



Mission: to create an unmatched downtown experience

102 Main Street, Suite 20, Wadsworth, Ohio 44281

An accredited National Main Street Program

An accredited State of Ohio Main Street Program

**For Immediate Release
September 29, 2022**

**Inquiries: Adrienne Patrick, Executive Director
adrienne@mainstreetwadsworth.org | 513.391.0023**

Main Street Wadsworth Announces 2022 Art Murals for Downtown Wadsworth

(Wadsworth, Ohio—September 29, 2022) – Main Street Wadsworth is excited to announce that its 10th and 11th downtown art murals titled “Music is the healing force” will be painted now through the end of October, and invites the entire community to take part at its Community Paint Events on October 7-8.

Main Street Wadsworth issued a Call to Artists earlier this year and the volunteer team selected West Palm Beach, Florida-based muralists Jhonattan and Samantha Arango, who work under the alias Anón, to paint one mural on two downtown walls: 131 College Street (B.A. Schrock Financial Group) and 124 N. Lyman Street (Frontier Communications).

The artists’ website, www.artofanon.com, states that “As Anón, Jhonattan and Samantha create highly organic murals and paper art using only the rigid shapes of triangles. Their work—which often includes portraiture and imagined landscapes—is an exploration into the subject of interconnection, and rudimentarily mimics the function of triangles as the most fundamental fabric of reality. With often thousands of triangles to tell the story, it becomes apparent to see how each piece, regardless of color and size, is an integral part of the whole.

Their inspiration takes root in a developing understanding of the desire to attain happiness as a human commonality. With this base, triangles help them narrate intricately woven stories on the subject of peace, harmony, and unconditional love. Their work is an ode to the threads that connect all 7.8 billion people to each other and everything else in existence.

Besides making solo murals, they work with a community format that allows for audiences to paint murals together. Through this exploration they have facilitated projects where hundreds of spectators become the artists, using art as an agent for peaceful community building.”

“The two murals work together to create a visual narrative that speaks to the interconnection of all things, which is the underlying tone of our work; of past, present and future, of the surrounding environment of what was and what is to come” stated artist Samantha Arango. “The artworks are meant to uplift the viewer, and play with the idea of visual sound, as well as nod to the history of the surrounding area and visually expand into the current local flora and fauna. It is a celebration of what was and what is to come. We are grateful to be a part of Wadsworth’s future.”

“I love everything about the process of creating a mural, but the community portion has to be one of my favorites” stated artist Jhonattan Arango. “Anyone can do it. From a 2-year-old to an 80-year-old, if you can hold a brush, you can do it. There’s something really beautiful about co-creating a mural, having something that everyone works together on. And historically speaking, with some of these older community murals, people remember exactly what triangle they painted. It’s sort of this mental real estate. You get to keep it.”



Mission: to create an unmatched downtown experience

102 Main Street, Suite 20, Wadsworth, Ohio 44281

An accredited National Main Street Program

An accredited State of Ohio Main Street Program

“We are so excited to have Jhonattan and his family in Wadsworth and can’t wait to see his artwork on the walls” stated Randy Toddy, Main Street Wadsworth Board Member and leader of the Mural Team. “The opportunity to have two interwoven murals painted on separate walls in our downtown area is very unique and would not have been in consideration without the artistic inspiration from Jhonattan. It is hoped that the community will see the first mural and feel obliged to go find the companion piece to complete their experience.”

“Wadsworth is a community based on friendship, family, and community,” stated Mural Team Member Christina Cyrus. “As such, just as we need good sports and schools, we also need access to art. The benefits of art can be felt by a community in many ways: socially, economically, educationally, and culturally. We could not be more thrilled with this next set of murals. We are so happy that we found Anón and will have these murals on display for everyone in the community to experience and hope they help develop deeper community connections.”

The Community Paint Events will be held at 131 College Street on Friday, October 7, 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 8, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. where all ages are invited to pick up a brush and paint a section of the mural, no art experience necessary.

Plan to Attend: Main Street Wadsworth Community Paint Events

When: Friday, Oct. 7, 5:00-8:00 p.m. (October First Friday) & Saturday, Oct. 8, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Where: 131 College Street, Wadsworth, OH 44281 (back wall of the building)

Who: Community members of all ages & experience levels; free & open to all; no registration required

This unique and educational project is made possible by Main Street Wadsworth’s generous art mural project donors, including Randy and Jody Toddy, Max and Diane Miller, Doug and Myriam Haslinger, Home Depot, Frontier Communications, and Delaware Building Systems. A complete list of mural donors can be found at www.mainstreetwadsworth.org/art-mural-project. To donate to the Main Street Wadsworth Art Mural Project and support future downtown Wadsworth art murals, donations can be mailed to: Main Street Wadsworth, 102 Main Street, Suite 20, Wadsworth, OH 44281.

Anón’s two downtown Wadsworth murals are expected to be finished during the month of October.

In the past, the couple has taken on volunteers such as art students and people interested in the mural arts to help them paint, and they receive great teaching moments and experience that is hard to come by. Interested individuals can e-mail artofanon@gmail.com to connect with the artists.

“Those following downtown Wadsworth’s revitalization are familiar with the southwest parking lot project,” stated Main Street Wadsworth Executive Director Adrienne Patrick. “It was a dilapidated gravel lot that has recently been beautifully transformed by the City. There is excitement about the possibility of the area being used as a gathering area. Having Anón’s mural in the space truly sets the ‘feeling’ for this part of downtown to be the ‘artsy’ district that could feature outdoor patios, stages, food trucks, live music, strung Edison lights, and anything else our stakeholders dream up. Our mission is to create an unmatched downtown experience, and art murals like this one are integral to the creation of a true downtown destination.”