On September 8, 2019, this 8’x12’ mural, designed by local artist Lizzy DuQuette, was painted by nearly 100 attendees of the 2nd Annual Cincinnati Festival of Faiths. Painting by numbers, these “collaborative artists” of all ages were among the 30 faith communities representing 13 world religions to participate in the festival that day. Attended by more than 2,000 people, the Festival of Faiths was the most inclusive gathering of faith traditions ever assembled in our region’s history. It was an amazing celebration of the community’s religious diversity.

The festival’s theme was “Compassion through Action: Becoming a Beloved Community.” It was chosen in recognition of the 400th anniversary of the first African slaves arriving on American soil and of the remaining work to be done by all of us, working together, to attain the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s vision of a Beloved Community. A community in which people of all differences accept and honor their shared humanity.

The mural’s imagery depicts the Beloved Community as a thriving garden. It shows the journey required of all members of the human family. Its colors reflect the vibrancy and complementarity of our human differences. And the mural, itself, represents a faith-inspired pledge: a commitment by Cincinnati’s interfaith community to pursue inclusion, equity, compassion, peace and justice for everyone. It’s all there in this inter-religiously produced work of public art.

The festival was organized and the mural commissioned by the Bridges of Faith Trialogue (now Equation.) For more information about the Cincinnati Festival of Faiths, visit www.cincifestivaloffaiths.org.

Thank you.

Mural major sponsors: Penny and Dr. Myles Pensak; Mary-Bob and Jack Rubenstein; the Art Group. Mural artist/designer: Lizzy DuQuette.

Festival of Faiths Legacy sponsors:
The Diocese of Southern Ohio Episcopal; Archdiocese of Cincinnati; Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati; Xavier University-Brueggeman Center for Dialogue; Christ Church Cathedral; Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati; and Dr. Inayat K. and Ishrat Malik. Festival of Faiths Co-Chairs: Sandy Kaltman, Maria Munir and Bishop Marvin F. Thomas Sr.
BELOVED COMMUNITY INTERFAITH MURAL
SEPT. 8, 2019

CINCINNATI FESTIVAL OF FAITHS