Boston’s Latin Quarter: Call to Artists

Hyde Square Task Force (HSTF) is an award-winning youth development organization based in the Hyde-Jackson Square area of Jamaica Plain/Roxbury, known as Boston’s Latin Quarter. Founded almost 30 years ago, HSTF now engages more than 700 youth ages 6–25 in college and career preparation, Afro-Latin arts and cultural enrichment, and community-building initiatives. In doing so, we ensure that youth have the arts and educational opportunities they need and deserve in order to be successful, and that their voices and cultures are valued and celebrated in Boston’s Latin Quarter and beyond. Our work is guided by our mission: to amplify the power, creativity, and voices of youth, connecting them to Afro-Latin culture and heritage so they can create a diverse, vibrant Latin Quarter and build a just, equitable Boston.

As the managing partner of Boston’s Latin Quarter Cultural District, Hyde Square Task Force is looking to host a series of 8-10 outdoor pop-up art performances/exhibits in different locations throughout Boston’s Latin Quarter between June and August. The district, located in Jamaica Plain, runs from the Jackson Square MBTA Station along Centre Street to the Connolly Branch of the Boston Public Library. We are looking for a variety of performances/exhibits that will uplift the Afro-Latin culture of the neighborhood, bring vibrancy to the cultural district, and encourage people to get out in the district and support our local businesses.

We will be following the City of Boston COVID-19 safety guidelines and protocols for each pop-up performance or activity including abiding by social distancing guidelines and wearing masks. Performances will take place outside and are subject to adjustment based on changing City of Boston guidelines. Artists will be expected to have their own PPE.

What we are looking for in a pop-up performance/exhibit:

- The performance or activity can be any medium (music, dance, theatre, spoken word, visual art, etc.)
- Provides 30-60 minutes of engagement with community members in the cultural district
- Uplifts Afro-Latin art and culture to reflect the make-up of the cultural district
- Artist will provide all necessary equipment/supplies
- Examples of possible activities include: music near an outdoor restaurant, visual art display in partnership with a local business, or a “moving” dance performance at various locations. While these are examples, we encourage artists to be creative in proposing additional types of performances/exhibits.

What Hyde Square Task Force will provide:

- A stipend of $250-$500 depending on the proposed pop-up performance/exhibit
- Arranging the space(s) that will be used for the performance/exhibit
- Publicity through our email list, social media accounts, and local community calendars and newspapers
- A staff member on the day of the pop-up performance/installation of exhibit to support the artist
Criteria for Selection:

The performance/exhibit:

- Uplifts Afro-Latin art/culture and brings vibrancy to the cultural district
- Is social media friendly (audience is likely to post)
- Attracts attention and brings joy to the Latin Quarter
- Artist has experience in pop-up art
- Partners with local businesses or organization (a plus)

Timeline:

Call to Artists sent out: April 28, 2021
Deadline for submission: May 17, 2021
Artists contacted: May 21, 2021
Meetings with chosen artists to finalize details: May 24-28, 2021
Performances/Exhibits: June-August, 2021

Please submit this form by May 17, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah at sarah@hydesquare.org. We will be following up with applicants on a rolling basis in regards to specifics, budget, etc.