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Press Release

Ypsilanti Unveils Mural by Jermaine Dickerson at City Hall

Ypsilanti, MI, June 22, 2016: The City of Ypsilanti unveiled this morning the City Hall Mural by local artist and Eastern Michigan University Alumni, Jermaine Dickerson. The mural can be found on the back of Ypsilanti's City Hall on 1 South Huron Street in Downtown Ypsilanti.

"It is such an honor to have the opportunity to showcase Ypsilanti for the historical, whimsical, and dynamic city that it is," said Dickerson. "I thoroughly enjoyed the process of researching Ypsilanti, and continued to be surprised by all of the stories and passion within the city. I hope this mural is a symbol for the creativity and pride that can be found in Ypsilanti."

The mural features Ypsilanti landscapes, icons, and architecture in a dreamy, surreal layout. Whether one is driving down Huron Street, or walking into Downtown, this large-scaled mural is filled with tiny reminders of the uniqueness of Ypsilanti. One may spot the figurine from the Ypsilanti Underwear Factory, a bee to represent Ypsilanti as an official Bee City USA, or a rubber duck to represent the annual Kiwanis Duck Race at Heritage Festival. The mural is an 11' x 22' image printed on a weather-proof material and mounted onto a fixture which was added to the back of City Hall.

"The City of Ypsilanti is proud to showcase the work of such a talented local artist. We hope this image draws attention to the Downtown Area, while symbolizing the authenticity and talent within our city," said Beth Ernat, Ypsilanti's Director of Economic Development.

The artist was selected by a panel of judges to represent the creative community of Ypsilanti. The panel included Mayor Amanda Emonds, Kayj Michelle - Director of First Fridays Ypsilanti, and Yen Azzaro of Ypsilanti Community Schools and Chin Azzaro Art Consulting and Commercial Photography. Dickerson quickly won the hearts of the panel with his extensive breadth of work, incredible talent, and strong ties to Ypsilanti.

"We were completely amazed by Jermaine Dickerson's talent. It has been an absolute honor to work with him on representing such a prominent piece of work in Ypsilanti," said Mary Kerr, President and CEO of the Washtenaw County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Dickerson graduated from Eastern Michigan University in the fall of 2014 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A) in graphic design. As a designer, he enjoys exploring unique methods of communication. Dickerson seeks to implement artistic skills in his design vocabulary, through the use of unique forms of image making and illustration. Since his childhood he has always been a fan of comics and superheroes, his favorite being Superman. Moving forward in his career, Dickerson hopes to eventually establish his own design firm, and become a prominent figure within the art and comic book communities.

For more insights on the artist, his process, and concept art, click [here](#) to visit the blog.

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