

Edinburgh Direct Aid mural will celebrate “unity and resilience”

A new mural has been unveiled at 16a West Harbour Road on the wall of the Edinburgh Direct Aid International (EDA) warehouse to symbolise the spirit of humanitarian aid.

EDA was set up in 1992, and is dedicated to providing humanitarian aid to people suffering as a result of man-made or natural disasters. EDA's current main projects are in Ukraine, Gaza and Lebanon.

The City of Edinburgh Council supported the ethnically diverse artists who created the work through their Diversity and Inclusion Fund.

The mural is a testament to the charity providing aid to refugees in Lebanon, Ukraine, Gaza and other war-affected regions.

It was designed by Mexican muralist Draya Madú and was joined by Mexican artist Eva Paredes and a team of volunteers. “The mural is not just a piece of art; it represents a light of hope and a reminder of our shared and caring humanity as well as a call to action to keep helping those in need,” said Draya Madú. “Working with Edinburgh Direct Aid and seeing the community come together in support of refugees worldwide has

been a unique inspiring experience.”

The mural project reflects Edinburgh Direct Aid’s commitment to diversity, inclusion, and the power of collective action. It showcases a blend of cultural motifs and symbolism, creating a visual narrative that connects the local Edinburgh community with global refugee populations.

Ian McHaffie, a representative from Edinburgh Direct Aid explained why a child is being given wings by a charity volunteer on the painting. He said: “Because humanitarian aid spreads out from the boxes in our warehouse to help people rise above their immediate circumstances, to fly up from their troubles, and see a new vision and new hope for their future.”

The mural will be officially unveiled on 30 June at 1.30pm.



Photo Ian McHaffie

