

**Dave Loewenstein** – work samples



*The Illuminated City*  
2020  
Wayne, Nebraska

Painted on the north side of the historic Majestic Theatre, this mural adapts drive-in movie marquees to celebrate important aspects of the Wayne community. From the beloved Chicken Show to Wayne State's Willow Bowl and the downtown staple Aqua Pop, community, culture, art, nature, history and pride each have their own lushly illuminated marquee. The mural was created in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, which meant that community meetings to develop the mural's themes had to be held on Zoom, while painting, usually with many volunteers, was done by the artist alone.



*Return of the Pollinators*  
 2017  
 Lawrence, Kansas

Two years after the original Pollinators was demolished to make way for an upscale apartment building, Lawrence residents came together to create this new mural in its place. Heartened by hundreds of supporters who demanded that the Pollinators mural be recreated, artists and volunteers imagined a design that referenced the original - celebrating African-American artists with roots in Kansas - while also adding elements that addressed threats to pollinators and their habitats. The reimagined design, commissioned by the Spencer Museum of Art, features pollinating creatures and imaginary pollen grains created by Lawrence youth, and all seven of the original artists, Aaron Douglas, Gwendolyn Brooks, Oscar Micheaux, Gordon Parks, Hattie McDaniel, Coleman Hawkins and Langston Hughes, plus musician and actress Janelle Monáe.



### *How Topeka (Dópik'è) Got its Name*

2015

Topeka, Kansas

How did Topeka get its name? This is the central question and theme of this panel on the Great Mural Wall. The design focuses on stories, some true and others more like urban folklore, that illustrate what the word Topeka means and how it was chosen for what we now know as our state capital. At the center of the mural, Mary an loway Tribe elder describes to her grandson and great grand daughter the story of Topeka (Dópik'è). She gestures to the place along the Kansas River where many tribes dug for what are commonly known as prairie potatoes, or in Latin *Psoralea esculenta*.





*The World Comes to Whittier*  
2013  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Initiated by Whittier Middle School students in teacher Lela Himmerich's class, students were urged to assess what makes their neighborhood vital. Imagining a number of civic improvements they took their ideas to the city government, spoke at city council meetings and eventually caught the attention of the Sioux Falls Arts Council with the idea for a mural. The mural and the process that led to it celebrate the remarkable ethnic diversity of the Whittier Neighborhood, a home for immigrants and refugees from around the world. Whittier, known to many as the 'Ellis Island of the Plains,' continues to embrace its cosmopolitan culture while being firmly rooted in the history of its working-class past.



*Working Together Toward a People's Art*  
2013  
Hastings, Nebraska

Painted alongside the Pioneer Spirit Hike & Bike Trail, this 210' foot long mural explores the community process that takes place behind the scenes before painting begins. Each vignette highlights a different part of the process from initial research to drawing to projecting the design, and features many of the Hastings' design team members. Special details include local artist Dave Stewart holding up the mural's magic mirror, prehistoric fish from the Hastings Museum and a colorful evocation of the Fisher Rainbow Fountain.