



CITY OF SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART APPLICATION

Project Title: Diversity Lives Here Mural

Installation Type:

- Donation to permanent art collection
 Temporary installation
 Proposed date and duration of installation: _____
 Mural on private property

Installation Location

Property Name: G&R D'Agostino
 Street Address: 1415 Highland St, Syracuse, NY 13203
 Location Description [e.g., 15 ft. from building entrance]: On west side of building to the right of the door

Artwork Type [e.g., sculpture, mural, video]: mural

Artwork Description [include fabrication date; medium, dimensions, materials and finishes]:

The theme of the mural is Diversity Lives Here. It features five inter-connected images and a banner at the top. The images seek to represent elements of the diversity of the people of Syracuse - specifically representing Native American, Italian, African-American and Vietnamese communities. It ends with an open gate welcoming in additional peoples to our community. It was painted using latex paints during October of 2019 and unveiled on October 28.

Artists

Name: Andre Britton, 321 Schaffer Ave apt A5, Syracuse
 Address: Brandon Lazore, 1011 Drum Street Rd. Hogsburg NY 13655
 Phone: Monty Esposito, 8116 Weblank Way, Clay, New York 13041
 Email: Minh Lam, 7509 Moccasin Path, Liverpool, NY 13090

Current Owner (if applicable)

Name: G&R D'Agostino
 Address: 1415 Highland St, Syracuse, NY 13203
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Applicant

Name: Andy Mager
 Address: 559 Buckingham Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210
 Phone: 315-559-7058
 Email: andy.mager@gmail.com

Signature: Andy Mager Date December 6, 2019

Diversity Lives Here Mural Narrative

The theme of the mural is Diversity Lives Here. It features five inter-connected images and a banner at the top. The images seek to represent elements of the diversity of the people of Syracuse - specifically representing Native American, Italian, African-American and Vietnamese communities. It ends with an open gate welcoming in additional peoples to our community. Andy Mager served as the project coordinator and involved four artists: Andre Britton, Brandon Lazore, Monty Esposito and Minh Lam.

The purpose of the mural was to highlight the diversity of the city of Syracuse in general and the northside in particular. We felt that at this time when immigrants are under attack by the federal government and many people across the country, it was important to make a clear statement that Syracuse celebrates its diverse peoples, including immigrants and refugees, who enrich our community.

Andy Mager initiated the project after reading an article in the Post-Standard about an old mural which Tony Malavenda had supported on the northside several decades previously. The mural had faded and the content no longer represented the multi-racial and heavily refugee population of the the community. Andy reached out to Tony to see if we would be interested in funding an update. With Tony's support, Andy began reaching out to potential artists. The site was the same as the original mural.

The overall theme was developed collectively and then individual artists developed their pieces.

More detailed information about the artists is attached and the letter of support from the property owner is being submitted separately.

The project was conceived and developed in August and September. The mural was painted during October of 2019 and unveiled on October 28.

The project budget was \$1500. The cost was covered by Tony Malavenda for County Executive, Inc.

Diversity Lives Here Mural Artists

Andre Britton hail from the small but vibrant island of Jamaica. Andre has lived in Syracuse for 10+ years and is currently a social work student at Syracuse University. Self taught artist. I've been drawing for as far back as I could remember. I gradually branched out to others mediums such painting. This is Andre's first mural project.

“I took part in this mural project because I believe it to be for a great cause. It allowed me to express myself and my outlook on the black community, not only in Syracuse but across the world. Often times, we find that in the black community, many believe music or sports are the only two options to make become successful. This mural shows that along with sports and music, there is also education to make it out of the struggle. This mural depicts the outline of the city of Syracuse as a person holding a school bookbag, a basketball and a microphone around the "neck". It includes all sides of Syracuse and a few street names that many people in the city would recognize. I am hoping that this mural will last and show that diversity truly does live here in Syracuse.”

Monty SES Esposito born and raised in Syracuse, New York. I started painting murals around the age of 15 ,and I'm still painting them today. I've painted murals in Italy, Mexico and several states throughout the United States. Painting large scale full color murals is my passion. I'm looking forward to painting many more for years to come.

“This mural to represents to me some of the different cultures in and around the Syracuse area. Im honored to be a part of it and to show that Italian people are here in Syracuse and have continued to be a big part of everyday life in Syracuse. I choose to piant Leonardo Divinchi because he was a wounderful artist that created many masterpieces in his time. I hope that everyone can enjoy this mural for years to come. I hope that I can be a part of something like this again in the near future.”

Minh Lam is an architect living in Central New York. His family came to Syracuse from Vietnam as refugees. He is an amateur artist and this is his first mural project.

“I participated in this collaborative mural project because it is an oppportunity for me to present the existence of the Vietnamese community among others in the Northside-a multicultural community; and to embrace the idea of an individual’s contribution will make impact on the prosperity of a larger community.

The inspiration for the mural came from the success story of my friends, the La family who immigrated from Vietnam and had been residing in the Northside since 1999. Sang La, one of the VBP (Vietnamese Boat People) along with his wife, Thuy Ho has been making great scarify through their hard work to provide the best possible supports for their three daughters through higher educations. The La family has always been enthusiastic in helping their community the way they need helped when they first came to Syracuse and thrive to make a stronger community while passing on the Vietnamese tradition and culture to the younger generations. The portrait is Kim La, the oldest of Thuy and Sang daughters. She is wearing “ao dai” and “non la” which are the traditional dress and the symbolic of the Vietnamese. The back of her dress elaborates into wave carrying boat as a reminder of how many of the 1st Vietnamese generation immigrant seek refuge in the U.S. Kim is holding lotus flower which represent for the beauty and contribution of an individual to build a stronger community.”

Brandon Lazore, Onondaga Nation snipe clan from Syracuse NY. I've been doing murals since 97 through out the North Eastern United States and Canada. I graduated from Onondaga Community College in 2014 and started painting canvases with oil and acrylic paints. My art is based on Haudenosaunee culture and sharing it with the world.

'I though it would be a great idea to incorporate some of the ideas from the old Mural of different nationalities of people Living on the north side of Syracuse so inviting different artist from some of those different cultures to put there image on the mural is to show people how we can come together to create something beautiful for the community to enjoy.”







