

CONTACTS:

Binh Nguyen
(267) 603-4512, binh@visitphilly.com

Sydney Milkman
(215) 527-1348, sydney@visitphilly.com

USA TODAY Names Philadelphia “Best City for Street Art”

For the second time, the city has been recognized for its 4,000-plus murals, hundreds of outdoor sculptures and undeniable independent public art scene.

PHILADELPHIA, February 27, 2025 – Philadelphia reclaims its title as the nation’s **Best City for Street Art** in the USA TODAY 10Best Readers’ Choice Awards contest. Public voting pushed Philly past other nominees – including Nashville, Chicago and Detroit – further solidifying the city’s reputation as a prolific incubator for seasoned and emerging street artists.

A panel of experts, including editors from USA TODAY and 10Best.com, nominated Philadelphia for the accolade through a careful review process. The city previously garnered this recognition in 2023.

For over 40 years, Philadelphia has been known as the “Mural Capital of the World.” [Mural Arts Philadelphia](#), the force behind many of the city’s murals, began as an initiative to change perceptions of graffiti, creating a framework that helped turn unauthorized tags into celebrated public art.

Beyond murals, Philadelphia’s street art landscape continues to evolve, with artists and collectives transforming well-known surfaces – such as Graffiti Pier on the Delaware River – as well as small businesses, abandoned structures and construction sites into open-air canvases.

The city embraces independent artists who turn public spaces into dynamic, large-scale works, helping to elevate their art beyond the streets. Many local artists have gained national recognition, cultivating large followings and securing gallery exhibitions.

Conrad Benner, founder of [Streets Dept.](#), a multi-platform showcase of Philadelphia public art and public space, highlights a few notable groups and artists contributing to the city’s vibrant street art scene, including:

- [HAHA x Paradigm](#) – A three-person artist group that has created knockout work in and beyond Queen Village.
- [V.U.R.T. Creative](#) – An urban renewal nonprofit known for making playful murals in Port Richmond and Fishtown.
- [Percy Street Project](#) – A small block in South Philadelphia illuminated with original neon and artwork, known as “The Electric Street.”

VISIT PHILADELPHIA®

- [Philadelphia's Magic Gardens](#) – The ever-present tiled mosaics of veteran artist Isaiah Zagar, with his South Street landmark serving as a gateway to his work throughout the city.
- [Symone Salib](#), [Amberella](#) and [Alloyius Mcilwaine](#) – Philadelphia-based wheatpaste and graffiti artists who have built major followings through their street art.

Philadelphia is proud to be home to one of the world's largest – and most accessible – public art collections. From breathtaking murals and sculptures to dynamic installations, the city's streets, parks and public spaces serve as an ever-evolving, open-air gallery for residents and visitors alike to explore and enjoy.

To explore Philadelphia's eminent street art scene, [check out this article on visitphilly.com](#).

About Visit Philadelphia:

VISIT PHILADELPHIA® is our name and our mission. As the region's official tourism marketing agency, we build Greater Philadelphia's image, drive visitation and boost the economy. On Greater Philadelphia's official visitor website, [visitphilly.com](#), visitors can explore things to do, upcoming events, themed itineraries and hotel packages.

Compelling photography and videos, interactive maps and detailed visitor information make the site an effective trip-planning tool. Visitors can also find loads of inspiration on Visit Philly's social media Channels.

Note to Editors: For high-resolution photos and high-definition B-roll of Greater Philadelphia, visit the Photos & Video section of [visitphilly.com/mediacenter](#).