
Art to be displayed at Metro Hall

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The old Jefferson County Courthouse, now called Metro Hall, will be the site of a rotating series of art exhibits, each one curated by a local artist specifically to fit the public spaces in the historic building at Sixth and Jefferson streets.

Mayor Greg Fischer said the exhibits are consistent with his continuing effort to make Metro Hall, where he has his office, a "more open and accessible gathering spot for the entire community."

Fischer said that "Metro Hall belongs to the people. And we want this beautiful building to be a part of people's everyday lives. ... This is a place of innovation and ideas. And it's open to

everyone."

The series of exhibits, which Fischer is calling the Rotunda Art Project, is being produced in partnership with the Louisville Commission on Public Art, with assistance from the Louisville Visual Art Association. The first exhibit, titled "You Are Here," was curated by The Ground Floor Gallery. It will be on display until Nov. 1, with the next exhibit, yet to be announced, due to go up early in 2013.

Jesse Levesque, co-founder and managing director of The Ground Floor Gallery, said the current exhibit features work from four diverse Louisville artists — Carlos Gamez de Francisco, Jacob Heustis, Bryce Hudson and Sarah Lyon, each of whom has re-

ceived regional, national or international recognition.

The Rotunda Art Project is one of several Fischer efforts to make Metro Hall a public gathering place. In November 2011, the mayor ordered the front doors of Metro Hall reopened, after having been locked for years for security reasons. And this summer, at the mayor's invitation, local food trucks have gathered outside Metro Hall on the fourth Tuesday.

Visitors may see the art exhibits anytime the building is open to the public, which is generally weekdays from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. There is no charge to enter, but people are required to go through security and show a photo ID.