

# Inked in history



A mockup of second place winner Audrey Christo's design in the proposed mural location.

## Tattoo artist wins mural contest in Clatskanie

BY ZOË BUCHLI

If you stop for a visit in Clatskanie, you may notice something different about the south-facing wall of the old Clatskanie hospital on North Nehalem Street.

It's getting a makeover by a tattoo artist.

The once raw brick and plaster space will soon honor Raymond Carver, famed American writer and poet who was born in the building in 1938.

### Learn more

To learn more about the mural project, visit [clatskaniearts.org/mural-project](http://clatskaniearts.org/mural-project)

To view more of Dylan Eckland's work, visit [dvecklandtattoo.com](http://dvecklandtattoo.com)

The project is part of the Clatskanie Arts Commission's second annual mural competition, created to boost economic growth. This year, the commission asked artists to send in submissions inspired by Carver's work to be painted onto the side of the old hospital. The

building's 81 foot by 30 foot wall is visible from U.S. Highway 30, a view the commission believes has a lot of potential to attract new visitors.

Seaside tattoo artist Dylan Eckland won this year's competition. His design is in the process of being painted onto the building's exterior wall.

"(Dylan) captured Raymond and his words and made a connection to our community," said Jeremy Furnish, the mural project director.

Eckland has worked as a tattoo artist for about four years. He said he saw the competition as an opportunity to work in a different

medium and push his work into the public eye.

Eckland had come across Carver's work as a tattoo artist, so when Eckland's wife found the mural contest online, she encouraged him to send in a submission.

"I like to expand and do different types of art," Eckland said.

He combed through Carver's work for hours to find inspiration for the design, and then spent weeks bringing his design to fruition.

This is Eckland's first public art showcase on something other than human skin.

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