

Team-building//

## Street Smart

» IT'S NOT EVERYDAY you get the chance to log off, ditch the meetings and let loose with a can of spray paint and a blank canvas.

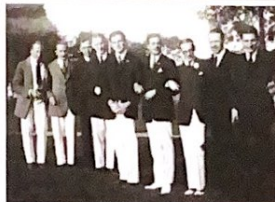
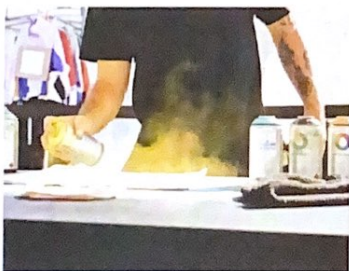
Graffiti Arts, a street art, graffiti and mural agency specializing in branded art projects, pairs clients with a nationwide network of local graffiti artists, giving guests a creative outlet with a variety of hands-on and team-building activities.

"It's definitely a unique opportunity," says founder and graffiti artist Victor Fung. "If you think about it, even for under-the-radar graffiti artists, finding a fresh (legal) place to paint these is pretty rare. These events can really give guests a sense of freedom to have fun and get creative."

Graffiti Arts works with planners to curate experiences that won't be forgotten. Artists can put their skills on full display while working live on a canvas during an event, or help facilitate group collaborations and team-building workshops. Customizable group activities can include splitting into teams to paint custom designs, group painting of murals and more.

"These events aren't just getting teams out of their creative shells, they're getting a chance to meet and connect with an entire culture they may not have known much about. It's a fun, full-circle experience." —Megan Gosch

📍 graffiti-artist.net



Event Preview//

## A HEMINGWAY HOMECOMING

While Ernest Hemingway frequented several places across the globe throughout his lifetime, Walloon Lake, Michigan, was a place he had roots in and returned to in his early years. His father and mother, Dr. Clarence and Grace (Hall) Hemingway, first came to the Walloon Lake area in the late 1800s, building their beloved cottage, Windemere, which remains in the family to this day. Ernest was just 3 months old when he made his first trip to the area. He would return every summer, at least for a brief period of time, until his 1921 wedding to Hadley (Richardson) Hemingway. Walloon Lake is where the Nobel and Pulitzer prize-winning author discovered his love of writing, hunting and fishing.

To celebrate 100 years since his wedding in nearby Horton Bay, the Village of Walloon Lake is hosting a series of events as part of a "Hemingway Homecoming" celebration including a community read of

*The Nick Adams Stories*, featured cocktails, lodging packages, a birthday celebration and a series of events over Labor Day weekend including the unveiling of historic art installations downtown.

On September 3, interested parties are cordially invited to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary "wedding reception" of Ernest and Hadley at the Talcott Center in downtown Walloon Lake. Guests will dine on a world-famous chicken dinner reminiscent of the Pinehurst Inn in Horton Bay, where the wedding party actually gathered following the country wedding of the then-virtually unknown writer. The event, benefiting the Michigan Hemingway Society, will also offer a cash bar as well as Papa's Pilar Rum (named after his 38-foot Atlantic Ocean fishing boat), an auction and a special appearance by the "newlyweds" — By Dianna Stampfler

📍 walloonlakemi.com | f Walloon Lake Village

PHOTOS: GRAFFITI ARTS, WALLOON LAKE; (OPPOSITE) YURI HASEGAWA