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**Carrie Scherpelz: State Street murals show resilience of Madison**

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**Carrie Scherpelz: State Street murals show resilience of Madison community**

Jun 11, 2020

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**D**ear Editor: Recently, I walked over to State Street to see the effect of several nights of rioting and looting on my neighborhood. I wanted to see all of the sad, boarded-up storefronts for myself.

I was braced to experience anger and despair at the destruction. Instead I stumbled upon the joy of creation.

I saw groups of artists busily painting murals that inspired hope and solidarity with #BlackLivesMatter. I saw merchants setting out tables and chairs, open for business. "Come on in" was scrawled on all the plywood doors standing ajar.

What I saw was the resilience of our community in the face of a pandemic, a depression, and civil unrest. It practically took my breath away.

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Karin Wolf of the City of Madison and Michelle Morrison of **visitdowntownmadison.com** are facilitating this marvel. The murals are reminiscent of those on the remaining segments of the Berlin Wall, visited by millions of tourists every year.

The murals are reminiscent of those painted on the remaining segments of the Berlin Wall and, like them, will draw many visitors. A symbol of fear has once again been transformed into a vision for a better world.

### **Carrie Scherpelz**

Madison

*Send your letter to the editor to **tctvoice@madison.com**. Include your full name, hometown and phone number. Your name and town will be published. The phone number is for verification purposes only. Please keep your letter to 250 words or less.*