



STAYING MARSHALLTOWN STRONG THROUGH THE ARTS

As a symbol of hope, unity and strength during this difficult time, the Arts & Culture Alliance has partnered with Great Western Bank and Tama artist, Dye Davenport, to create a Marshalltown Strong graffiti piece in Downtown Marshalltown. As many of us remember, Dye Davenport and his son Darian created the iconic piece on the Marshalltown Skate Park Graffiti Wall, *Stay Strong Marshalltown*, in the days following the 2018 Marshalltown tornado. This artwork served as a constant reminder of the strength we have to come together and rebuild as a community in the months to follow. Artist Dye Davenport says, "I enjoy making people smile through tragedies and it is my goal to lift people's spirits with the arts."

During the tough times we are experiencing, the Alliance believes the arts provide hope, unity and strength to our community, and what better symbol than on a wall exposed as a result of the damage from the tornado. "Great Western Bank is proud to partner with the Marshall County Arts & Cultural Alliance on this project. We are thrilled to find a way to brighten up our downtown business district and demonstrate the resiliency of the community and hope for good things going forward for the entire Marshalltown area," said Great Western Bank President Jeff Mathis.

As we spend the weeks to come at a distance from one another, we hope you will be reminded of the ability of our community to be Marshalltown Strong. Together we have conquered the most challenging times and have come out on the other side better than ever. We have done it before, and we will do it again! Alliance Executive Director, Amber Danielson, stated "even through these times of uncertainty, we will continue to serve our mission in the greatest capacity by supporting and promoting the arts in our community."

The Arts & Culture Alliance, a non-profit organization, was created in 2004 to cultivate a community of arts and culture by supporting, promoting and enriching existing opportunities and by seeking new possibilities. Our mission allows us to focus on enhancing the quality of life in Marshalltown by making it a place in which arts and culture thrive and our community flourishes.

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For more information or questions, please contact Amber Danielson, Executive Director, Arts & Culture Alliance at (641) 752-ARTS or director@artsandculturealliance.org.

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