



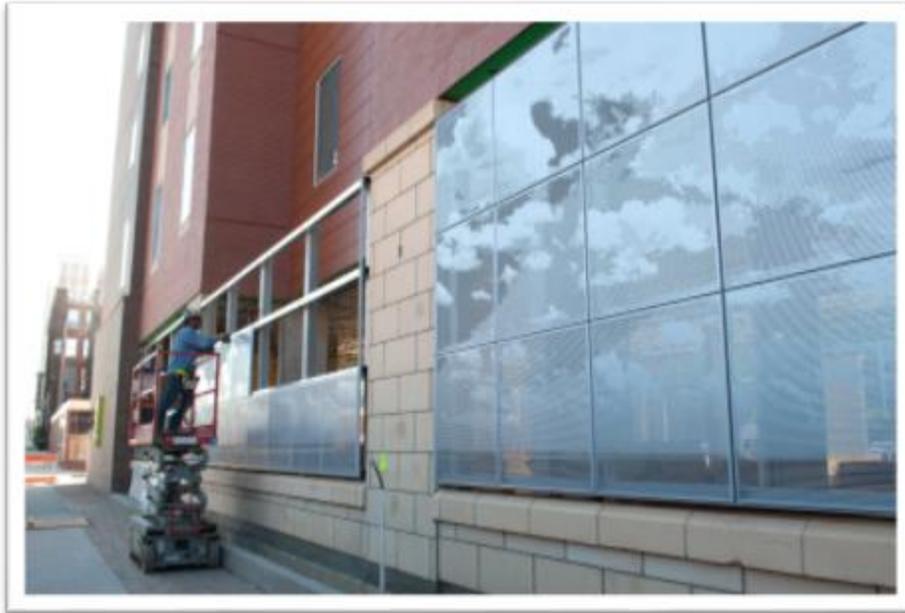
MID-AMERICA ARTS ALLIANCE

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For Immediate Release

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## Artist Chris Dahlquist Awarded Commission for Permanent Artwork in Kansas City's Crossroads Arts District



Chris Dahlquist, *Room to Daydream* installation, September 2017

(Kansas City, MO) Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA), in partnership with Sunflower Developments Group and True North Hotel Group, announces the installation of new artwork *Room to Daydream* by Kansas City, Missouri, artist Chris Dahlquist at the Crossroads Hilton Home 2 Suites development. Dahlquist was awarded a commission to design permanent artwork as part of the development in early 2017. Total project cost for this artwork reached approximately \$120,000, which is in line with typical municipal public art projects that require a 1% public art component. Jason Swords, Principal of Sunflower Development Group, said, "We worked on this project for about four years now, and we believe that in the heart of the Crossroads Arts district, having a local artist put a design statement on the building is a big piece of the overall work."

Mid-America Arts Alliance invited all Artists and Collaborative Artist Teams based in the M-AAA six-state region to submit proposals in order to be considered for the commission of permanent artwork as a part of the Crossroads Home2 Suites by Hilton development. (Open to all artists and design professionals working and/or residing within the Mid-America Arts Alliance region of Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas.) Artists/teams were asked to envision permanent designs to enhance new and existing components of the project, which includes five architectural screens utilizing perforated imaging technology.

Says artist Chris Dahlquist, “I am honored to create large-scale images for the Crossroads Arts District, a cultural center that has nurtured me and seen me mature as an artist over the last three decades. Big sky images brought down to street level will offer hotel guests one of the unique and intrinsic qualities of Kansas City—the ocean of land surrounding it. And for Kansas Citians, it will serve as a reminder that our city has flourished not in spite of, but because of, the sweeping landscape, and that there is still a lot of room for growth and daydreaming.”

The site is located in the Crossroads Arts District in Kansas City, Missouri at the Southeast corner of Main and 20th streets.

**About Mid-America Arts Alliance**

Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA) strengthens and supports artists, cultural organizations, and communities throughout our region and beyond. We achieve this primarily through our national traveling exhibition programs, innovative leadership development, and strategic grant making. We are especially committed to enriching the cultural life of historically underserved communities by providing high quality, meaningful, and accessible arts and culture programs and services. We believe in more art for more people. Additional information about M-AAA is available at [www.maaa.org](http://www.maaa.org).

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