

Mural Design Information Form

LEAD ARTIST

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

EMAIL PHON

PROJECT COORDINATOR

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

EMAIL PHONE

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

EMAIL PHONE

FUNDING SOURCES

PROPOSED SITE (address, cross street)

DISTRICT

MURAL TITLE	Flight of Compassion
DIMENSIONS	48 x 24
ESTIMATED SCHEDULE (start and completion dates)	September 20th - September 30th
1. Proposal (describe proposed design, site and theme. Attach a separate document if needed).	The Thai Black Butterfly glides gently in a sea of pink lotus flowers to represent a gentle renewal of strength, and the cycle of constant new beginnings. It represents renewal, strength, compassion and the cycle of constant new beginnings
2. Materials and processes to be used for wall preparation, mural creation and anti-graffiti treatment.	-Power Washing of the wall -Spray Paint -Mural Graffiti Coating
3. List individuals and groups involved in the mural design, preparation and implementation.	SOMA West CBD Basil Thai Decentered Arts SOMA West Neighborhood Association SOMBA SF Leather District

Attach the following documents to this form:

1. Lead artist's resume/qualifications and examples of previous work
2. Three (3) letters of community support
3. Letter or resolution approving proposal from city department **or**;
4. Letter of approval from private property owner along with Property Owner Authorization Form
5. Signed Artist Waiver of Property Rights for artwork placed upon city property **or**;
6. Signed Artist Waiver of Proprietary Rights financed in whole or in part by city funds for artwork placed upon private property
7. Maintenance Plan (including parties responsible for maintenance)
8. Color image of design
9. One image of the proposed site and indicate mural dimensions

August 18th 2026

Dear San Francisco Arts Commission,

I am writing to introduce myself and share the story of my artistic practice and creative journey. I was raised beneath the wide blue skies of Colorado, where I often describe my childhood as resembling the song "Little Fluffy Clouds" by The Orb. Coming from a large Polish and Russian family, I grew up surrounded by food, lively conversation, humor, and a strong sense of community. I was a tiny rebel with a very large imagination, and from an early age I knew I wanted to build things much bigger than myself.

After moving to rural Colorado, I studied literature and worked for NPR and various publications while quietly painting on the side. Over time, magic, mysticism, nature, and the stars began to shape my consciousness. I became deeply curious and almost obsessively studied everything I could find, allowing my need for knowledge and travel to lead me around the world.

Eventually, I relocated to San Francisco, where I spent more than twenty years living, learning, and developing as an artist. I earned my MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute and found a creative home in the Bay Area's vibrant streets, where unusual art, experimentation, and community were part of everyday life. San Francisco gave me the space to grow into myself and introduced me to a community of artists with whom I spent many years building, living, and creating.

Following a brief period in France and time spent in other parts of the United States, I moved to Los Angeles. There, my life and professional practice expanded significantly. I began creating murals and artwork in locations throughout the world, and my time in Los Angeles was essential to my development as a professional artist. Eventually, I purchased a dream property in the Mojave Desert, where I spent several years building and developing an environment filled with my art and sculpture.

I later entrusted that property to close friends and moved to another dream world in the Midwest. I currently live, work, and rave in Detroit, Michigan, where I experience a sense of freedom and energy that continually inspires me to create, experiment, and believe in the transformative power of art.

My work has been exhibited extensively throughout the United States and internationally—in galleries, alternative spaces, bookstores, abandoned buildings, fields, forests, and any place that seems to need a little extra magic. My brightly colored folk murals, mosaics, and sculptures can be found across the world, including in Los Angeles, Mexico, Italy, Paris, India, the Philippines, Detroit, Milwaukee, New York, and San Francisco.

San Francisco remains an important part of my artistic history and identity. The city shaped my education, my community, and my understanding of what public and collective art can be. I am grateful for the many ways the Bay Area allowed me to experiment, connect, and develop a practice rooted in imagination, storytelling, color, and shared experience. It would be a great honor to continue contributing to the cultural life of San Francisco through my work.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope to have the opportunity to share more about my practice and the ways my murals, mosaics, and sculptures might contribute to the San Francisco Arts Commission and the communities it serves.

Sincerely,

Bunnie Reiss





LUTZ PLUMBING

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Marie Reiss
1925

I DIG SNOWMASS

RG The Romero Group
Real Estate Management

GO
SNOWMASS
COLORADO

Four
Mountain
Sports
Rental + Retail



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2023
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LOCALLY STRONG



August 17, 2026

The Hon. Chuck Collins, President
San Francisco Arts Commission
War Memorial Veterans Building
401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 325
San Francisco, CA 94102

President Collins,

On behalf of the SOMA West Neighborhood Association (SWNA), I am writing to express our strong support for the proposed mural at Basil Thai, located at 1175 Folsom Street..

The design—featuring powerful female figures, city-specific motifs, a prominent lotus flower, and complementary organic elements—tells a layered story about San Francisco, womanhood, and the ongoing pursuit of justice and freedom. We note that the lotus flower was specifically requested for inclusion in the mural. As the artist Bunnie Reiss explains, the lotus represents renewal, strength, compassion, and the cycle of constant new beginnings.

Placed on the façade of Basil Thai, adjacent to a Women's Shelter, that symbolism will offer daily affirmation to residents, staff, and neighbors: even amid hardship, there is room for growth, dignity, and new possibilities. The figures depicted are intentional embodiments of resilience and communal leadership; when paired with San Francisco iconography, they situate personal and collective struggles within the city's broader civic narrative.

We also appreciate the resident-centered and consultative process used to develop the artwork. Centering residents' voices ensures the mural reflects lived experience and community priorities rather than an outside projection. This approach deepens the mural's relevance, increases local ownership, and supports healing and pride for those who live and work in the area. Beyond symbolic value, the mural will enhance the block's visual vitality, encourage respectful engagement from the broader public, and help reduce stigma associated with shelter services and those experiencing housing instability.

The SOMA West Neighborhood Association believes this mural will serve as both a beautiful addition to our streetscape and a meaningful representation of our community's values. We view this project as an opportunity to enhance the visual appeal of our neighborhood while making a public statement that San Francisco honors the courage and contributions of women and remains committed to justice, compassion, and inclusive belonging.

We wholeheartedly endorse this mural proposal and look forward to seeing this artistic vision come to life. Feel free to contact us at any time regarding any potential artistic opportunities in our neighborhoods of SOMA West.

Sincerely,

Reese Aaron Isbell
Founder & President
SOMA West Neighborhood Association

cc: Matthew Goudeau, Executive Director of Arts and Culture
Members of the San Francisco Arts Commission
Lydia So, Ex Officio, Planning Commission



August 17, 2026

Dear Members of the San Francisco Arts Commission,

On behalf of the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the proposed mural at Basil Thai, 1175 Folsom Street. The Leather District is committed to fostering an inclusive, vibrant, and safe community within our neighborhood. This mural project aligns closely with those goals. The proposed design — featuring dignified female figures, city-specific motifs, and a prominently placed lotus flower — advances neighborhood wellbeing by fostering pride, dignity, and inclusion in a visible public setting.

We appreciate that the lotus was specifically requested and that artist Bunnie Reiss describes it as a symbol of renewal, strength, compassion, and the cycle of new beginnings. Situated adjacent to a Women's Shelter, that symbolism will provide an important, daily affirmation for residents, staff, neighbors, and visitors that healing and renewal are possible and valued here. The figures and San Francisco iconography weave a narrative that highlights womanhood and centers the ongoing pursuit of justice and freedom as central to our community identity.

Equally important to the Leather District is the thoughtful, community-centered process used to develop the mural. Engaging shelter residents and local stakeholders in the design ensures the artwork reflects authentic neighborhood voices and lived experience, which increases local ownership and supports social cohesion. We have worked with Soma West CBD on many projects and have the utmost respect for their careful process and tangible results to improve the neighborhood.

From a practical perspective, the mural will enhance the visual character of the block, encourage positive foot traffic for local businesses, and reduce stigma toward shelter services by presenting a dignified, human-centered image in place of anonymity and fear. It is the kind of project that strengthens economic and social ties across our neighborhood while honoring those who are most in need of community support.

For these reasons, the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District wholeheartedly endorses the proposed mural at Basil Thai, 1175 Folsom Street, and urges the San Francisco Arts Commission to approve the project. We look forward to supporting continued collaboration among the artist, residents, property owners, and city partners to bring this important work to life.

Sincerely,

Executive Director
LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District

som**ba** South of Market Business Association

660 4th Street, #304 • San Francisco , CA 94107 • www.sfsomba.com
Cell: 415.420.8113 • Office: 415.621.7533 • email: contact@sfsomba.com

August 17, 2026

San Francisco Arts Commission
War Memorial Veterans Building
401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 325
San Francisco, CA 94102

Proposed Mural at Basil Thai
1175 Folsom Street
San Francisco

Dear Members of the San Francisco Arts Commission,

On behalf of SOMBA (San Francisco Organizational Mission-Based Arts), I write to convey our enthusiastic support for the proposed mural at Basil Thai, located at 1175 Folsom Street.

SOMBA's mission is to support and advance public art that strengthens neighborhood identity, uplifts underserved communities, and centers the voices of those most affected by social inequity. This mural project embodies those values. The design featuring powerful female figures, city-specific motifs, a prominent lotus flower, and complementary organic elements, tells a layered story about San Francisco, womanhood, and the ongoing pursuit of justice and freedom.

We note that the lotus flower was specifically requested for inclusion in the mural. As the artist Bunnie Reiss explains, the lotus represents renewal, strength, compassion, and the cycle of constant new beginnings. Placed on the façade of Basil Thai, adjacent to a Women's Shelter, that symbolism will offer daily affirmation to residents, staff, and neighbors: even amid hardship, there is room for growth, dignity, and new possibilities. The figures depicted are intentional embodiments of resilience and communal leadership; when paired with San Francisco iconography, they situate personal and collective struggles within the city's broader civic narrative.

We also appreciate the resident-centered and consultative process used to develop the artwork. Centering residents' voices ensures the mural reflects lived experience and community priorities rather than an outside projection. This approach deepens the mural's relevance, increases local ownership, and supports healing and pride for those who live and work in the area.

Beyond symbolic value, the mural will enhance the block's visual vitality, encourage respectful engagement from the broader public, and help reduce stigma associated with shelter services and those experiencing housing instability. It will be a public statement that San Francisco honors the courage and contributions of women and remains committed to justice, compassion, and inclusive belonging.

For these reasons, SOMBA wholeheartedly endorses the proposed mural at Basil Thai, 1175 Folsom Street, and urges the San Francisco Arts Commission to approve the project. We look forward to supporting continued collaboration among the artist, residents, property owners, and city partners to bring this meaningful work to fruition.

Sincerely,



Henry Karnilowicz
President



Date: October 6, 2025

Summary of the project: The SOMA Mural Walk transforms Folsom Street between 7th and 8th into a vibrant corridor of murals celebrating SOMA's culture, diversity, and resilience. Led by the SOMA West Community Benefit District, the project addresses blight from prolonged construction and economic hardship by replacing neglected walls with public art that honors the neighborhood's immigrant heritage, LGBTQ+ history, and working-class identity. With artists, merchants, and residents as partners, the SOMA Mural Walk will beautify the neighborhood and restore pride to one of San Francisco's most challenged commercial corridors.

Location of the project: 1175 Folsom St, San Francisco, CA 94103

I am the property owner, representative of the property owner, or representative of the City agency with jurisdiction over the property on which the proposed Community Challenge Grants (CCG) project would take place. Based on my initial review of the proposed CCG project including the applicant's summary of the project, proposed budget, and proposed work plan, this project may move forward in the CCG proposal process. Signing this letter does not preclude or replace any permit and approval process that may be required for the project and is not a guarantee that the project will move forward if CCG selects the project for funding through its application process.

Print Name: Todd Sirimongkolvitt
Title: Property Owner of 1175 Folsom St, San Francisco, CA 94103

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Sirimongkolvitt", written over a horizontal line.

City Contacts below:

San Francisco Recreation and Park: Abigail Maher abigail.maher@sfgov.org or Mei Ling Hui meiling.hui@sfgov.org

San Francisco Public Works: Logan Hehn logan.hehn@sfdpw.org or Jimmer Cassiol Jimmer.Cassiol@sfdpw.org

San Francisco Arts Commission: Ebon Glenn ebon.glenn@sfgov.org

San Francisco Port: Cathy Hickey cathy.hickey@sfport.com

San Francisco Real Estate Division: Lesley Giovannelli lesley.giovannelli@sfgov.org

San Francisco Public Library: Dolly Goyal dolly.goyal@sfpl.org or Maureen Singleton maureen.singleton@sfpl.org

San Francisco Public Utilities: Use Appendix C2 – Property Owner Letter SFPUC

San Francisco Unified School District: Use Appendix C3 – Property Owner Letter SFUSD

No. 7 (10 Points)

- How will the project's impact or service be sustained at least five years beyond the grant term? (Limit: 3,000 characters)
- During the grant term, how will you build capacity to continue the service or maintain the infrastructure? (Limit: 3,000 characters)
- ~~(Program Area A only) What is your five-year maintenance plan, including responsible parties and funding sources? (Limit: 3,000 characters)~~

Sustainability Beyond the Grant Term (3,438)

The mural walk has been designed with long-term sustainability at its core, ensuring that the impact of this project will last well beyond the initial grant term. Each mural will be treated with a professional-grade anti-graffiti coating, which not only preserves the vibrancy of the colors but also allows for easier cleaning and ongoing protection against vandalism. This proactive step significantly extends the life of the artworks by reducing the amount of time and resources needed for restoration, ensuring that the murals remain intact and visually engaging for years to come.

In addition to these protective measures, the SOMA West Community Benefit District (SWCBD) has the infrastructure, staff, and protocols already in place to maintain public art installations as part of our regular neighborhood services. SWCBD currently operates two pressure washer trucks that service sidewalks, buildings, and public spaces throughout the district on a daily basis. These vehicles are highly effective in removing graffiti, dirt, and grime, and their routes can be adapted to prioritize areas where murals are located. Beyond our equipment, we have a dedicated maintenance team that specializes in graffiti abatement and routinely repaints walls and other surfaces across the neighborhood. This team is trained to respond quickly to new graffiti incidents, which minimizes the likelihood of long-term damage and ensures the corridor remains welcoming and clean. **(I.g. Grace Street Graffiti Party that made News Headlines)** By incorporating the murals into this established maintenance system, we are guaranteeing that upkeep of the artwork will not be an afterthought but a fully integrated part of our operational plan.

Along with this, we plan to establish formal agreements with property owners hosting the murals, clarifying shared responsibilities for long-term care and communication. We are fully aware that it takes a village and the more engaged tenants and property owners are in making sure that these murals are maintained the better. These agreements will ensure that any concerns or maintenance needs are promptly addressed and that property owners remain strong partners in protecting the artwork. We see this as cultivating a sense of collective pride and stewardship. By fostering community ownership, we anticipate not only increased appreciation for the murals but also a reduction in vandalism, as residents and visitors alike come to view the artworks as valuable shared assets.

Finally, we recognize that sustainability also depends on financial planning. While SWCBD already allocates resources to graffiti abatement and cleaning, we will explore supplemental funding opportunities such as sponsorships, partnerships with local businesses, and potential city arts programs to provide additional layers of support for ongoing mural care. This diversified approach ensures that even as neighborhood needs evolve, the mural walk remains a priority within our broader mission of enhancing the public realm.

Together, these strategies—protective coatings, existing infrastructure, property owner collaboration, community stewardship, and diversified funding—will sustain the mural walk for at least five years beyond the grant term. More importantly, they will ensure that the corridor remains a vibrant cultural destination that reflects SOMA's identity and continues to inspire pride and connection well into the future.

Capacity-Building During the Grant Term (2,862)

During the grant term, we will integrate the murals into our ongoing maintenance routes and train staff specifically on the preservation of public art. By embedding this work into our daily operations, we ensure that upkeep is not treated as a separate or temporary add-on, but as part of our long-term service plan for the neighborhood. Our maintenance team already has extensive experience responding to graffiti, power-washing sidewalks and building façades, and public-facing walls. This project provides us the opportunity to expand that expertise by training staff in specialized mural care, including how to clean surfaces treated with protective anti-graffiti coating, how to identify areas in need of touch-ups, and how to collaborate with artists when more significant conservation work is required.

We will also strengthen relationships with property owners hosting the murals, establishing clear agreements around stewardship, maintenance responsibilities, and communication. Property owners have already expressed strong interest in the project, recognizing the potential for murals to deter tagging, and increase foot traffic to their businesses. By engaging them as active partners in the long-term success of the murals, we are fostering shared responsibility and accountability that extends beyond the role of our maintenance team. This collaborative approach ensures that issues can be identified and addressed quickly, reinforcing the sense of collective ownership.

By treating the murals as shared neighborhood assets, we are cultivating a culture of pride that actively discourages vandalism and encourages local residents, businesses, and visitors to help care for the artworks. This may include volunteer clean-up days (Saturday's) and mural walk tours. Such efforts not only protect the physical integrity of the murals but also strengthen their role as cultural touchstones.

Beyond these proactive measures, the SOMA West Community Benefit District is well-positioned to sustain this project for at least five years beyond the grant term through its existing infrastructure and resources. Our organization operates two pressure washer trucks that service sidewalks, buildings, and public spaces across the district daily, in addition to a dedicated ambassador team that responds swiftly to graffiti incidents. These systems are already part of our standard operations and will seamlessly extend to include the care of the murals. The anti-graffiti coating applied to each mural will further reduce the resources needed to keep them vibrant, allowing us to preserve their integrity.

Through these measures, the project will not only be sustained for at least five years beyond the grant term but will also serve as a model of how public art can be effectively maintained when built into the daily operations of a community benefit district.



