

Elizabeth Blancas Mural Project

As an expression of its mission and core values, Chabot College is pleased to propose an Elizabeth Blancas mural project for the south facing exterior wall of the building 700, Student Services. The project was initiated through a proposal to Chabot's Student Government from the Stay Woke Collective, a student club organized by Professor Kay Fischer. In Fall 2019, Student Government dedicated \$7,800 for the project with a commitment from the President's Office to provide \$2,200 for a total allocation of \$10,000. Chabot's Facilities and Infrastructure Committee approved the project following a presentation from students on March 14, 2019. In August 2020, the Public Art Committee sent forth a formal Call for Proposal (CFP) to the College and arts communities across our region, under the guidance of Professor Dr. Juan Pablo Mercado, an expert in mural art as an expression of cultural values and movements of resistance, see attached Appendix C. As part of their proposal, potential artists submitted representative samples of their work. The work of the Committee was supported by Dean Deonne Kunkel Wu, its' administrative appointment.

After receiving proposals from the community and careful consultation, the Committee voted to approve the proposal from Elizabeth Blancas, a former Chabot College student, Hayward resident, and rising Bay Area artist, see attached Appendix B for her biography. President Sperling supported their recommendation as an artistic and pedagogical expression important to the goals and work of the College. In May 2021, the artist provided a sketch of the mural, see attached Appendix A. The Committee consulted M & O regarding the location of the mural and surface materials that discourages graffiti and are widely used in this form of public art, see Appendix A.

Upon approval, the artist will work with the Public Art Committee to schedule the project with Fall as the planned start date. The Dean will also work closely with Maintenance and Operations and Campus Safety regarding the artist safely accessing the location and working on campus. The estimated cost for the mural project is \$10,000 inclusive of the design, prep, installation, supplies and equipment.

APPENDIX A

Artist Sketch and Mural Location – B700, South Side







APPENDIX B

Artist Biography

Elizabeth Blancas is a first-generation queer Xicana artist based in the San Francisco Bay Area. She strives to use art as a tool for resistance as well as a celebration of her community. Elizabeth specializes in muralism and screen printing; exploring themes of culture, identity, womanhood, and sexuality. Her work serves as a platform to empower LGBTQIA+ folks and communities of color. Her work has been commissioned by Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA), Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC), Forward Together, and the University of Arizona among many others. Blancas is currently studying Chicana/o/x Studies and Art History at UCLA.

Elizabeth Blancas

she/her/ella

Visual Artist

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APPENDIX C

Call for Proposals – Chabot Mural Project 2020

Purpose

To commission an outdoor mural on the Chabot College campus that seeks to center themes of social justice and equitable representation and reflect the multicultural backgrounds of students – along with promoting Chabot College's mission and values statement around community and diversity. The artwork should make a strong aesthetic and educational statement, as well as beautify the Campus. Overall, we are interested in a mural that does the following:

- o Beautify campus;
- o Have meaningful content;
- o Emphasize our college mission and values;
- o And demonstrate our diverse cultures, identities, and social justice ethos.

Basic Criteria

Required criteria, including but are not limited to the following:

- o Proposed art shall display a high level of artistic quality and craftsmanship that supports and enhances the Chabot College Educational Master Plan (EMP);
- o Honors the intended group(s);
- o Historically accurate;
- o Manageable for the proposed site at Chabot College;
- o Weatherproof and developed for permanent outdoor visibility;
- o Shall be accessible to the public and present no environmental or safety o hazards;
- o Subject to review by the Public Art Committee and College President and any experts those groups seek to retain in order to determine completion.

Timeline

- o **Call For Artists open through August 31, 2020**
- o Committee Review of applicants and selection by September 30, 2020
- o Artist contacted October 1, 2020
- o Artist creates final mural design and production timeline October 1 - 31 2020, (in consultation with PAC)
- o Install of artwork November-December 2020

Project Budget

Artist will receive a \$10,000 budget. This budget includes all artist fees and costs associated with design, installation, travel, site preparation, mural materials, shipping and transportation of materials, mural protective coating and any other costs incurred by the artist for this project.

Selection Process

We are currently open to select an artist. Applicants who are qualified and interested in this project should submit an application. The Public Art Committee (PAC) will review applications.

Applicants will first be screened for the minimum qualification criteria as follows:

- The application is complete.
- The applicants connection to the Hayward/Chabot community. ○ The application submitted represents the artist's own original creative work.
- The artwork submitted reflects basic professional quality and mastery of skills and techniques, and/or communication of a unique vision or perspective. ○ The application takes into consideration the thematic scope of the mural including that Chabot College is a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) with a focus on diverse cultures, identities, and social justice practices. ○ The artist's resume reflects evidence of professional competence or potential. Qualifying activities may include some combination of the following: education and training as an artist; an exhibition record; previous public or private commissions; participation in artist-in residency programs, or other related activities indicative of a professional practice.

The Qualification Panel will use the following criteria to score all qualifying applications:

- Artistic excellence and professional competence. ○ Artist's meaningful connection to the Hayward/Chabot community and its history.
- Artist's thoughtful consideration of the College mission and values statement around community and diversity especially as it relates to BIPOC. ○ Appropriate imagery, style or approach for public space. A broad range of imagery and styles appropriate for a public place may be considered. *A preferred approach should include conversation with the PAC in the design or making of the mural design.*

We highly encourage Women, BIPOC, and LGBTQ artists to submit their application. The panel's recommendation will be forwarded to the College President for final approval.

How to Apply

Please submit application materials via email in PDF format to Juan Pablo Mercado jmercado@chabotcollege.edu. Your email should include Chabot Mural Project in the subject line and should include your name and contact information. **The deadline for submissions is August 31, 2020 by 5:00pm.**

Application materials must include:

1. Letter of Interest, 500 words maximum, including:
 - Summary of your artistic focus. This should include a brief description of your inspirations and interests that are reflected in your artwork.

- Summary of your professional career, and how your experiences may qualify you for this public art project.
- Connection to or understanding of Chabot College Community

2. Resume, two page maximum

- A simple resume, outlining your work.

3. Please answer the following, in one paragraph

- What motivates you to apply for this project

4. 2-5 images of previous work

- We accept all image file types up to 5MB. Images should be at least 72 dpi and no larger than 1280 x 1280 pixels.

5. Image descriptions

- Please include the title, medium, dimensions, and year for each work. You may also include a brief statement (2 sentences maximum) about each work.