

Intro

Dearest Comrades,

I signed up with DSA just 4 months ago and very soon after became part of a fledgling Organizing Committee in Springfield, Illinois. Having done flyers and other artwork for my band over the years, it made sense for me to assume the role of “art guy” in the group. I scoured the internet for any usable art assets I could find and... well, any new DSA “art guy” will tell you there ain’t a lot out there.

But as I cobbled together designs for flyers, agendas, sign-in sheets, logos, social media, buttons, shirts, etc., I began to amass my own personal arsenal of DSA and other leftist-related art assets and iconography, and having this at my disposal made dashing off new designs so much easier. I realized that if I’d had something like it when I first started it would have saved me a lot of time - time I could have spent focusing on much more important things.

And that’s why I decided to really hunker down and flesh it out, eventually expanding it easily 20 times its original size: Aesthetics are a means, not an end. You might lure folks to your meeting with snazzy flyers and dope swag, but they’re not going to keep coming back if you’re not organizing effectively and actively engaging them. Use this resource as a tool, not a crutch.

Solidarity,

Tyler K. Orton ([@dumbersome](#))

Sangamon DSA ([@SangamonDSA](#))

FAQ

Q: So what is the DSArtsenal exactly?

A: Besides being the most hideous portmanteau ever devised, the DSArtsenal is a project I started to give newer chapters a leg-up in with their graphic design. There are 4 files of various DSA/leftist vector art assets: power fists, roses, lockups (handshakes), and a catchall misc file for the odds and ends I found along the way. Each file is available in the following file formats: .ai, .pdf, .svg, .png, .jpg.

Q: Where did all this stuff come from? Did you make it all yourself?

A: Hell no! Aside from some color tweaks and minor edits, everything was lifted from preexisting DSA artwork or expropriated from the web. I claim no ownership or authorship. Any use of these art assets is at your own risk. No need to credit me at all, but if you want to give me a shoutout on Twitter and show me stuff you made with it that would be cool!

Q: Can I contribute to this?

A: I have no immediate plans to continue this project and I would encourage you to instead create an art arsenal of your own - preferably comprised of content that's wholly original or distributed under an open copyright so that it can be disseminated/shared through more official channels. That said, if you wanted to do something like make guides or video tutorials that show others how to use these assets in different programs and so on, I think that'd be pretty rad.

Q: Can I take assets from these files and distribute them in other files?

A: By all means. I'd like to see people use these assets as starting points. For example, the "roses" file could be split and expanded into subcategories like abstract, hand-drawn, etc. Maybe even do theme comps that are geared for more rural areas as opposed to slicker, urban designs. Stuff like that.