from any liability that may arise from the use of the images.

I further agree to allow the City of Lakewood to use my name.
YES [ ] NO [ ]

Printed Name:_____ Signature:_____

Parent/Guardian Signature:_____

Date: _____

Describe in 100-150-word statement on how your art expresses the specific beloved community trait(s) they experience and envision for Lakewood.