

# **CALL FOR BUSKERS/STREET PERFORMERS**

## **JUMPST(ART) DOWNTOWN BUSKER FESTIVAL**

**A Paid Opportunity to Perform at Sculpture Milwaukee Locations  
August 6 – 8, 2021**

Issued Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021  
Deadline: Friday, June 11, 2021

## **DOWNTOWN STREET PERFORMANCE AND BUSKER PROGRAM**

### **OVERVIEW**

This August, the streets of downtown Milwaukee will fill with music once again, with the launch of a new, socially distanced street performance, or “busker,” series, called the Jumpst(ART) Downtown Busker Festival. This unique program will highlight Milwaukee’s diverse musical talent, while increasing foot traffic to downtown restaurants and retailers. Participating buskers/street performers will be paid \$100 per performance, in addition to tips made while busking.

The three-day festival will feature 100 solo performances at a variety of times near Sculpture Milwaukee locations throughout East Town, Westown, and the Historic Third Ward. Performances will occur daily from 12:00 – 1:00 PM, 4:30 – 5:30 PM, 6:00 – 7:00 PM. Performance locations will be identified with on-site signage and a temporary vinyl circle installed on the sidewalk for the performer to stand on.

The program is made possible by support from Milwaukee Downtown, BID #21 and Sculpture Milwaukee, and community partners like 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Market Hall, the Milwaukee Public Market, and the Historic Third Ward Association. The program is curated in partnership with Imagine MKE, with booking partner BookLive!

### **TENTATIVE BUSKER LOCATIONS**

#### **Westown**

- “Apollo/Poll” sculpture at Wisconsin Center (Wisconsin Ave. and Vel R. Phillips Ave.)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Market Hall entrance (Wisconsin Ave. and Old World Third St./Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.)

#### **East Town**

- “Gild the Lily (Caribbean Hybrid I, II, III)” by Carlos Rolon at Chase Tower at Water & Wisconsin (Wisconsin Ave. and Water St.)
- “Bronze Fonz” (Wells St. and RiverWalk)
- Pocket park at 412 E. Wisconsin Avenue
- Museum Center Park (formerly O’Donnell Park)
- Northwestern Mutual Commons

#### **Historic Third Ward**

- Milwaukee Public Market (St. Paul Avenue and Broadway)
- Broadway median

### **COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

All performers must attend a mandatory 30-minute virtual meeting on best-practices prior to their performance. Performers will be required to sign a form acknowledging safety protocols implemented to ensure the safest environment for the performance to take place. Non-vocal performers *may be required* to wear a mask, depending on health guidelines at the time of the performance.

Event staff will ensure pedestrian traffic flows on the sidewalks, including on-site social-distancing signage and friendly reminders to keep a safe space between you and other pedestrians with assistance from Public Service Ambassadors.

All street performances will comply with the City of Milwaukee's Health Department guidelines and recommendations at the time of the program, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 6 – Sunday, August 8, 2021. Performers should anticipate changes to the program, including possible cancellations, due to COVID-19, at no liability to Milwaukee Downtown, BID #21, its partners and/or agents. Entertainment and schedules are subject to change.

### **FAMILY-FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE CLAUSE**

All performances must be family-friendly. We envision that this program will appeal to a wide range of ages. Profanity will not be permitted at anytime during the festival.

### **WHAT TYPE OF ACTS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BUSKER PROGRAM?**

Milwaukee musicians and street performers are encouraged to apply. Most performers will be solo, featuring a variety of talents, instruments, and musical genres. However, performances are NOT limited to music, and may include street performance, dance, mimes, chalk artist, and spoken word.

### **WHAT IS INCLUDED FOR PARTICIPATING BUSKERS?**

- \$100 stipend for 1-hour performance during assigned timeslot at assigned location, plus tips
- 6-ft. diameter vinyl sidewalk decal to stand on
- On-site sidewalk signage, including an opportunity to write your Venmo or PayPal account handle for virtual tips
- Branded tip jar
- Electricity for small amp system at some locations (if required)

### **WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM THE PERFORMER?**

- 1-hour outdoor performance during the assigned timeslot at the assigned location
- Set-up required for their performance (mic stand, small amp, instrument, etc.)
- Small sound system if required. Please indicate your requirement for electricity in your application. A best practice when busking is that people should not be able to hear you at all from a distance of about 100 feet, or not be able to pick you out from background noise at a distance of 50 feet. Event organizers will routinely monitor sound levels. Not all performers will have access to electricity.

Milwaukee Downtown, BID #21  
Sculpture Milwaukee

### **PAYMENT**

Approved performers will receive a \$100 payment via BookLive! after their one-hour performance. Plus, performers can collect tips and sell merchandise at the designated location.

Consider setting up Venmo/PayPal account and post your handle on the sign using a dry-erase marker provided for virtual tips! All approved performers must set up an account through BookLive! Step-by-step instructions to set-up a BookLive! account will be provided after the performer is selected.

### **APPLICATION**

[Click here](#) to complete our Google Form application for consideration by the review committee, which includes members of Milwaukee Downtown, BID #21, the Downtown Placemaking Task Force, Sculpture Milwaukee, Imagine MKE, and BookLive! staff.

Complete Google Form Here: <https://forms.gle/sUGZYf6vWEhGY22Q6>