



Commission for Arts and Culture Hybrid Meeting Notice and Agenda

Thursday, May 28, 2026

1:30-3:30pm

City Administration Building

202 C Street, 12th Floor

San Diego, CA 92101

Zoom Link: <https://sandiego.zoomgov.com/j/1653803689>

Chair: Alessandra Moctezuma

Vice Chair: Keith Opstad

Commissioners: Dajahn Blevins, Chris Chalupsky, Vanessa Ybarra Davis, Dennis Doan, Fritz Friedman, Cathy Hasson, Abe Hughes, Kamaal Martin, Becky Phillipott, Alberto Pulido, Imani Robinson, Jean Walcher

Staff Liaison: Bell Reza

Public Comment on an Agenda Item: If you wish to address the Commission on an item for today's agenda, please complete and submit a speaker form before the Commission hears the agenda item. You will be called at the time the item is heard.

Written Comment through Webform: In lieu of in-person attendance, members of the public may submit their comments using the [webform](#). When using the web form, indicate the agenda item number for which you are submitting a comment. Instructions regarding word limits and submission deadlines are provided on the form. On the web form, members of the public should select Commission for Arts and Culture.

Virtual Public Comment: During Non-Agenda Public Comment, after the Chair opens the comment period, raise your hand by tapping the "Raise Your Hand" button on your computer, tablet, or smartphone, or by dialing *9 on your phone. Speakers will be called in the order hands are raised. Each person may speak only once on a particular item. When staff calls on you, unmute your device by following the on-screen prompt or by dialing *6 on your phone.

Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda: You may address the Commission on any matter not listed on today's agenda. Please complete and submit a speaker form. California's open meeting laws do not allow the Commission to discuss or take any action on the matter at today's meeting. At its discretion, the Commission may add the item to a future agenda or refer it to staff or a committee. Individual comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. If a large number of people wish to speak on the same item, the Chair may limit the time for each speaker or for the item.

Requests for Accessibility Modifications or Accommodations:

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate meeting participation, including requests for alternatives to observing meetings and offering public comment as noted above, as well as requests for auxiliary aids, services, interpreters, or translation services to offer public comment, may be made by contacting Bell Reza at 619-559-7776 or Breza@sandiego.gov. Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate meeting participation require different lead times, ranging from five business days to two weeks. Please keep this in mind and provide as much advance notice as possible in order to ensure availability. The City is committed to resolving accessibility requests swiftly in order to maximize accessibility and public participation.

Agenda:

- Item 1: Call to Order & Statement of Purpose+Vision | Alessandra Moctezuma, Chair

- Item 2: Non-Agenda Public Comment | Alessandra Moctezuma, Chair

- Item 3: Chair's Reports
 - a. **ACTION** – April 23, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes
 - b. **ACTION** – Approval of Public Art Committee Appointments
 - c. Other Reports

- Item 4: Presentation: San Diego Tourism Authority

- Item 5: Committee Reports
 - a. Public Art Committee
 - 1. **ACTION** – Final Artwork Proposals for *here comes the neighborhood: Encanto* by Christopher Lloyd Tucker and Roberto Salas
 - b. Advocacy & Outreach Committee
 - c. Creative City Ad hoc Committee

- Item 6: Staff Reports
 - a. Funding Update

- Item 7: New Business for Future Agendas | Commissioner Arts & Culture Updates

- Item 8: Adjourn



Commission for Arts and Culture

City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

MINUTES

April 23, 2026

Hyperlink to view full meeting available [here](#).

Commissioners Present

Alessandra Moctezuma
Chris Chalupsky
Abe Hughes
Jean Walcher
Vanessa Davis
Becky Phillpott
Dennis Doan
Fritz Friedman
Alberto Pulido
Keith Opstad
Kamaal Martin
Imani Robinson

Commissioners Absent

Dajahn Blevins

Commissioners Present

Remotely
Cathy Hasson

Staff Present

Rachel Laing
Charles Miller
Lara Bullock

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1. **Call to Order & Statement of Purpose & Vision | [View Here](#)** – Chair Alessandra Moctezuma called the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Motion approved to allow Commissioner Hasson to participate remotely pursuant to the Brown Act just cause provisions. Commissioner Hasson stated the required general reason for remote participation and disclosed whether any individuals over 18 years of age were present in the room during participation. Commissioner Becky Phillpott made a motion to approve. Commissioner Kamaal Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed.
 2. **ACTION – Suspend the Rule Whereby the Executive Committee Sets the Agenda for the April 23, 2026 Commission Meeting Commissioner | [View Here](#)**
Commissioner Keith Opstad made a motion to approve. Commissioner Jean Walcher seconded the motion. The motion passed.
 3. **Non-agenda Public Comment | [View Here](#)**
The Chair called on Chuck Miller to open the floor for non-agenda public comment.
 4. **Chair's Reports | [View Here](#)**
 - A. **ACTION** – March 26, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Vanessa Davis made a motion to approve.
Commissioner Dennis Doan seconded the motion. Commissioner Keith Opstad abstained. The motion passed.
 - B. **ACTION** – Approval of Letter to City Leadership Regarding Impact of Funding Cuts to Organization Support Program (OSP) and Creative Communities San Diego (CCSD)
Commissioner Becky Philpott made a motion to approve the letter. Commissioner Chris Chalupsky seconded the motion. Following discussion, the Commission voted against the motion.

Commissioner Imani Robinson then made a motion to approve the letter with corrections, contingent upon Commissioner Abe Hughes and Commissioner Jean

Walcher collaborating on a revised draft incorporating concerns raised during the meeting. Commissioner Kamaal Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. Other Reports

5. Action – Fiscal Year 2027 Organizational Support Program (OSP) and Creative Communities San Diego (CCSD) Panek Rankings | [View Here](#)
Conflict of interest disclosures: Chair Alessandra Moctezuma, Commissioners Abe Hughes and Kamaal Martin recused themselves from discussion and voting on this item. Commissioner Vanessa Davis moved to approve the item. Commissioner Fritz Friedman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6. Committee Reports | [View Here](#)
 - A. **Public Art Committee -ACTION - Temporary Exhibit Proposal from Aja Project: Memoria Terra – Extension 2026 by Shinpei Takeda**
Conflict of interest disclosures: Commissioner Kamaal Martin recused himself from discussion and voting on this item.
Commissioner Imani Robinson made a motion to approve. Commissioner Jean Welcher seconded the motion.
The motion passed.
 - B. **Advocacy & Outreach Committee**
 - C. **Creative City Ad hoc Committee**

5. Staff Reports | [View Here](#)
 - a. **Funding Update**

6. **Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 3:3**



Commission for Arts and Culture

CHAIR'S REPORT

DATE ISSUED: May 25, 2026

ATTENTION: Commission for Arts and Culture

CONTACT: Alessandra Moctezuma, Commission Chair

SUBJECT: Appointment of Public Art Committee Community Member

REFERENCES: [Commission's Rules and Regulations, September 23, 2016](#)

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the appointment of Jay Shelby for the first one-year term as one of six Public Art Committee (PAC) Community members.

SUMMARY:

Due to the resignation of Dr. Denise Rogers, there is a vacancy on the PAC and pursuant to the Commission's *Rules and Regulations*, "The Commission Chair will appoint and the Commission will approve the members of each committee."

Biography for the PAC Appointee:

Jay Shelby is a San Diego-based multidisciplinary artist, creative producer, and community-engaged organizer whose work bridges fashion, visual storytelling, and public-facing arts programming. Through his brand Mental Reset and ongoing participation in San Diego Swim Week, he creates work centered on cultural expression and community connection. He is an artist-in-residence at The Block Club and a contributor to the San Diego Black Arts & Culture District, supporting local arts programming and artist visibility. Jay also works in youth arts education as a program coordinator for a high school entrepreneurial program, where he developed an after-school initiative teaching students to upcycle donated clothing into original designs. His work emphasizes accessibility, sustainability, and civic engagement, with experience spanning exhibitions, events, and public-facing projects, including a 2026 exhibition at San Diego City Hall.



COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE ISSUED: May 26, 2026

ATTENTION: Commission for Arts and Culture

SUBJECT: Final Artwork Proposals for here comes the neighborhood: Encanto by Roberto Salas and Christopher Lloyd Tucker

REFERENCES: 1) [Commission for Arts and Culture Department Instruction 1.00 – Collection Management Policy for the Civic Art Collection](#)
2) Final Artwork Proposal Package

STAFF CONTACT: Lara Bullock, Ph.D., Civic Art Project Manager

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the City of San Diego accept the final artwork proposals by by Roberto Salas and Christopher Lloyd Tucker in fulfillment of the City of San Diego’s (City) collecting mission, collection scope and accession criteria as established in Section 5 – Collecting Mission, Section 6 – Scope of the Collection and Section 8.2 – Accession Criteria of the Commission for Arts and Culture Department Instruction 1.00 – *Collection Management Policy for the Civic Art Collection*.

SUMMARY:

Artists Roberto Salas and Christopher Lloyd Tucker were commissioned to design, fabricate and transport permanent, site-specific artworks for here comes the neighborhood #2 – Encanto and consult during the installation of the artworks at the sites by the City. In this second iteration of the initiative, the commissioned artists explored the Encanto neighborhood of San Diego in the vicinity of the Black Arts and Culture District in the development of their proposals for artworks that respond to the neighborhood spatially and socially, as well as to the artists’ individual practices. This initiative brings visually engaging and conceptually rich artworks to San Diego neighborhoods and engages the public through outreach activities.

On March 13, 2025, Roberto Salas and Christopher Lloyd Tucker presented their preliminary artwork ideas to the Public Art Committee (PAC) for feedback. PAC also provided feedback on the artists’ schematic artwork proposals on August 14, 2025. On May 14, 2026, the artists’ final artwork proposals were presented to PAC. At the meeting, PAC voted (6-0-0) to recommend to the Commission that the City accept the final artwork proposals by the artists in fulfillment of the City’s collecting mission, collection scope and accession criteria. In addition to PAC’s feedback, the final artwork proposals were informed by suggestions from the general public and Encanto community, City’s Parks and Recreation Department, Real Estate Assets Department, and other various City departments.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The initiative is funded through the City’s Public Art Fund with contributions made by developers. Developers may opt to meet their mandated Art in Private Development requirement by contributing .05 percent of their total building permit valuation to the Public Art Fund. The Fund is maintained by the City and used for the artistic enhancement of the City’s public spaces.

Ubuntu by Roberto Salas

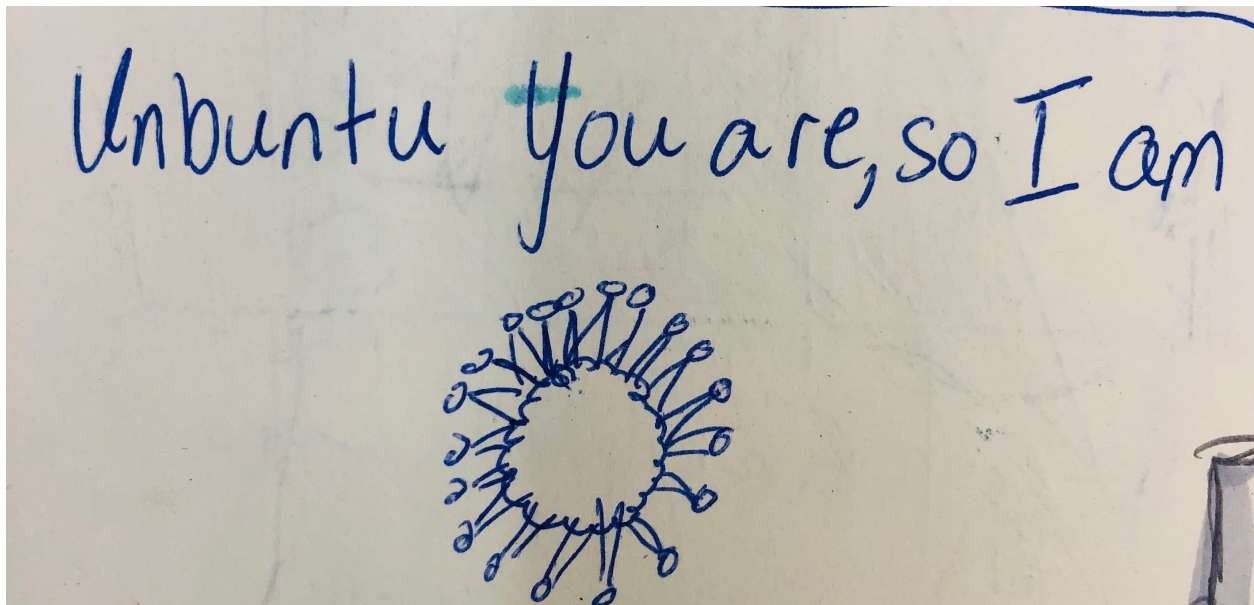
Final Artwork Proposal for *here comes the neighborhood: Encanto*

Overview

I Am Because We Are. The African Philosophy of Ubuntu. We as a people of color need to have images that are relatable to who lives in our communities.

With years of domination this iconic image of the raised fist is a reaffirmation of empowerment in both black and brown diasporas. It's given us strength, unity and new beginnings...I first learned of it as a young teenager during the 1960's.

I witnessed the black power salute during the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City; this gesture empowered me.



Sketch from resident at Meet the Artist Event

Project Description

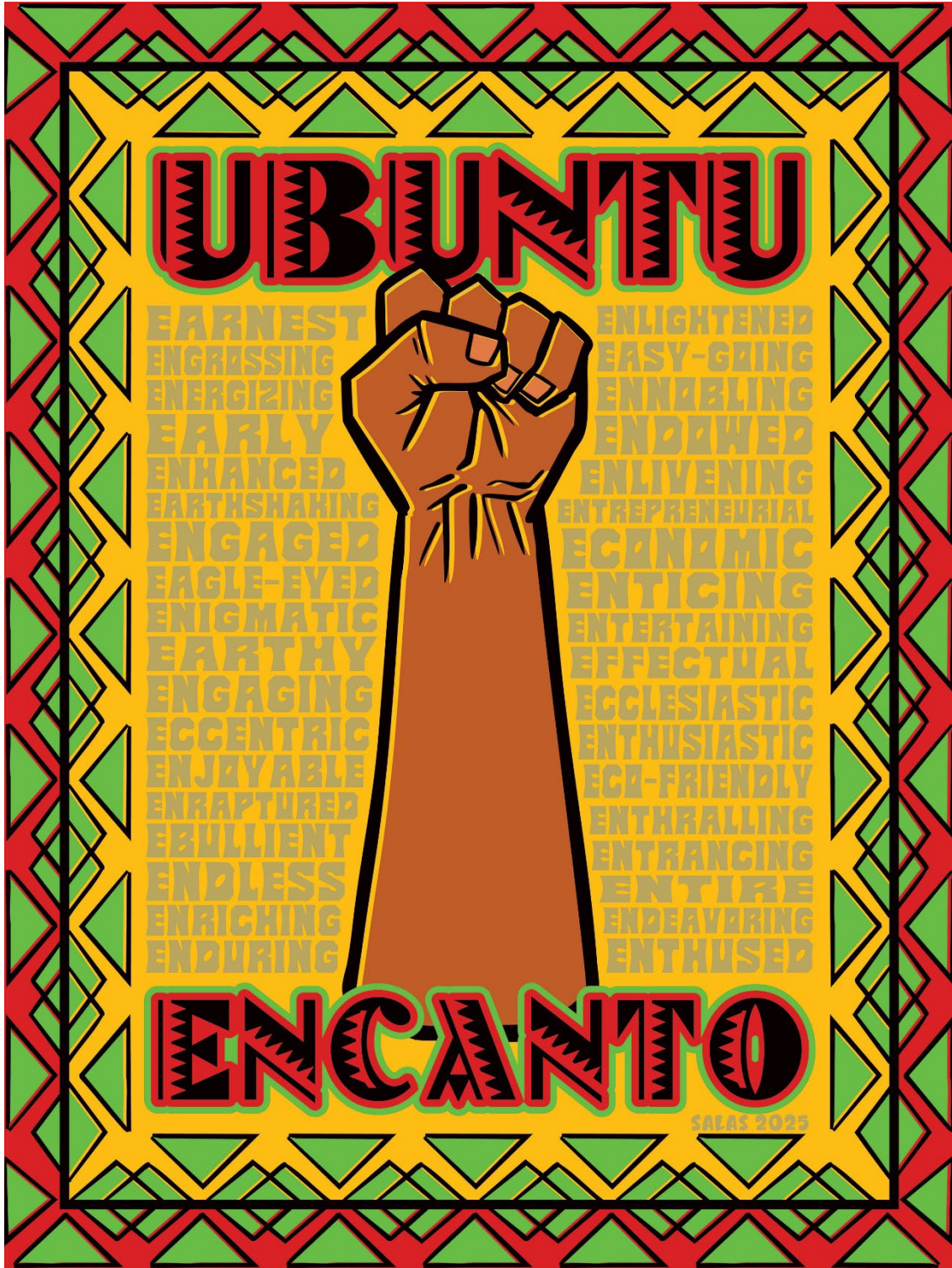
I am proposing a project that Redefines public art in a different format rather than one piece in one place. The project involves the distribution via gifting of displayable plaques distributed throughout the corridor of Imperial Avenue and the Black Arts and Culture District such as supermarkets, libraries, offices, coffee shops where this image will be seen in public.



Sketches for the development of the Ubuntu placard

In addition to the plaques that are distributed through gifting, there will be a permanent version of the plaque installed at locations in Marie Widman Park along the Imperial Ave Corridor / in the Black Arts and Culture District. Finally, a series of posters will be produced and made freely available to residents.

The plaque will consist of the greeting of the word "UBUNTU" with positive words in faded text relate to the letter E for Encanto. Also, the similarity of the letter "E" in American Sign Language to the gesture of the raised fist.



Final design of placard

The artist, along with a team of volunteers, will walk Imperial Avenue between 61st and 68th streets, the corridor currently identified as the San Diego Black Arts and Culture District, and introduce himself and the project to the business and organizations along the corridor.

The artist will offer the placard and its installation, and document the installation process and final placement. As necessary, this process may be carried out in multiple phases in order to establish rapport and the artist will work with City staff to establish relationships with community liaisons. This process is integral to the project as a whole and part of its recognition and dissemination will rely on mediation through press and social media. Opportunities for the distribution of the poster to residents will be established at locations along Imperial Avenue as available, as well as during the City's eventual event to commemorate the *here comes the neighborhood: Encanto* initiative projects.

Documentation of Research and Findings

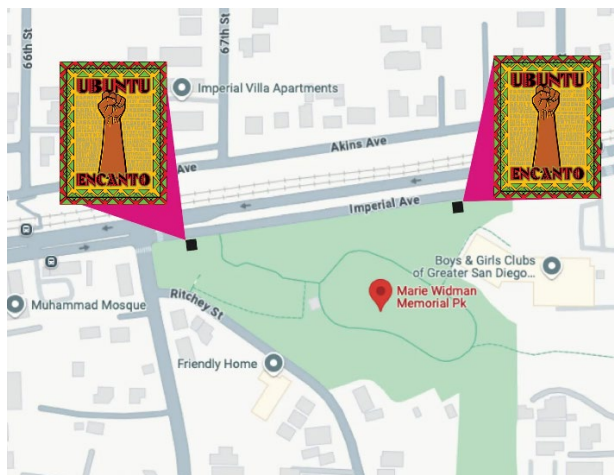
Summer / Fall 2024: Imperial Avenue walking tour with Mr. Black San Diego; City of SD Meet the Artist event at the Mental Bar, introduction to the term "Ubuntu," the core principle of the project

Winter/Spring 2025: Input on Preliminary Idea from Public Art Committee, independent exploration of the Imperial Avenue corridor. Questions about material, placement, and opportunities to expand the project

Summer 2025: Input on Schematic Proposal from Public Art Committee, and from the community at event at the Block Club. Refinement of concept and placard design, location and placement of the permanent signage. Suggestion to colorize permanent signage; highly positive response and feedback

Site Plan

For the permanently situated works:



Imperial Avenue along Marie Widman Park, placed to face east and westbound pedestrian and east bound vehicular traffic



Rendering of sign visible to eastbound pedestrian and vehicular traffic

Materials

Placard: colorfast inks on approx. 18" x 24" 1/8" sintra, with UV clear coat. Trimmed to full bleed. Various mounting methods, including removable double sided adhesive strips, screws, placard mounting brackets.

Permanent signage: reflective graphics on aluminum sign, mounted to galvanized telspar poles, set with minimal concrete footing

Posters: full color print on 100lb semi-gloss poster paper, trimmed to full bleed. Edition size TBD

Fabrication

Stainless hardware to affix aluminum signs to telspar poles. Other mounting methods for placards described in materials.

Transportation

Placards, permanent signage, and posters to be shipped to City per coordination.

Installation

Artist and volunteers to install and document placards

ADA

Various opportunities for the visibility of signage makes the artwork fully accessible

Maintenance

Extra set of permanent signage and telspar poles, as well as a reproduction assets, will be provided to the City. Durable materials specified to last up to 15 years; reproduction assets enable inexpensive reproduction.



Christopher
Lloyd
Tucker

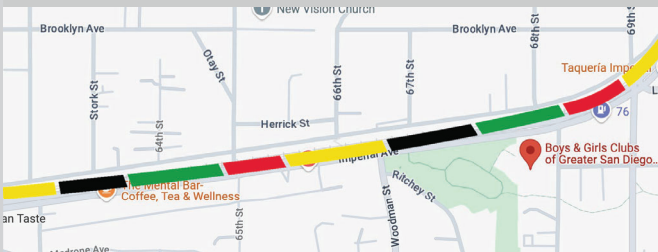
KINFOLK

Here Comes The
Neighborhood:
ENCANTO

Final
Proposal

A. Site Plan

The site selected for this artwork is the Encanto Boys and Girls Club building.



The selected site is seated in the heart of the Black Arts and Culture district, on Imperial avenue, between Woodman and 68th street.

The building sits inside the north-west corner of Marie Widman park.

The artwork would be visible from the imperial avenue, the trolley, and the park itself.

The street address of the building is:
6785 Imperial Ave, San Diego,
CA 92114



Boys and Girls Club Building
Proposed Artwork Location

A. Site Plan

The proposed sculpture would be placed on the upper two thirds of a three story building. It would be visible from the park, the sidewalk, the street and the trolley.

Due to the high visibility, there should be no reason why any differently abled person would not be able to experience the artwork.

The Artwork will exceed the 80" clearance height mandated by the ADA. This will also help mitigate the risk of graffiti.

A descriptive plaque will be placed near the building entrance, easily accessible to anyone.



D. Community Input

I had several opportunities to meet with the community in preparation for this artwork. We held a Meet the Artists event on 9/28/24.

The two most important comments I received were:

1. Create a piece of artwork that highlights and celebrates Black culture, and place it in the Black Arts and Culture District.
2. Make sure it's well lit, as the neighborhood itself, and the park in specific, are extremely dark once the sun sets.

I was also able to share my designs at a Public Art Committee Meeting on 3/14/25.

I was specifically asked to:

1. Put more emphasis on the football imagery.
2. Make sure it's well lit, as the neighborhood itself, and the park in specific, are extremely dark once the sun sets.



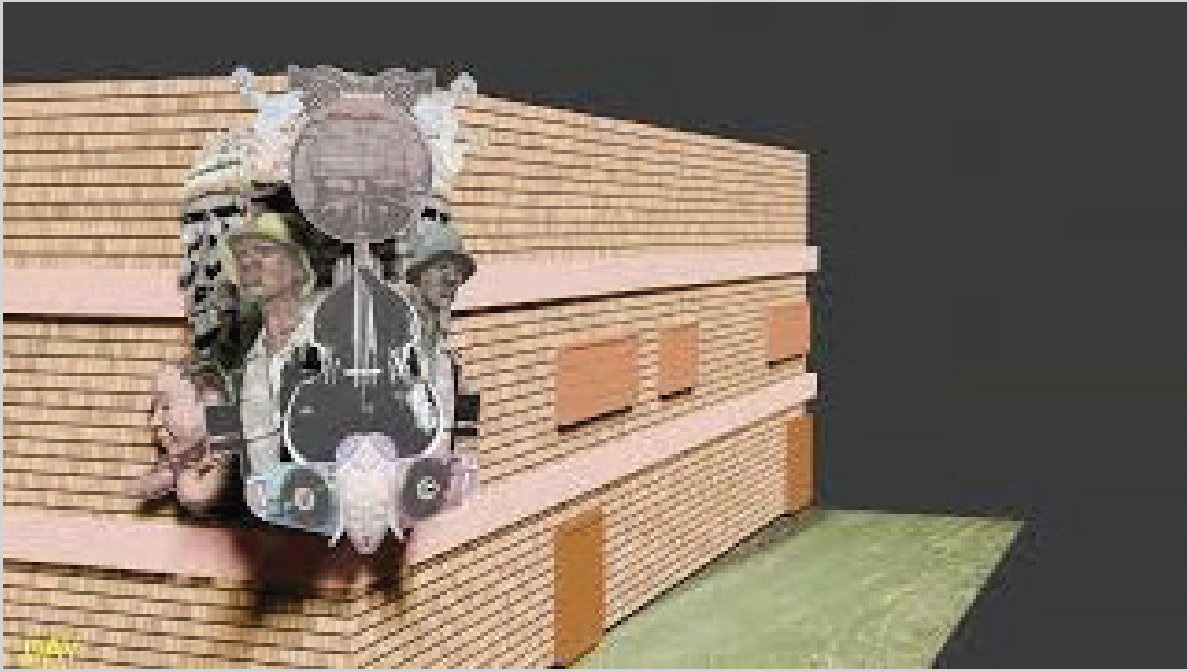
E. Visual description of Artwork



Deeply rooted in its site context, the artwork celebrates the rich experience of Black people and culture. The composition serves as a testament to shared heritage, featuring figurative imagery along with various African and African American cultural symbols.

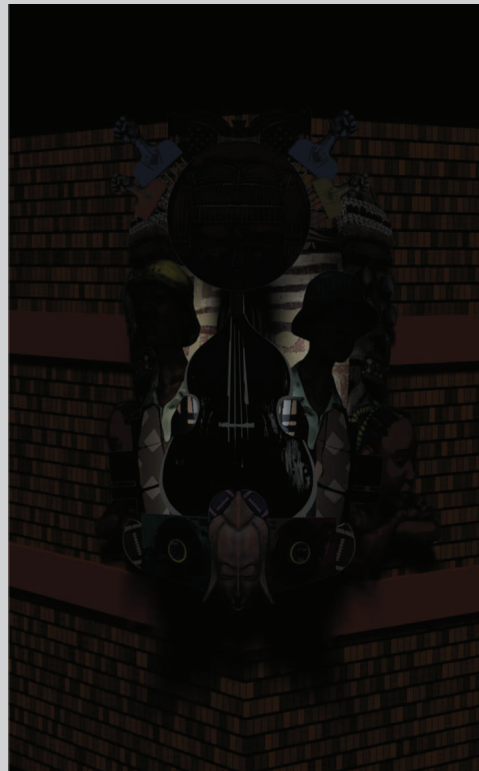
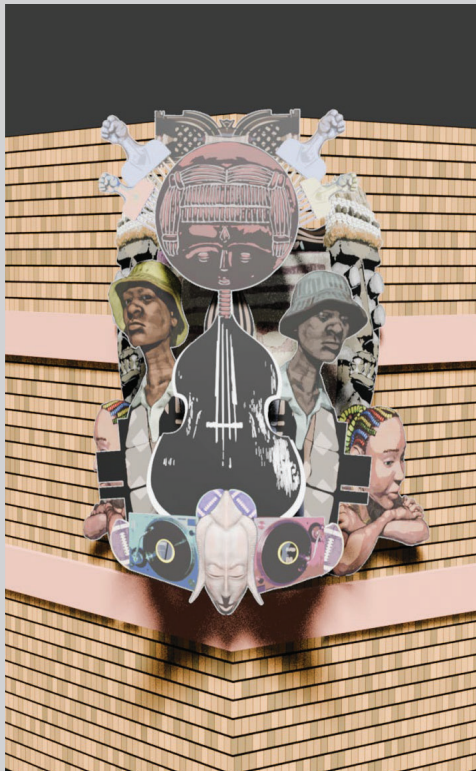
The site being considered for this artwork is the exterior of the Boys and Girls Club building, which overlooks Marie Widman Park, situated in the Black Arts and Culture District.





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnOPkz3q-40>

Lighting



G. Material Samples



I have been in touch with Riot Creative Imaging, here in San Diego. They specialize in printing on aluminum, and the results have exceeded my expectations.

I'm intending to have these images printed on aluminum, CNC cut into silhouettes, and collaged together on the building.

I have been assured that printing on aluminum is one of the best ways to maintain vibrant color outdoors over many years.

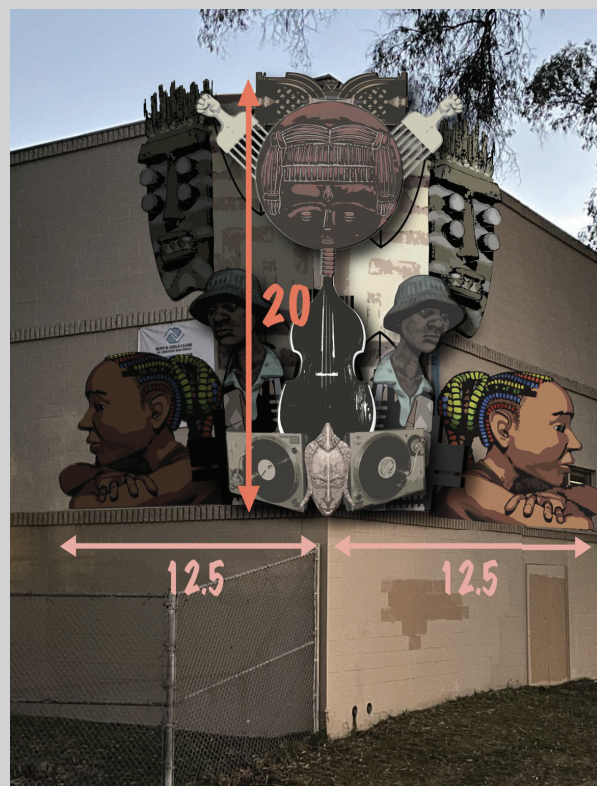
I have also been in touch with Great Scott Fabrication, a licenced metal fabricator, who can create the armature which holds the aluminum panels to the building.

E. Visual description of Artwork

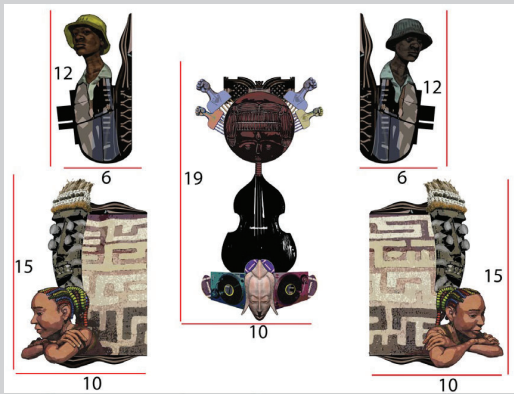
The final results will be 20 feet tall, and 25 feet wide (12.5 feet per side of the building).

They will be placed on the upper two thirds of the building in the hopes of deterring graffiti.

The aluminum cutouts will be attached by a steel armature, making the entire piece removable.



J. Fabrication Plan



The artwork will be drawn by the artist, using digital tools including Zbrush and Illustrator. It will be digitally scaled and delivered to Riot Creative Images.

Riot will print the images on several sheets of aluminum, and use a CNC router to cut them out, producing printed silhouettes.

These silhouettes will be delivered to Great Scott Fabrications, and a metal armature will be created that will hold the pieces together, as well as allowing them to be attached to the building itself.

These armatured silhouettes, or panels, will be sufficient to hold them to the building, while also being removable, should the city need to relocate the artwork in the future.



Christopher
Lloyd
Tucker

KINFOLK

Here Comes The
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