

MURAL SPONSORS

It takes a village to paint a mural, one that offers a wall, a team of painters and funding to bring the artist's vision to life. This mural was supported by the following funders:

Olympia Downtown Alliance

Rainbow Community Arts

South Sound YMCA

Private donors



More information:
Rainbow Community Arts Olympia
<https://rainbowcommunityartsolympia.org/>



MURAL DEDICATION CEREMONY & PROJECT LAUNCH

TOUCHSTONES OF THE YMCA



Thursday, January 29, 2026 | 4:00 – 5:00pm
PLUM STREET YMCA



Launch of the Plum Street Y Mural

Rainbow Community Arts and the South Sound YMCA have teamed up to create a vibrant, community-centered mural along the North wall of the Plum Street Y located in downtown Olympia. This eight-panel design will represent the diverse communities that make up the South Sound YMCA.

Each new artwork will be created through a series of individual community partnerships intended to design, fund and support the individual piece. Artists will be chosen based on their artistic portfolio and ability to offer authentic cultural representation. Intergenerational and multi-cultural teams of painters will be recruited for each mural, showing the value of community art projects as a wellness activity.

First Mural Panel – WELLNESS

This mural presents a colorful range of the wellness activities offered at the South Sound YMCA and the diverse membership who participate. As the first of the series, this mural demonstrates some of the unifying elements that will be incorporated into each panel: the use of the signature YMCA colors and a prominently featured YMCA value word. The entire wall will be tied together by an over-arching blue sky.

Funding & Artist Support

Funding for this mural was provided by Rainbow Community Arts, a local arts non-profit, EIN# 91-2165290 dedicated to supporting younger artists, and prioritizing artists of color and LGBTQ+ artists who create culturally significant images that diversify the artistic landscape of Olympia as a city of murals.

Artist's Statement – Vega Dawson

Vega Dawson recently completed a year-long artist's residency at hummingbird studio that produced another community-based mural in downtown Olympia. Reflecting on that project, Dawson said, "Creating community murals engages the people around it and allows us all to feel a sense of ownership and pride when the art reflects our community."



Vega Dawson, Lead artist
& Alicia Crowley, celebrating the
mura completion