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High Hopes in Historic Core:

Artists Seek Dough for Downtown's New 'Row'

By Eugene Yi
Reporter

A band of artists is pinning big hopes on the city's recent designation of a "Gallery Row" along Spring and Main streets, promoting the new moniker as a catalyst for the nascent art scene in the Historic Core.

The first sign designating the area—which is bounded by 2nd and 9th streets—is scheduled to be unveiled on October 19th

at 4th Street and Spring. But the signs are only part of a program that supporters say holds the potential to bring much more to the neighborhood.

Kjell Hagen, owner of the Inshallah Gallery on the 200 block of S. Main, says he expects Gallery Row to add momentum to the Historic Core's arts scene by eventually including economic incentives for galleries, theaters and art spaces to open up shop in the area.

City officials and organizers are currently discussing details of an incentive package, according to Hagen, who zealously promotes the possibilities in the face of what many might see as long odds. Some blocks included in Gallery Row—especially around 5th Street—have traditionally been home to a spillover of the worst of Skid Row, including open drug sales.

Only four galleries currently make the

Galleries page 4

