

HAPPENINGS

LIVE

WORK

PLAY

LEARN



UPCOMING EVENTS

EAT TO THE BEAT 2021

- **June & July:**
Watch on Facebook or Channel 15
- **August & September:**
Join us In Person

Visit SouthfieldCityCentre.com for more details.

SOUTHFIELD CHAMBER 2021 GOLF OUTING

Join us Monday, July 26 at Plum Hollow Country Club

For more information visit: www.southfieldchamber.com/golf-outing

CROHN'S & COLITIS FOUNDATION "TAKE STEPS" WALK

Saturday, June 12 at 10AM

Southfield Municipal Campus
26000 Evergreen Road

For more information, contact:
Sarah Armiak at sarmiak@crohnscolitisfoundation.org

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION & MAYOR'S WALK

Saturday, June 19 at 10AM

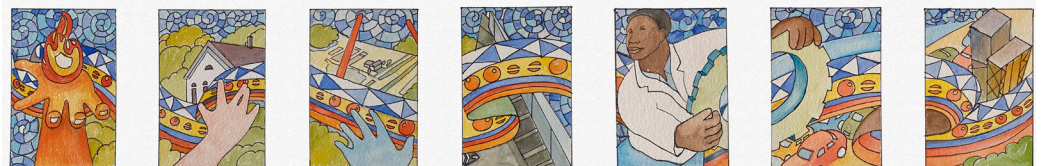
PORTRAIT OF A COMMUNITY

Internationally renowned muralist Dr. Hubert Massey has been commissioned to create nine (9) art panels, in three separate triptychs, located along the new southbound Northwestern Highway Service Drive pathway of the City Centre Trail entitled "Tapestry of A Community". On behalf of a partnership between Southfield City Centre and Lawrence Technological University (LTU), there were two virtual Town Hall meetings facilitated by Dr. Massey and the Planning Department to receive community input on the proposed mosaic mural.

Through these virtual Town Hall meetings, attendees were able to share their thoughts that ultimately contributed to the project's vision. Dr. Massey's philosophy and approach to this design engaged a number of stakeholders and representatives of local organizations who were invited to share their ideas. This approach was used to ensure that the final rendering would convey a mood and message that would resonate with all those viewing it as well as reflect a spirit of collaboration and community.

"We are very excited about working with Dr. Hubert Massey on this new art project for Southfield," commented Mayor Ken Siver. "It will add much excitement and beauty to the city."

An award-winning Kresge Fine Arts Fellow, his distinctive fresco murals grace the halls of such visible Michigan destinations as the Flint Institute of the Arts, Detroit Athletic Club, and his alma mater, Grand Valley State University, where he earned an honorary doctorate of fine arts in 2012. Dr. Massey's bold, vibrant images can be spotted throughout the Detroit metropolitan region including Mexicantown, Greektown, the Cultural Center, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and a number of other landmark community attractions.



NEW STUDY: LTU'S 18-MONTH ECONOMIC IMPACT IS \$377 MILLION

Lawrence Technological University boosted the southeast Michigan economy by \$377 million from Jan. 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, a new economic impact study shows.

The university provides nearly 350 full-time jobs and almost 200 part-time jobs itself, and creates hundreds more jobs at area businesses frequented by LTU faculty, staff, students, alumni, visitors, and other partners. The study estimates that LTU has created 1,786 jobs in metro Detroit through this spinoff effect.

The university also produces some of the nation's highest-earning graduates, most of whom remain in metro Detroit—24,297 of them reside in the area, according to the latest count, out of a total living alumni body of 33,800.

LTU has also pumped \$85 million into the metro Detroit economy over the past decade in various construction projects, including new residence halls and classroom-laboratory buildings, most of them in Southfield.

During the study period, LTU also generated \$1.5 million in revenue for Southfield city government while requiring \$700,000 in city services, resulting in a net benefit of \$800,000 to the city.

LTU has also received \$8.3 million in research grants since 2017.

LTU's Centropolis Accelerator, a manufacturing business incubator founded in 2019 with state, city, and foundation backing, served 46 companies during the study period, and helped commercialize 12 new products.

The study, "The Economic Impact of Lawrence Technological University on Southfield and Metro Detroit," was completed March 15 by Kevin Stokes of Indiana-based EconIMPACT.

For a full review of the study's findings, visit www.ltu.edu/about/economic-impact.asp

MURALS ON THE TRAIL

As part of the Southfield City Centre's public art initiative, three local muralists recently painted original designs on the pedestrian/vehicle barrier along the newly completed portion of the City Centre Trail adjacent to the campus of Lawrence Technological University and Evans Creek Drain.

The artists, Dustin Cook, Sheila Nicolin and Dino Valdez were selected for their bold styles, creative use of color and previous experience creating installations for public spaces.



Photo: Mural by Dino Valdez

MEET ARTIST DINO VALDEZ

Dino Valdez says he grew up immersing himself in monochromatic and black-and-white illustration techniques that portray his form of visual language. He's inspired by abstract expressionism, video games, the Japanese art forms of manga and anime, and martial arts and enjoys "breaking down letters into shapes to separate them from the literary into the abstraction," he says. "Play is an essential aspect of my creativity." Recently, Valdez says he's enjoying expressing himself through timeless primary colors. "Learning to speak in colors is an important skill to learn," he says. For his mural, Valdez has his worked planned down to the millimeter. "Everything is sketched out and critiqued. I'm incapable of letting fate dictate this project," he says. Through a process of assessing dimensions and referring to photos, he has sketched his design digitally, which he'll project on the wall. Then, he'll use spray paint and fill in the colors, "in a paint by number way," he says. "It's precision chaos." When creating art for public spaces, Valdez says he selects bold designs that can be "a piece of the public," he says. "I want people to be able to appreciate it from 300 feet away."



LET'S CONNECT

 /SouthfieldCityCentre

 @SouthfieldCity

 @SouthfieldCity

SouthfieldCityCentre.com

26000 Evergreen Road
(Mailing) P.O. Box 2055
Southfield, MI 48037-2055