

Community Banner Program

2020 Winners

Judging

- Judges included members of the City's Cultural Advisory Committee (2), Professional Artists (2), and City Staff (3).
- Judges conceded the art, and artist statement during adjudication.
- Up to 35 submissions with the highest score will be selected for the banner program

Judging Criteria Scoring

- Submissions connection to the theme of program /30
- Overall esthetics of the submission /30
- Submissions meets guidelines outlined in the program /30
- Artist Statement /10
- Total /100

By the Lake

Julieta Cortes

The theme of Play, my paintings were inspired from pictures captured when I have gone for a walk. As an artist, I enjoy nature; “ By the Lake “ Walking by the lake, is one of my favourite things to do, and having my camera to capture the wild life that you always find no matter the temperature.



Rose of Sharon

Julieta Cortes

The theme of Play, my paintings were inspired from pictures captured when I have gone for a walk. As an artist, I enjoy nature; “Rose of Sharon” Is one of my favourite flowers to paint. It is one that I encounter in many front gardens during my morning walks.



Mapping Home

Katherine Hall

My painting depicts the beauty and diversity of landscape in the City of Pickering. Pickering has been my home for over thirty years. The saying “Home is where the heart is” is true for me. Every corner of this unique and amazing city has something special to offer. From the farms that feed us and country side to the north and the city centre to the south with the waterfront, many parks and cultural and heritage sites. There are so many businesses that I support as well as work in. There is an abundance of activities for the whole family as well. Pickering has it all and I enjoy all of it with my family and friends. Living here has inspired me to paint a map image of our city. History shows that Pickering was established as a township in 1811 and as a City in the year 2000. I saw historical map paintings in The Map Room in the Vatican Museum in Italy. I think it would be meaningful to preserve our city through my art.



My Home is Pickering

Alejandra Paton

Live: This banner is all about getting to know the rich diversity in your neighbors. The Great Horned Owl and Yellow Warbler are native to Ontario and can be spotted by enthusiasts and amateurs alike in any of the four conservation areas in Pickering, and even in someone's back yard!

Work: Much like their human counterparts, birds work hard to earn a living in Pickering. It is important to work together to keep birds, and nature, safe in our cities.

Play: The best way to learn is by playing, singing, or reading a good book! The playful depiction of the birds, and bright colors used in the banner, are meant to remind us to stop and smell the maple leaves and appreciate Ontario's natural beauty.

Inspire: Who else calls Pickering their home? Be inspired by the knowledgeable owl and check out a book at any one of the many Pickering Public Library branches to learn about and engage with Pickering's community.



Trunk Trio

Cheryl-Ann Hills

Inspired by my walks in Altona Forest with my daughter who lives in the area, these three majestic trees stand as if on guard. The artwork of the solitary tree trunk in the late evening light reflects the resilience of nature. The rich history of this forest reflects the history of our nation and this area shows evidence of early pioneer settlers as well as First Nations people. My deep love of the forest is reflected in many of my artworks. The Trio is mixed media on canvas and the solitary Trunk is oil on canvas. Both are original works completed in 2020. These artworks are just two examples of this passion for trees and nature.



Tree Trunk 9

Cheryl-Ann Hills

Inspired by my walks in Altona Forest with my daughter who lives in the area, these three majestic trees stand as if on guard. The artwork of the solitary tree trunk in the late evening light reflects the resilience of nature. The rich history of this forest reflects the history of our nation and this area shows evidence of early pioneer settlers as well as First Nations people. My deep love of the forest is reflected in many of my artworks. The Trio is mixed media on canvas and the solitary Trunk is oil on canvas. Both are original works completed in 2020. These artworks are just two examples of this passion for trees and nature.



Healthcare Heroes

Laura Smith

"Healthcare Heroes" seeks to feature an uplifting depiction of healthcare workers who have been working tirelessly to support our communities through the COVID-19 crisis. These essential workers act in critical roles to support the health of the citizens of the City of Pickering during these unprecedented times.

Now more than ever the themes of Live, Work, Play and Inspire are fundamentally supported by the efforts of doctors, nurses, surgeons and cleaning staff at hospitals and healthcare facilities in our communities. Their work allows families, neighbors and local business to continue to thrive and supports the fundamental framework upon which our cities are built.

This piece is dedicated to all the hardworking healthcare workers in the City of Pickering. Thank you for everything you do each and every day to keep our families safe.



Reflections

Lisa Johnson

Live, Work, Play and Inspire

Enjoying a family picnic at the Rouge National Urban Park. Blowing bubbles and seeing the reflections of The City of Pickering and appreciation through each bubble. Parents sharing their stories and teaching their children the history, landmarks and the future for the next generation.

The City of Pickering is the center of a growing diverse population with many landmarks such as Frenchman's Bay Waterfront, Museum Village and the longest Pedestrian Bridge. Tree represents the natural beauty, family roots, individual growth, unity, strength and energy throughout our communities.



Ago

Elizabeth Archbold

Pickering is a city full of inspiring residents and parks, although it must be remembered that the area was once home to an even more beautiful community. The Indigenous Peoples who lived on these lands were respectful to the raw, unyielding power of the earth. All parts of nature were thanked, as all objects—both living and non-living—were depended on for not only survival but also the development of individuals and communities alike. This banner was drawn solely in graphite for its simple beauty; the darks and lights complement each other, always in harmony much like a landscape needs to be in order to thrive. Everything drawn is separated by a white border which represents the balance required in a community—a fine line separates order, respect, and stability from a loss of equilibrium. This banner is not only to remember how the land lived not so long ago but to inspire the people of today to give thanks to the world no matter how much it has changed.



Innocent Echos

Elizabeth Archbold

Every year countless individuals leave their homes to start the next chapter of their lives. This banner reflects the memories of high school students as they prepare for post-secondary education. To gain inspiration for this piece, as well as to include part of the community, I asked fellow graduating grade twelves what they will miss most about their childhood home.

A variety of responses were collected: from memories of adventuring in the Rouge Forest, whether hiking, sledding, or riding and getting lost in the natural beauty; visiting city hotspots such as the Waterfront and The Pickering Playing Fields; music-themed memories of school band rooms, memorable music teachers, playing in a marching band during the annual Santa Claus parade; to the simplistic actions of eating fast food and pizza at the local businesses. The flat, undetailed style used in this banner represents the simplicity of childhood. Children often reach for the brightest, happiest colours to mix when creating art; to reminisce this, the most vivid colours were used to enhance the idea that these are pure memories originating from young creative minds. As students leave home they become independent, more mature; we learn how to make important decisions. By remembering the days we lived and played in Pickering, we can be thankful for the opportunities we've had in this city. We will be inspired to make more memories as we continue our lives into adulthood. Innocence is left behind in childhood, becoming no more than a distant echo in our ears as we expand into life.



Frenchman's Bay

Nicole Wilmot

I visited Frenchman's Bay last June and took some photos of the sailboats coming in. I fell in love with one of my own photos and decided to paint it. I finally finished it two weeks ago. it measures 10x20 and is an original painting.



Hard-Working Hands

Mehtaab Wachhair

In this artwork, I tried to represent live, work, play and inspire through hard-working hands in different colours and sizes which reflect the true spirit of Pickering – Diversity in which we live, play, work and inspire each other regardless of anyone's colour, age, gender or cultural background. Flowers falling from the sky represent the true love that people of Pickering shower on others.



Beautiful Pickering

Mehtaab Wachhair

The true spirit of Pickering lies in the beauty of the city which I represented through this artwork. Through my artwork, I expressed the Pickering tagline “Live, Work, Play, Inspire”. To represent “Live”, I drew the waterfront, the sun, a book representing the libraries and the musical note that represents the bright and energetic place Pickering and its residents are. The raindrops and window in my art represents the beauty, nature and openness of Pickering. I expressed “Work” by the clock which represents the City Hall and the people of Pickering who work tirelessly to keep the city growing. “Play” and “Inspire” have been represented with the sand dunes that showcase the playful beaches. The smiling faces of various sizes, shapes and colours shows the diversity in the city of Pickering and that everyone is welcome here regardless of their age, gender or ethnicity.



Quilt Dance

Arlene Cassidy

I am 60 years old and have been an artist all my life. When I came upon this community Banner program, I decided to have some fun & Play with beads & butterflies & patterns. I call it "Quilt Dance." I am delighted to be able to send the original to you. Hope the dimensions are correct.

My grandmother & several great aunts Inspire this theme. They produced beautiful elaborate quilts as a necessary production and recycling activity. I have featured quilts in several paintings. Dr Saunders a Neurosurgeon purchase "The Path to Serenity". It is on the wall at Kingston General Hospital.

In October of 2005, when I was 45, I experienced a major cerebral aneurysm in the left-brain. I had extensive neurosurgery, was in a coma with a tracheotomy for 2 weeks and in hospital rehabilitation for 4 months. I now have some deficiencies in short term memory, concentration, reading and organization. Being able to Live became a challenge & blessing.

Thank-you for your consideration.



Home

Brad Dale

When my wife and I were looking for a place to put down roots and start our family we ending up finding that here in Pickering. This lovely small little city has everything that you would need, which matches up perfectly with the theme of Live, Work, Play and Inspire.

Live - For live I have chose to use the beautiful Pickering waterfront to represent this section of the banner. The mix of beautiful homes right next to the waterfront is a pristine backdrop so a picturesque place to live.

Work - Being smaller than some regions within the GTA most might not think there is just small businesses out here, but they would be wrong. Representing work I have chosen to use our City Hall and the GO Transit, and these are just two of the places within our City limits.

Play - This one means the most to my family as having two small children, a great aspect of living in Pickering is that no matter where you go there is always a beautiful and well maintained playground for the kids to play in.

Inspire - This one was an easy one also, with such a vast cultural diversity within Pickering all it's friendly and happy residents make it such a wonderful place to be. An inspiration to other regions within the gta, such a safe and lovely place to be.



Tree of Life

Yasaman Mehrsa

For me, nature is an inexhaustible source of inspiration for my art. My art is a relationship between us and the natural environment. I believe nature is both all around us and deep within us; and admiration for nature is inherent in all of us, but tends to get lost for a majority of our planet's population who have busy lifestyles.

The scope of this artwork is an awareness of the emotions which nature gives us especially trees. We Live, Work, Play and Inspire in the nature. Tree is one of those creatures in nature that we can always learn from. There are lessons trapped in every tree ring, ready to be uncovered by us. "Tree Of Life" is a symbol of an individuality;

The branches sprouting at different points symbolize a personal growth into a unique human; Different experiences and emotions shape them into who they are and enhance their individuality. Each natural pattern in this artwork is a metaphor of an emotion, an experience or even a memory of an individual in their lifetime while they Live, Work, Play, and Inspire.



Harmony

Oliviana Cinco

In this piece, I wanted to incorporate the themes live, work, play and inspire through scenic elements within the city of Pickering. I used acrylic paint and ink to create a layered effect that would represent the complexities between nature and human life that are often hidden beneath the surface. The yellow, blue and green hues symbolize peace, tranquility and harmony within the environment.



The Birds of Pickering

Rachel Jewson

Being a Pickering resident my entire life, I have certainly lived, worked, played, and inspired in this city. This year of 2020, however, was different. Thanks to a global pandemic, the ability to work and play was taken away from the residents of Pickering, as well as people all over the world. I was one of the many people who spent four months off work, confined to the walls of my home. Having to find innovative ways to spend my time, I discovered my new inspiration: the birds of Pickering. Each day I would sit by my window or backyard, and watch as each of the birds featured in my digital painting visited my home. I would listen to the song of the Goldfinches, take blurry phone pictures of the Baltimore Orioles, and simply watch in amazement with my mom.

To me these birds represent not just four months of my life, but the inspiration that at the end of the day, the world continues to turn. Birds still fly and sing, the sun still shines, and Pickering continues to support its residents with all that it can - both the human and ave kind.



Live, Work, Play, Inspire

Jason Das

How I wanted to capture Pickering, is a multi-layer piece of symbolism that resonates with me the most. When I think of living, I wanted to capture the nature of living near Duffins Creek. Fall colours of leaves in the wooden areas near my old high school Pine Ridge.

For work, we associate with Pickering with energy. I didn't necessarily want to draw out the power plant but instead create floating light bulbs that symbolize ideas that power and drive our community. As a sense of balloons strung together that empower us.

I cannot forget to include Frenchman's Bay or the waterfront at the foot of Liverpool Road. Our waterfront is where people come to play and enjoy the time with family and friends.

For the inspired, I wanted to capture the youth. Who see that morning sunrise that glimmers over Lake Ontario to the starry night sky when you travel far enough north. It's all encompassed as the leaves, lake, agricultural fields form the shape of a child pondering and dreaming about what a day is like in Pickering for them.



A Moment of Magic

Emilie Spatola

Pickering has a lot of beautiful parks, and I have explored many of them in recent months. Parks have a certain kind of magic to them, especially during summer evenings, when everyone is out to enjoy the last few hours of the day.

Pickering's parks really do come alive during this time. With this piece, it is my intention to capture a moment of his certain kind of magic in our city. The inspiration for this scene comes from a quick photo I took at Glengrove Park.



Intergrowth

Crystal Cheung

The idea of this drawing, Intergrowth, derives by the concept of constantly expanding and growing of photosynthesis and weaving into a whimsical realm in the artwork.

For this Pickering Community Banner design, I was inspired by the mix of city and nature within the City of Pickering, therefore reminds me of the process of photosynthesis, and created this lively scenery. Within the scene, there is water, sun, and flower, forming a photosynthesis cycle, each element is necessary to cooperate and function, reflecting with the theme of Live, Work, Play, Inspire, living live wholeheartedly, creating history every day, and embrace the heritage. The flowers in rainbow colors to show their uniqueness on their own to symbolize the diversity in Pickering, yet they are thriving together as a unity.

Each part of the history and heritage are knitted together and formed a healthy “photosynthesis” cycle, and created a unique community. Water particles are moving playfully under the sun, and the particles create a harmonic scene with the flowers, inspiringly living the abundance of life.



Pathways Through Pickering

Julie Gundry

My banner showcases the outdoor, community and cultural spaces that make Pickering a great place to live. Our waterfront and green spaces allow us to connect with our environment, our vibrant neighborhoods and transportation networks allow us to connect with each other and our public art and cultural institutions allow us to connect with our past and imagine our future. I chose a casual, brightly coloured style for my illustration because I felt it best represented our vibrant young or young-at-heart city.



Singing Pine

Elaine Bryck

This piece is a direct result of a recent visit to the Greenwood Conservation Area and my renewed appreciation of our forests, particularly in urban areas. The myriad species of trees were a visual and lyrical delight. My hope is that it will encourage residents to enjoy and plant trees with an eye to further sustainability.

The work measures 6" x 15" and is a mix of acrylic painting, ink drawing and collaged vintage sheet music.



Without Hesitation

Mary Filipchuk

As a plein air painter, most of my images are started in the field but being from out of town and not able to get there, I had to do some research about Pickering, Ontario and mesh that with how I paint, exalting realism into a visually pleasing story. While watching the news, the challenge of what to paint was easily overcome when I heard the story of Zion Leatham, a camp director who responded to cries for help from two individuals who found themselves in trouble in Lake Ontario. As a figurative painter this story of heroism is ideally suited to my painting style.

The story of Zion also ties to the required theme for the banners. Here was a “working” camp coordinator who instructed and lead young people at “play”. Zion's quick response and selfless action saved the “lives” of two individuals. There is no greater “inspiration” in life or for the subject of any painting.

Starting with a black board, I drew elements into the painting which allows one to define the town, which in this case was the nuclear power plant and Lake Ontario. The figures are moved around and added as shapes which go together much like a jigsaw puzzle. The intent, to create an image with an engaging composition.



My Community

Anusha Broekhuysse

I have lived in the Pickering community for the past nineteen years and my banner is a representation of how I lived, worked, played and been inspired by my surroundings this past year. I chose to represent Pickering using powerful symbols that represent the people, community, and nature in the city. Pickering has a truly unique community consisting of professionals, students, essential workers and seniors of all ethnicities and races. During the pandemic, the community came together to ensure Pickering remained a functioning city for all its residents. Pharmacies, grocery stores and medical centers found creative ways to remain open and support everyone, while many stayed connected virtually.

I drew a group of multicultural people in the center of my banner to represent how people are the ultimate foundation of a city and that the beauty of a community is in its diversity. The cornfield at the top of the banner depicts the country charm of the city and fresh produce available at local farmer's markets. This scene represents the importance of cherishing the simple things in life and how inspiring our everyday surroundings can be. The Waterfront Biking Trails emphasize the joy and serenity that a simple bike ride or walk can bring to your own life and mental wellbeing. I included this scene in my banner as I spent my summer appreciating the simplicity of nature by going on bike rides and walks in Pickering. Overall, beauty can be found anywhere, even where we least expect it and my banner is a symbol of the beauty I found in my community.



Live, work, play, Inspire

Enrique Bravo

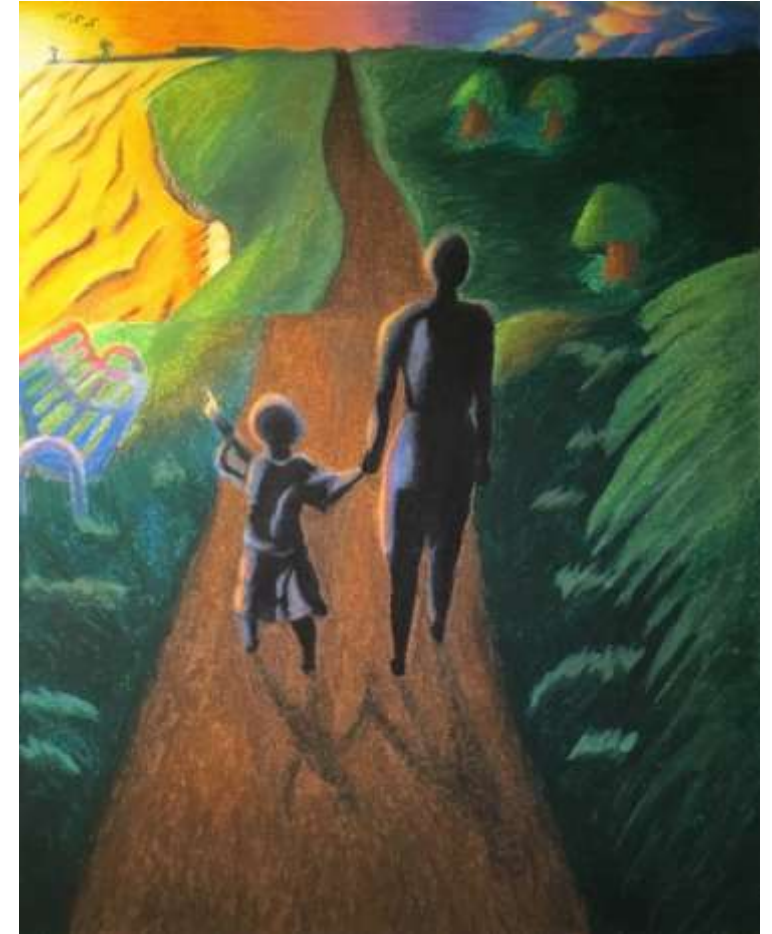
The illustration reflects the sequence of images that make allegorical reference to the motivating words; a central character who lives, works, plays, and finally, in an image of the character taking care of his parents, the elderly, inspires. It is a graphic composition that carries the message directly using a bit of the language of the Comic.



Nostalgia

Vance FC

I have lived in Pickering my entire life. I have many childhood memories of my mom taking me to Sandy Beach on the weekends which was like a sanctuary for her to use to take a break from work and for me it was a place to explore and have fun with nature. I vividly remember walking along the path looking at the geese flying above, hearing the waves and later grabbing lunch at Big M's. Therefore, this art piece really hits close to home for me and it seemed only right to name it Nostalgia. The process of creating Nostalgia has allowed me to revisit many joyful memories of my childhood that often took place at the waterfront. And the goal for Nostalgia is to inspire and prompt others to reminisce about their own positive memories that they created at this iconic Pickering location. As well as foreshadowing many more memories to come because Pickering will always be a place where childhoods are created. #PickeringProud



Live, Work, Play & Inspire with Passion

Carolyn Boyd

What says fun more than watching children play in the park and jumping for joy? A child enjoying the day, whether it's sunny or cloudy, with enthusiasm and zest for life, is a wonderful sight. In the a park, we also find people working to beautify the area. Here we see a gardener who takes pride in her work. Also, who hasn't enjoyed swinging on a tree over a watering hole or small pond? Of course, where would we be without our frontline workers, during this trying Covid-19 time, and in other times too. They are the ones we count on to lift us up, and be brave. They inspire us greatly. We can all live, work, play, and inspire with passion.



A Web of Dreams and Aspirations

Stephanie Luo

My art piece depicts a dreamcatcher dangling from the sky. A dream catcher is a handmade willow hoop woven into a web and can include feathers and beads.

They are traditionally suspended on cradles as a form of protection and were created by the First Nations people. I used a dreamcatcher as the subject for my piece because the First Nations are an important part of Pickering's heritage. Pickering is located on the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississauga and was Aboriginal territory for thousands of years.

The sky is the limit for the people of Pickering and I hope my banner inspires them to keep on dreaming.



A City of Flowers

Stephanie Luo

In this piece, I drew many flowers emerging from a deep green background to show the green areas of Pickering. There are many species of flowers of all different shapes, sizes, and colours that can be seen all over Pickering.

These flowers grow almost anywhere and their beauty follows us throughout the city- from homes to schools and from parks to workplaces.

My banner shows how flowers are part of the diverse landscapes of Pickering and valuable natural spaces. Pickering has over 220 hectares of open space and parkland, over 85 parks, and 4 conservation areas. I was very inspired by the many trails and beautiful parts of Pickering and I hope this makes more people want to go out and explore Pickering's natural spaces.



Autumn in Pickering – Outdoor

Husna Nizar

During these strange and uncertain times, many of us have spent our time exploring our neighborhoods and enjoying what nature has to offer. As an artist, I am constantly inspired by the natural beauty that surrounds us.

I enjoy taking walks and hikes with my family in various the trails and parks in Pickering. These adventures offer a slice of Canada's serene and inspiring natural beauty, and best of all they are freely available to everyone.

This painting titled 'Autumn in Pickering' is painted with acrylics on canvas and varnished. Not only do the vibrant and lively colours of autumn in air represent our beautiful Canadian landscape, it represents the diverse and vibrant community that thrive in the city of Pickering.



Pickering City Hall

Talie Shalmon

This design features Pickering City Hall, illustrated in bold, vibrant colours. City Hall is the headquarters of the city's administration and houses the city council and its associated departments. These departments help facilitate living, working and playing in the city of Pickering. They also support cultural activities and create opportunities for community engagement.

This design depicts City Hall as a symbol for the city of Pickering, a place for optimism, inspiration and community vibrancy.



Vibrant lives in bloom

Vivia-Dehua Liu

This submission is inspired by the lively environment of the City of Pickering and the energy of the residents living in the city. I am hoping to add more colours to the street by using flowers as a symbol of life and inspiration. The beauty of nature is in our everyday life and this platform could engage people to reflect on the relationship between the nature and residence in the city. There are very diverse colours chosen in the image to represent the diversity of minds and cultures of people living and working here.



RGB The Colours of a Canadian Summer

Ashraf Hasanali

After decades in two hot countries—sweltering and swarming India, and dry and dusty Kuwait—I arrived in Canada last year. Here, I am overwhelmed by the beauty of the shapes in the clouds; the moods of the sky; the blazing colours of autumn; the frosty sparkle of snow; the haunting tracery of winter-bare branches; the tiny fluorescent leaves of spring; the glorious bloom of cherry trees; the riotous colours of flowers; the romping rabbits, scurrying squirrels, boisterous birds, buzzing bees and bashful butterflies in my backyard; and the sweet bounty of fruit-laden trees bowing to summer!

As a curious new immigrant wandering through neighbourhoods, I marvel at the at diversity of human habitats in Pickering. Driving through the countryside, I drink in the vistas of ripening crops, grain silos, barns and the red-and white farmhouses that seem quintessentially Canadian to me. They remind me of the toil of those who till the land, those to whom we owe our sustenance.

Amazingly, just a short drive south brings me to the heart of the town! Here, my architect's eye is enchanted by the human scale, geometric forms, fascinating lines and attractive colours of Frenchman's Bay. The multitudes of all ages and origins who, like me now, call Canada home, mingling, laughing, strolling, running, cycling, enjoying the waterfront and milling about the bistros, a tattoo parlour, an ice cream shop, gladden my urban designer's heart. The pandemic may have thwarted my efforts to settle into my new home. The world may seem to be going crazy.

Yet, the life around me instills hope that all will yet be well. As I bide a while, the beauty around me has inspired me to pick up a paintbrush again after decades and rediscover the joy of attempting to reflect its forms and colours!

