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60 people to point, click Oklahoma City for photo exhibit

BY DUSTY SOMERS Published: June 6, 2009

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Sixty people, each armed with a single camera, will descend on Oklahoma City Saturday to capture an image of downtown as they see it.

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"60 Artists: 60 Minutes" gives each one the chance to create art using identical parameters - the downtown area, one disposable point-and-shoot camera and one hour.

The photographers were selected on a first come, first serve basis by the show's curator, Romy Owens, and include a number who are simply downtown enthusiasts, she said.

"It is a solid mixture of professional photographers, professional artists and amateurs," Owens said.

One photo will be selected from each camera, and the resulting exhibit of 60 images will be displayed at the Underground Invited Artists gallery, at N Robinson and Robert S. Kerr Boulevard, from July 23 to Oct. 15.

Owens solicited artists through Facebook and e-mail, and much to her surprise, the roster was filled within 24 hours, she said.

"We really worried that we wouldn't find 60 people," Owens said. "It was definitely a word-of-mouth thing."

Developing more of an artistic presence downtown helps to attract newcomers as well as benefiting those already in the area, said Kim Searls, marketing director for Downtown Oklahoma City.

"(We want to) let people on their everyday travels through downtown have a little art in their life," Searls said.

The photographers will meet on the corner of N Robinson and Robert S. Kerr, and will have from 11 a.m. to noon to take photographs.

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