

For immediate release

Contact: Brittny Quinn
O'Donnell Agency
brittny@odonnell.agency
561.832.3231

SEVEN FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR CANVAS LOCAL SHOWDOWN IN NORTHWOOD VILLAGE

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (September 1, 2016) --- <u>CANVAS</u> is excited to announce that the review process is complete, and seven local artists have been selected to participate in the 2016 Local Showdown taking place on November 11, 2016 from 7 – 11 p.m. in Northwood Village, just two miles north of Downtown West Palm Beach. The CANVAS Local Showdown is part of the ten-day CANVAS Outdoor Museum Show running November 11 – 20. The winner of the Local Showdown will receive a coveted position in the CANVAS 2017 artist lineup.

Applicants were required to submit artwork that is unique, scalable, and suitable for public viewing of all ages. To be eligible, the artist must reside in Palm Beach, Martin, Broward, or Miami-Dade County. The applications were reviewed by a hand-picked Selection Committee comprised of business leaders and professionals from the area. The seven selected artists submitted renderings and will execute their designs on 20 foot long shipping containers located on 25th Street starting on November 4 and they will be completed by November 11. Once the murals are completed, the public will have the chance to vote for their favorite CANVAS Local Showdown mural using the official CANVAS Art app until November 20. The winner will be announced at the closing of CANVAS.

"The goal of CANVAS is to captivate the imagination and enrich public space with art through various mediums," stated Nicole Henry, Founder of CANVAS and local gallery owner. "During CANVAS Local Showdown, we are bringing people to historic Northwood Village to highlight and promote its artistic and cultural dimensions while beautifying public spaces to further enrich our community."

The artists participating in this year's CANVAS Local Showdown include:

- Jhonattan Arango, Palm Beach County
- Ron Burkhardt, Palm Beach County
- Jennifer Chaparro, Martin County
- Cheryl Maeder and Marilyn Walter, Palm Beach County
- Eduardo Mendieta, Palm Beach County

- Ruben Ubiera, Miami-Dade County
- Luis Valle, Miami-Dade County

CANVAS Local Showdown was created to draw attention to one of the oldest and truly art-centric neighborhoods in West Palm Beach through a central theme of "connection." The murals will depict the connection theme by illustrating what that means to an artist and to the world that experiences art. CANVAS Local Showdown is sponsored by West Palm Beach Art in Public Places (AiPP), the West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and CANVAS Art Charities.

"We are thrilled that CANVAS is returning to Northwood Village, which was recently designated as Florida's newest Main Street," said Jon Ward, Executive Director, West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). "This unique and creative community is filled with vibrant art experiences and is the perfect location to showcase local artists. The CANVAS Local Showdown will undoubtedly create another wonderful public art exhibit that will enhance and attract more visitors to this popular neighborhood."

A series of events will take place between now and the launch of CANVAS 2016 including the Art Gala on October 22, 2016 at Graffiti Garden Warehouse at 501 Fern Street hosted by Bettina Anderson & Chris Leavitt. Proceeds from the CANVAS Art Gala will support CANVAS Art Charities. Please visit www.canvaswpb.org for updates.

About CANVAS Outdoor Museum Show

Billed as the nation's largest outdoor museum show, CANVAS brings together the most innovative contemporary artists, collectors, and art influencers from around the world. CANVAS is the creative vision of gallerist Nicole Henry, and supported by the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority and Arts & Entertainment District, Community Redevelopment Agency, Nicole Henry Fine Art, and City of West Palm Beach's Art in Public Places. For more information about CANVAS, visit canvaswpb.org

CANVAS Art Charities

CANVAS Art Charities is a non-profit organization dedicated to funding the visual arts and an innovative artist in residence program enriching the community through public installations, exhibitions, education, and events to foster social and economic outcomes.

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