



# Durham County Public Art 2024



# Identifying Artists for Public Art

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In early 2024, an RFQ was posted on [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org). We had 164 submissions from across the country. A committee comprised of Durham County staff, Public Art Committee staff and community art leaders chose twelve artists to produce public art for multiple sites throughout the county.

The MWBE (Minority and Women Business Enterprise) participation percentage of our top 12 scored applicants was 75%.

11 out of the top 12 scored applicants reside in North Carolina.

# Youth Home Lobby by Gabriel Eng-Goetz



# Admin 1 - 200 E Main, 2nd Floor, Innovation Lab - Claire Daniel



# 300 E Main Parking Deck - Daycare Wall by Nico Amortegui



# 300 E Main - Retail Wall Mural by Seth Bishop



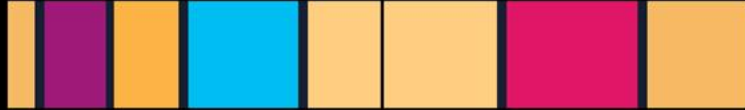
# Public Art Current Projects:

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Youth Home Classroom Murals  
(3 total) by Max Dowdle



**YOUTH HOME CONCEPT 3.1**  
**MAX DOWDLE**  
**NCPUBLICART.COM**





**YOUTH HOME CONCEPT 3.3**  
**MAX DOWDLE**  
**NCPUBLICART.COM**

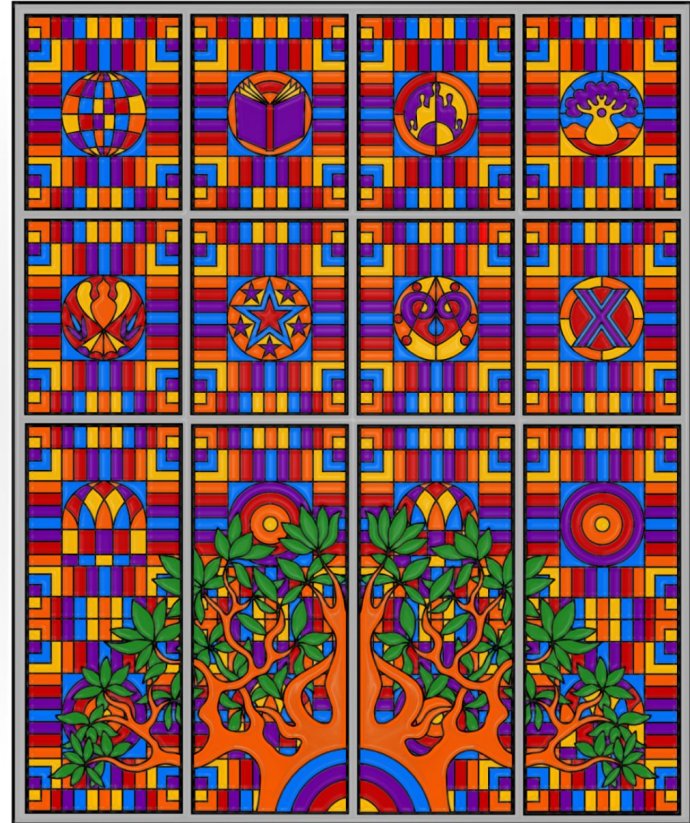


# Stanford L Warren Library Renovation

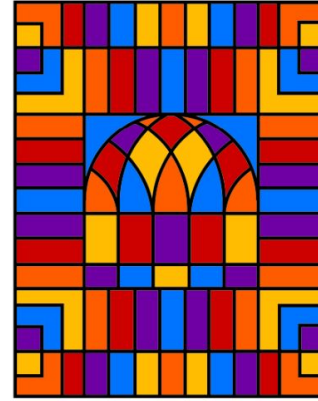
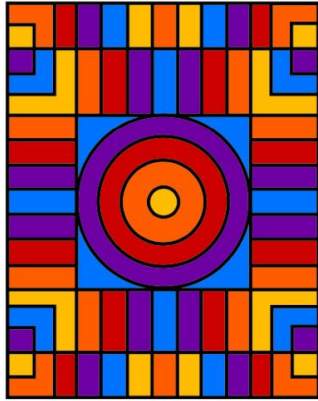
Window Design by Gabriel Eng-Goetz



Faux Stained Glass Installation



# Design Inspirations



Fitzgerald Bricks



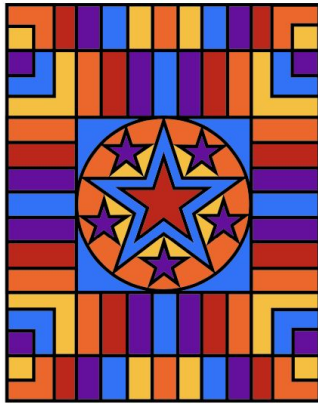
Stanford L Warren Windows



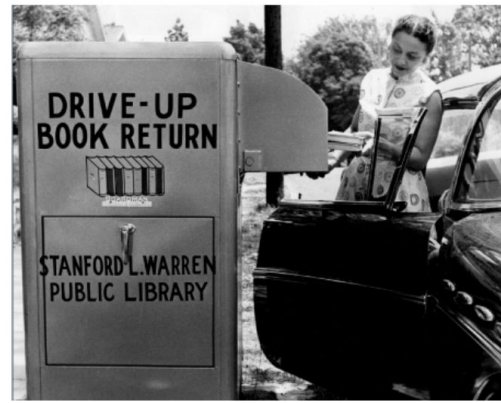
**Saint Joseph's AME Church Hayti Veve**  
This icon can be seen atop the roof of Saint Joseph's down the street



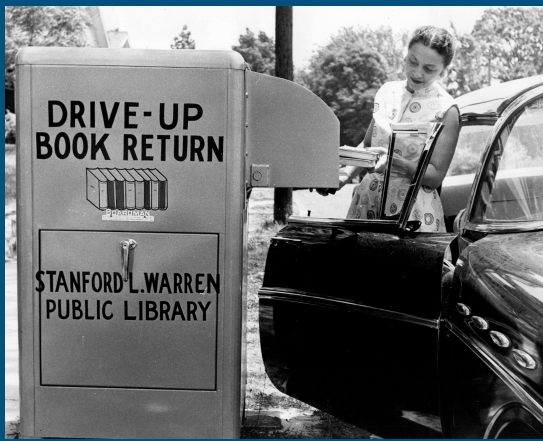
**The Baobab Tree**  
Symbolizes resilience and life in African Culture



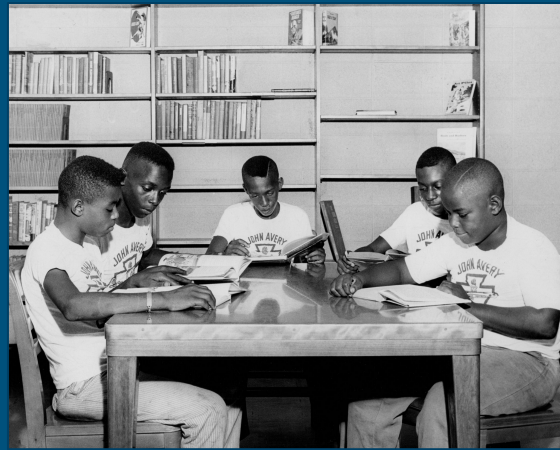
Durham Flag



Knowledge for All



Archival photographs of the library's history will be displayed at the entrance.



# Admin 1 Mural (Ground Level) by Claire Alexandre



This mural offers a look back at the emergence of Durham, from its foundation on the money brought in by tobacco and sharecropping to becoming a true beacon of the South with the development of Black industries like the NC Mutual Life Insurance, The Service Printing Company and with the lifelong work of people like Pauli Murray, and Nathaniel B White.

But also what Durham is built on is the work of Black women as memory holders, caretakers and role models.

We see the next generation, tending to the garden growing out of the memory quilt, reading books and education themselves and looking up towards the archive photos of Durham, so as to not forget the struggles and strengths of their community.

# UPCOMING COMMUNITY MURAL! 500 E Main Street: Mural Site 1 (SP 2025) - Jhonattan + Samantha Arango

## OPTION 1/MOCK-UP

### TITLE: "THE DISCOVERY"

- This option shows a snippet of a moment when a child looks under her bed with a flashlight and finds something that catches her curiosity. The scene covers up the entire wall, playing with the columns as bed "legs", activating the shapes found within the structure. A teddy bear is her companion in the adventure. Cool and warm colors create a dynamic contrast.
- The garage is the "under the bed" section of a building; a "gateway" of sorts into the building. We wanted to create an atmosphere of child-like innocence interwoven with an element of "past meets future"; when looking under a bed one may find interesting elements of the past that once seen they cannot be unseen, and will carry influence into the future. We were inspired to create this concept after reading and watching interviews about Hayti's

### IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Please keep in mind these are preliminary mock-ups and are not in their final stage
- The digital version cannot accurately convey the depth and vibrancy of the physical body of work

past. We were seeking with childlike wonder and finding information that yielded a new perspective, a sense of surprise and awe.

— By framing a quick moment in time, this composition plays with the viewer, as they will be almost eye level with her line of sight if standing across the street. Her expression may also spark one's own curiosity for the nature of her finding, relating to her on an emotional level. Seeking, finding, wonderment, questions, answers are more universal concepts with a high level of relativity.

— A message of hope and healing comes through in the form of shining a light at something that is hidden, dispelling the darkness in favor of revealing, informing, assimilating, and metabolizing.





# COMMUNITY FORMAT/FAQ

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

It works as a paint-by-number system. All triangles are created with 1/8" artist tape, and then primed with clear primer to prevent bleed (paint "bleeding" under the tape.) When the person comes up to paint, they will notice all triangles are numbered, and will be asked to select the (also numbered) paint jar corresponding to that triangle. It's an easy, effective system, and people can paint as much as they want of the same or different colors.

## WHO CAN PAINT?

Guests, passersby, children, adults, etc. Anyone that is able to hold a brush can paint.

## HOW MANY CAN PAINT AT A TIME?

An adequate portion of the mural will be ready so that many people can paint at the same time.

## ANY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS?

Only to come ready to paint! Only to come ready to paint! There are no special rules or considerations other than to have fun and enjoy the process.

## WHAT IF SOMEONE PAINTS OUTSIDE THE LINES/ MAKES A MISTAKE?

We created this system with general participation in mind. In the all-too-common case of someone painting outside the lines, because of a number of fail-safes we can easily touch-up any area afterwards. We encourage people to have fun and not worry about making mistakes, as everything is fixable.

## HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO SET UP AND COMPLETE?

The mural production starts well in advance of event in order to have it ready for a designated Community Painting Day(s). After the community painting session, we touch-up the entire mural before sealing to ensure all painted areas have proper coverage.

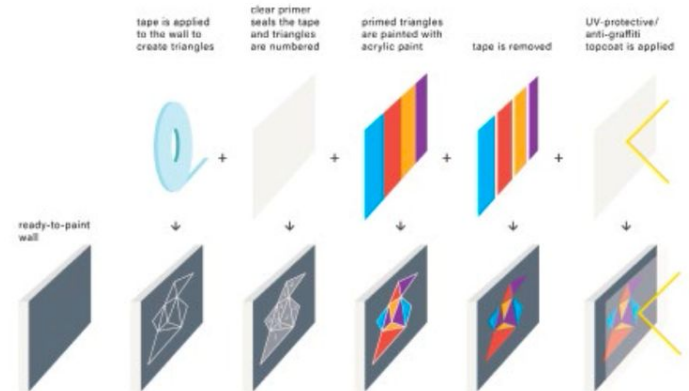
## IS IT DIFFERENT THAN A SOLO MURAL, QUALITY WISE?

The quality never suffers on a community mural. In fact, the community areas are indistinguishable from any other part of the mural. The design can be very complex and still be accessible to an eager two-year-old with a brush. The paint-by-number ensures the colors are exactly where they should be, and the fail-safes ensure that any error can be easily fixed.

## IS THE MURAL FINISHED FASTER SINCE THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WORKING ON IT?

Historically, it takes us one to two days longer, since we look over every triangle before sealing it, touching-up anything that needs correction along the way.

## PROCESS: MURAL LAYERS



# Community Engagement Goals

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- Invite groups of all ages and experience levels to participate in the production of public art (we currently have two opportunities planned)
- Lead public art tours in downtown Durham (multiple tours scheduled)
- Offer free workshops online and at the Main Library to artists who need guidance preparing their online portfolio and to learn more about the process of collaborating with Durham County on a public art piece. I would like to begin to offer these workshops in early 2025.

# Collaborations with the City of Durham

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- Public Art Committee

Currently drafting a improved Public Art Policy within the new Unified Development Ordinance

- Durham Cultural Advisory Board

Recently completed recommendations for FY25 festival and special events

Support the Cultural Roadmap initiative as it searches for consultants in phase 2 planning

## Themes

1. **Durham's growth impacts everything** – especially arts and culture.
2. **Artists**, arts workers, and **culture makers** in Durham are (very) **diverse** and need many kinds of support to thrive.
3. The **public sector is essential** to realizing a vibrant future for arts and culture.
4. **Physical access** to culture is critical, impacting who has the opportunity to make culture and who gets to experience it.
5. Helping **Durham to keep evolving while also strengthening the existing arts** and culture sector is a key to success.

Affordable Housing &  
Creative Spaces

Meeting needs of historically  
marginalized  
artists & art forms

Public sector aligning &  
co-designing with creatives

Neighborhood-based  
offerings & venues

Protecting Durham's  
distinct culture within  
growing community

