

Call for Submissions

[Step Above Stigma](#) Silent Auction

Step Above Stigma (SAS) is a CRA registered mental health charity focused on empowering youth and young adults, facilitating systemic change, and eliminating stigma. SAS is hosting its upcoming Candid Conversations Coffee House at Beatrice Society Cafe (subject to change) on **March 8th, 2023**. We are looking for submissions of interest from artists to participate in the silent auction portion of this event. We are planning on running a silent auction throughout the night that features artwork by local artists. Artists may choose the starting bid and receive **70%** of the purchase price, with the remainder retained as a donation to SAS. We are looking for art pieces that speak to individual experiences with mental health. Artists may be present for the duration of the event to speak to their pieces or simply drop it off by 5:30 pm. Artists may submit more than one piece but we are only interested in accepting approximately **10 pieces**. *Please provide an easel to display your artwork at the venue.*

Event Description:

There's nothing more important to us than creating a space where people can come together to share their stories around mental health.

We believe that sharing these stories will help destigmatize conversations around mental health trauma and struggle, as well as encourage people to learn more about how mental health is intersectional.

Our community is full of people who have faced their own struggles with mental health and want to help others through the process of healing and understanding. And while we are always looking for new ways to support our community, we know that storytelling is often the best way for people to truly learn and connect with one another.

That's why we created Our Candid Conversations Coffee House. This event will be held at Beatrice Society Cafe on March 8th, 2023 from 6:00 pm until 10 pm, and you can come join us for a cup of coffee or tea, some light snacks, and lots of great conversation. You don't have to have any special experience with mental health issues; this event is open to everyone! We will also be hosting a silent auction and selling merchandise.

About the project:

SAS is looking to showcase local artists at our upcoming speaker event "Candid Conversations Coffee House" through a mutually beneficial arrangement. We hope to showcase approximately 10 pieces of artwork throughout the night in a silent auction. It can be any form of artistic style and material on canvas (e.g oil, abstract, realism). The canvasses should be no larger than 20 x 28 inches nor smaller than 12 x 16 inches. The theme is "experiences with mental health." Essentially we want to showcase the broad, complex, and peculiar nature of mental health and how it looks, feels, and changes. If mental health was a person, visual, or object what would it look like?

Submission Details:

Deadline to submit proposal: February 15th, 2023 by 11:59 pm

If you would like to submit work for consideration, please include:

- Concept of project: please provide a description of your idea. It should fall under the umbrella of experiences with mental health. Concept art, sketches or photographs may be included.
- Include 2-3 of your previous works.
- Identify how many pieces you'd like to submit for the silent auction
- Confirm you can drop the piece(s) off on March 8th, 2023 by 5:30 pm along with an easel for display
- Contact information: name, phone number, email, website/Instagram if available
- Send proposal to "hr@stepabovestigma.com" by February 15th, 2023 by 11:59 pm with the words "COFFEE HOUSE ARTWORK" as the email subject

Once reviewing your proposal we'll be in touch with you to commission the piece and discuss further logistics.