

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

## **17 BLACK AND BROWN ARTISTS CONTRIBUTE TO "IN BERWYN, BLACK LIVES MATTER" MURAL**



### **Media Contacts:**

Jessica Rodriguez  
Berwyn Public Art Initiative  
(708) 205-0724  
[info@berwynpublicartinitiative.org](mailto:info@berwynpublicartinitiative.org)

Claudia Ayala  
City of Berwyn  
(708) 749-6432  
[CAyala@ci.berwyn.il.us](mailto:CAyala@ci.berwyn.il.us)

BERWYN, IL., October 5, 2020 – Berwyn Public Art Initiative (BPAI) and the City of Berwyn will unveil and dedicate a new mural that inspires hope and the vision for a world built on love, justice, and equity. The unveiling is planned for Wed., October 7 at 6:00 pm in the east side parking lot of City Hall, 6700 W. 26<sup>th</sup> St., Berwyn, IL.

A team of 17 African-American and Latinx artists were hired to create a visual interpretation of takeaways and highlights collected from a series of community listening sessions hosted by BPAI in collaboration with the City of Berwyn. "I want to thank the Berwyn Mayor's Office," said Darryl E. Allen, Professor, The Mentorship Institute, "for being courageous enough to seek honest feedback from its Black and Brown citizens. Honest feedback is often difficult to hear." Professor Allen's work is guided by LaSierra University's Center for Conflict Resolution and Dr. Frida Rundell at the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP).

BPAI leverages public art to provide the community with perspective and ways to envision a better world. For more information about the BLM mural project, please visit: <https://www.berwynpublicartinitiative.org/blmmural>

### **About BPAI**

The Berwyn Public Art Initiative is a community-driven initiative that leverages the use of public art, cultural programming, pop-up galleries, and arts education to strengthen the social and economic fabric of Berwyn. BPAI aims to inspire, educate, and advocate for using public art's creative power to build a more healthy, inclusive, and culturally vibrant community. More information about the organization can be found at [berwynpublicartinitiative.org](http://berwynpublicartinitiative.org), Facebook ([@berwynpublicart](https://www.facebook.com/berwynpublicart)), Instagram ([@berwynpublicart](https://www.instagram.com/berwynpublicart)).