



**A PITTSBURGH DOWNTOWN  
PARTNERSHIP PROJECT  
CURATED BY  
JANEL YOUNG**

# About New Space Spheres

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Community health and safety amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has been a predominant focus of our lives recently, and Downtown Pittsburgh has been challenged to retain its typical vibrancy and energy.

As the city begins to reactivate, one thing that can significantly uplift and inform downtown commuters is artwork. The Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) has teamed up with local artist Janel Young to curate vinyl designs to be used for physical distancing and health information from four additional Pittsburgh artists for **New Space Spheres**: a project expressive of physical distancing and the new societal space we are in, bringing attention to the new normal of how we interact, experience, and define "safety" with a colorful twist.

The designs follow themes of public health and safety, physical distancing, wearing masks, washing hands, togetherness, positivity and community.



“ This image is a playful reminder to keep physical distance when around others.

Design by Janel Young



“ Even during a pandemic we can still be connecting and interacting with others through art and creativity while following safety guidelines. Finding creative activities and ways to share with others has been crucial to social beings during COVID.

Design by Janel Young





“ I wanted to convey the old saying "safe is better than sorry" in an eye-catching design that resembles safety features like construction and poison labels. Upholding the new safety standards can seem overcautious but it's important to realize that it's better to be overly prepared than to risk contracting COVID or face fatality.

Design by Janel Young



“ This design depicts the importance of wearing a mask in public spaces with the high risk of COVID. Masks are not only for your own protection, but for the safety and protection of everyone else around.

Design by Juliandra Jones



“ A colorful depiction of Hand Sanitizer use in order to "Stay Safe" during COVID.

Design by Juliandra Jones



“ This design depicts the importance of social distancing during a pandemic, and the importance of communicating your needs to others. Sometimes we need an affirmation to remind ourselves that we have the right to advocate for our own safety.

Design by Higu Rose



“ This design depicts the importance of wearing a mask to protect yourself and others from contracting or spreading COVID. It features a young person to remind us that everyone of all ages needs to keep themselves safe.

Design by Higu Rose





“ I chose to use something colorful, simple and Pittsburgh related for my sphere design. The quote I used is inspired by Tereneh Idia, an iconic creative from Pittsburgh who’s a strong advocate for COVID-19 safety and health.

Design by Wavy Wednesday





“ In this pandemic we need to be physically distancing but we still can remain social with each other. We reach to each other in hope that by caring for each other collectively, this will pass and hope will bloom.

Design by Ebtehal Badawi



“ Although we are 6ft apart we are still connected. Let go of fear and trust life will get better.

Design by Ebtehal Badawi



# About the Artists

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## **JANEL YOUNG** | Project Curator & Visual Artist

Janel Young (also known as JY Originals) is a Pittsburgh native, painter and traveling muralist who focuses on expressionist and landscape works. Janel's style of bright colors, masterful blending and geometric inspiration has been recognized locally and internationally, from Pittsburgh to NYC to the coast of Sydney, Australia.

Website: [www.janel-young.com](http://www.janel-young.com)

Instagram: [@jy.originals](https://www.instagram.com/jy.originals)



## **JULIANDRA JONES** | Visual Artist

Juliandra Jones is a self-taught artist from Las Vegas, NV. After obtaining her degree in Criminal Justice and Pre-Law from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2014, she moved to Pittsburgh, PA where she began to explore social justice through her artwork. She soon shifted her focus to empowering women of color and documenting her own life experiences, drawing inspiration from her surroundings to create works of mixed media.

Website: [www.pbjcustoms.com](http://www.pbjcustoms.com)

Instagram: [@pbjcustoms](https://www.instagram.com/pbjcustoms)



### **HIGU ROSE | Illustrator & Cartoonist**

Higu Rose is an illustrator, cartoonist, and local terror living in Pittsburgh, PA. Based in fiction and autobiography, Higu's work focuses on experiences of being Black, trans, and a little bonkers. Their narratives are a constant endeavor to understand the self and society, with a snarling desire to love and live. A real keystone state bad catboy.

Website: [www.higu.cool](http://www.higu.cool)

Instagram: @higoons



### **KAMARA TOWNES | Visual Artist**

Kamara Townes is a Pittsburgh-based artist known professionally as Wavy Wednesday. Her artwork is an interplay of fun, femininity, and Black culture. It represents the more playful aspects of her experience as a Black female artist and the responsibilities that come with it.

Website: [www.etsy.com/shop/ArtByWednesday](http://www.etsy.com/shop/ArtByWednesday)

Instagram: @wavywednesdayyy



### **EBTEHAL BADAWI | Artist & Photographer**

Ebtehal Badawi is an international artist who completed a mastery program at the Malian Art Institute in pursuing her goal to become an art therapist. Her art is noticeable for being colorful and uplifting. She is also a writer and photographer. She designed and led an anti-bullying and anti-racism movement which started with a poster "Pittsburgh Builds Bridges."

Website: [www.ebartphotography.com](http://www.ebartphotography.com)

Instagram: @ebtehal.badawi81