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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Mayor Conger Expands Art Initiative with Children’s Art Gallery**

Jackson, TENN— The City of Jackson has partnered with the Jackson Arts Council to prominently display children’s art in a gallery on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of City Hall.

“Mayor’s Collection of Masterpieces” will launch this month and run year-long with rotating pieces. The first gallery will feature Kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and run through the spring. The second gallery will feature 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and run in the fall.

The City of Jackson Mayor’s Office or Jackson Arts Council will reach out to art teachers at Jackson schools to acquire submissions. Featured artists will be recognized at the city council meetings in April and October.

“I’m looking forward to adding pieces that reflect the positive aspects of Jackson as seen through the eyes of our youth,” said Mayor Conger.

The Mayor’s Public Art Initiative launched in fall of 2019. The initiative seeks to exponentially grow the number of public art installations to include murals, sculptures and other mediums across Jackson over the next four years. The public art initiative also seeks to engage more artists, both established and emerging, in the work of creative place-making.

Art initiative projects include three downtown murals and downtown store window decorations at the holidays. The first mural, “Love Your Neighborhood” was designed by Courtney Searcy and can be found on Highland Avenue in the lot between The Blacksmith Restaurant and Grubbs Grocery. The second mural, “Unity,” was designed by 9-year-old Ava Ingle and can be found on the Madison County Courthouse lawn. The third mural was designed by Jonathan and Sarah Cagle and can be found on the Southwest Tennessee Development District building in downtown Jackson.

If you are interested in learning more about the art initiative or would like to submit a proposal, visit [jacksontn.gov](http://jacksontn.gov) under the mayor’s office section.

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