

## Music, Museums, and Murals

*(Continued)*

and many neighborhood volunteers. It was sponsored by former 4th Ward Alderman, Toni Preckwinkle, now president of the Cook County Board and the Chicago Public Art Group.

This extremely decorative mural is found under the 47th Street Metra Station in the historic Hyde Park Neighborhood. It was created using 'bricolage' (many small pieces of brick), stone, and glass. It contains many messages about reading, knowing one's heritage, dreaming, being of one this planet's people and hope.

There are many photographs displayed on this mural of many famous Civil Rights activists including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, historic Chicago Mayor Harold Washington, and Hyde Park's most famous son, 44th President Barack Obama. This mural is a place for reflecting on our past, accepting the challenges of today, and hoping and preparing for a better future. "The Song of 47th Street" is a great healing message of unity at a time where social distancing is being enforced. Chicago, like many other cities throughout the country, and the world are experiencing an unparalleled period in history. As the Coronavirus spreads globally, all of our lives have changed.

Social distancing has made interactions difficult, but not impossible. This is very challenging because summer is less than two months away. Summertime in Chicago has even earned its own moniker, "Summertime Chi." It is a great opportunity to explore the city's festivals, museums, dining, and entertainment.

Music, Art, and social media, have helped create a healing bridge to the social distancing gap during this difficult time. We may not be able to see our favorite musician play, but we can connect with them on social media for live concerts. All of the museums are closed, but we can take virtual walkthroughs to pique our cultural curiosities. We can also take part in Chicago's large street art and mural scene across multiple communities. The South Side is home to many musicians, museums, and murals. But it is also a center of culture with painters, poet laureates, and even a former United States president. The quarantine and stay-at-home orders won't last forever. But there are multiple ways that we can appreciate what our city has to offer in the meantime. Daveed Holmes is a cultural photojournalist who enjoys finding the common thread between different groups of people. He can be reached at [daveedholmes@gmail.com](mailto:daveedholmes@gmail.com) and [thepolymatheory.com](http://thepolymatheory.com).

*The New Regal Theatre; [thepolymatheory.com](http://thepolymatheory.com)*

**An extremely dynamic and massive work is found on the side of the New Regal Theatre building in South Chicago on 79th and Stony Island. This work is titled, "Bright Moments, Memories of the Future" by Mitchell Caton and Calvin Jones.**

