



Rachel Gordon, Director of Policy & Communications | Office of Policy & Communications
rachel.gordon@sfdpw.org | T. 628 271 3077 | 49 South Van Ness Ave Suite 1600, San Francisco, CA 94103

August 5, 2025

San Francisco Arts Commission
401 Van Ness Avenue, Ste. 325
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear San Francisco Arts Commission –

I am writing on behalf of San Francisco Public Works to express our support for Bernal Beautiful to install a tiled mural on the staircase and retaining wall on the 400 block of Prospect Avenue in Bernal Heights once they secure the needed approvals. The stairway connects Cortland Avenue and Santa Marina Street. The retaining wall runs parallel to Cortland Avenue where it intersects Prospect Avenue.

While we only have seen a preliminary design for the proposed mural, Public Works is supportive of the idea of public art on City-owned property to advance the cultural vibrancy of our neighborhoods around the City.

The department pledges to support this mural project, providing guidance through the permitting process and helping ensure long-term care and stewardship.

Public Works is always passionate about supporting community improvement projects and beautifying San Francisco's neighborhoods and green spaces. We look forward to seeing this mural moving from the idea stage to reality for all to enjoy in the years to come.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rachel Gordon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rachel Gordon

Director of Policy and Communications

attachments
Prospect Stairs and retaining wall (surrounded in green box)

Mural Design Information Form

LEAD ARTIST

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

EMAIL PHONE

PROJECT COORDINATOR

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

EMAIL PHONE

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

EMAIL PHONE

FUNDING SOURCES

PROPOSED (address, cross street)

DISTRICT

MURAL TITLE	RAINBOW OVER BERNAL HEIGHTS
DIMENSIONS	2 PANELS (33FT X 3FT EACH), 21 STEP RISERS (6FT X 0.5FT EACH)
ESTIMATED SCHEDULE (start and completion dates)	SUMMER 2025-FALL 2026 Mural's mosaic tile creation begins summer 2025 with community engagement workshops as part of a street fair next to the garden stairs and a two additional neighborhood workshops in fall 2025; tile installation begins summer 2026; completion/community celebration anticipated summer fall 2026
1. Proposal (describe proposed design, site and theme. Attach a separate document if needed).	The site of the artwork is the Good Prospect Community Garden. The proposal captures the "village" or "small town" aspect of the Bernal Heights neighborhood. The art also reflects the natural surrounding of the garden and animals that live in the neighborhood, along with the Bernal-style Edwardian architecture stacked around Bernal Hill.
2. Materials and processes to be used for wall preparation, mural creation and anti-graffiti treatment.	The retaining walls will be repaired and power washed, or sandblasted if power washing will not adequately strip extant paint to create smooth surface for tile application. The mosaic pieces will have glazed coating which is appropriate for outdoor use. Since the tile will be glazed, this serves as an anti-graffiti protectant, along with providing durability and ease of care. The artist has only had one incident of vandalism on her work over the course of 25 years; tile is not a very appealing surface for vandalism. Futhermore, any tagging on the surfaces can be removed by soap and water. Grout is harder to clean, and we plan to spot regROUT if any area is discolored. The 10-year maintenance plan includes quarterly checks by the community gardeners and Bernal Beautiful volunteers. A maintenance fund is being established for this project as we anticipate minor repairs being necessary over the coming
3. List individuals and groups involved in the mural design, preparation and implementation.	Between 2023-2025, Bernal Heights Art and Mural committee (formerly Good Prospect Neighbor Group) hosted a series of listening sessions and distributed ~250 surveys to collect feedback from the Bernal community on the artwork's theme. In late 2024, BHAM created an RFP, distributed through multiple channels, received artist proposals, and then narrowed the artists' submissions to 4 finalists. The community voted on the proposals (via website and email) and chose local artist Colette Crutcher. She has been very involved with all aspects of the project. Bernal Beautiful is fundraising for the creation and installation of the work. (Our most recent effort, Taste of Bernal, was a sold-out event that engaged 36 restaurants and businesses along the Cortland Avenue corridor, and netted \$12,000 for this project. It was one of numerous fundraisers we have done, and more are scheduled in the future.)

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

*** Please note: all the documents above must be combined into one pdf packet that is under 20mb.**

COLETTE CRUTCHER

316 Highland Ave.

San Francisco, CA 94110
(415) xxx-5414

www.colettecrutcher.com

email: colette@colettecrutcher.com

EDUCATION

2007-9 Ceramics classes, CCSF

1978 BA, Studio Art Major, Brown University, Providence, RI

COMMISSIONED & PUBLIC ART WORKS

In Progress Tile walls & stairway, 2 Welded metal archways w/
Dana Albany, Good Prospect Community Garden, SF

2024 Burnside Stairway, Glen Park, SF, w/ Aileen Barr

2024 Taraval Ave. 8 Muni streetcar platforms, SF, w/ Aileen Barr

2023 Mosaic wall, Graham/Lantz residence, SF

2023 Mosaic triptych for Ostro Restaurant, Walnut Creek, CA

2023 Temporary Sculpture for SF Symphony lobby

2021 Entry Archway, Azara Building, San Mateo, CA, w/ Aileen Barr

2021 Vallejo Capitol Steps, w/Aileen Barr

2021 Tiled Stairway, Recology Co., SF

2020 Tiled Stairway, Miraloma School SF, w/ Aileen Barr

2019 Tile art for Visitacion Valley Elementary School, SF, w/
Aileen Barr

2019 5 Paintings for Louise Packard Children's Hospital,
Stanford, CA
2016 Donor tile mural for Randall Museum
2015 "Reading in the Rain", Tile Mural for Daniel Webster
Elementary School

2015 Lobby decor, SF Symphony's Dia de los Muertos concert

2014 Two tile murals, Children's Hospital, Madera, CA
2014 Taraval Streetscape, SFDPW
2014 Tiled fountain/bench & signage, Redwood City CA, w/
Aileen Barr 2013 Arelious Walker Stairway, w/ Aileen Barr
2013 Balboa Streetscape, SFDPW
2013 Hidden Garden Steps, w/ AB
2012 Cesar Chavez Park, Oakland, w/AB
2011 Chinatown Rec Center, SFAC
2010 Temple Judea stairway, Tarzana, CA, w/AB
2009 Large-scale puppets, SF State Theater Dept.
2008 "Carnival of the Animals" sculpture series, SF Symphony
2008 103 Mosaic panels Ping Yuen Housing Project, SFHA
2007 Bird & Beckett bookstore sign, SF
2006 Skep model (sculpture for museum display), Randall
Museum, SF 2006 Quetzalcoatl sculpture, 24th St. Mini-park, with
Mark Roller & Aileen Barr, SFRPD

2005 16th Ave & Moraga Tiled Steps, 80'-high mosaic staircase,
w/AB
2001 Da Vinci, Jr., Oracle Corp. Art & Tech Festival, YBCA
2001 Mosaic Columns, Synergy School, SF
2000 Oceanview Library relief murals, w/Mark Roller. SFAC
1998 *Tonantsin Renace*, mixed media mural, IPMC, SF
1996 Arch: Mother & Child, Joseph Johnson Memorial Sculpture
Garden, SF 1996 Our Little Life is Rounded with a Sleep, AIDS
Memorial Sculpture Garden, St Mary's Medical Center, SF
1993 Voyages I-V, 5 ptgs Oracle HQ, Bellevue, WA

1992 *La Madre Tonantsin* mural, Instituto Pro Musica, SF

ONE AND TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2022 "Runic Rhyme" at Think Round Gallery, SF w/ Mark Roller, Inclusions Gallery

2017 "Garden of Earthly Dismay" w/ Isaac Roller, Think Round Gallery

2007 Live Worms Gallery, with Elizabeth Raybee and Elly Simmons

2015 "Downtown Atlantis" with Natasha Dikareva, Inclusions Gallery

2012 "Stairways, Doors & Windows", Recent Works, Inclusions Gallery, SF

2003 Shock and Awe", commemoration of 9-11, St Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, SF

1997 "House of Cards", Tarot Card exhibition, Collage Gallery, SF

1997 Modesto Junior College Art Gallery, Modesto, CA

1996 "Born Again Trash", Artist-in-residence Show, Sanitary Fill Co, SF 1995 "Saints & Sinners", Sightings Gallery, SF, with Rachel Robb

1995 Canessa Gallery, SF, with Mark Roller

1994 Newton Gallery, Victoria, BC

AWARDS & HONORS

2014 Honorable Mention, Coverings Tile Installation Awards

2008 Honorable Mention, Biennial Ceramics Exhibition, City College of SF

2006 Tiled Steps, awards from Precita Eyes, Art Deco Society of CA & SF Beautiful

1996 Artist-in-residence, Norcal Corp., SF 1992 Best New Muralist award, Precita Eyes

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2023 "Collaborative Installations", February issue of *Ceramics Monthly* magazine 2018 "Tonantsin Renace", SF Weekly, Jan 11

2017 *The Mission*, Dick Evans, Heyday Books

2014 "Superstar Stairs", *Via* magazine

2013 *Arts for the City*, Susan Wells, Heyday Books

2010 "Tumbling Tiles Make a Splash", *SF Chronicle*, December 12;

"Expanding Movement", *SF Bay Guardian*, March 3-9

"Schools Fired up over Day of Action", *SF Chronicle*, February 28

2009 "Eight Favorite San Francisco Parks", *SF Chronicle*, March 4

Street Art San Francisco: Mission Muralismo Abrams Publishing 2008

163: The Story of San Francisco's 16th Ave Tiled Steps, Crutcher

& Barr "Garden Snake", *Landscape Architecture*, April 2008

Walls of Empowerment: Chicana/o Indigenist Murals from the 1970's to the Turn-of-the- Millennium in California, Guisela Latorre, U of TX Press

2007 *Stairway Walks of San Francisco*, Adah Bakalinsky, cover photo

2006 "A Piece of the Bigger Picture", *SF Chronicle*, Home section, December 16, 2006

"Art You Can Walk On", *Brown Alumni Magazine*, Nov/Dec 2006

2005 "Neighborhood Groups Get Money for Projects", *SF Chronicle*, May 27, 2005

2004 *Lonely Planet Guide to SF*, "Tonantsin Renace"

"Stairway to Heaven", *SF Bay Guardian*, Dec. 9, 2004

Celebrating Guadalupe, photographs by Charles Mann, p.13

A Guide to Mosaic Sites, SF, pp. 9, 31 & 35

"16th Avenue steps to get a mosaic makeover", *SF Chronicle*

"Library saga has happy ending", 6-1-2000, *SF Chronicle*

1998 *SF State Prism*, "Sing praise to Tonantsin", Dec.

1998 *SF Metropolitan*, "Mysterious mural", 10-5-1998

1996 *Renovation Style*, 8-1996

1994 *San Francisco Murals*, Timothy W. Drescher , Pogo Press

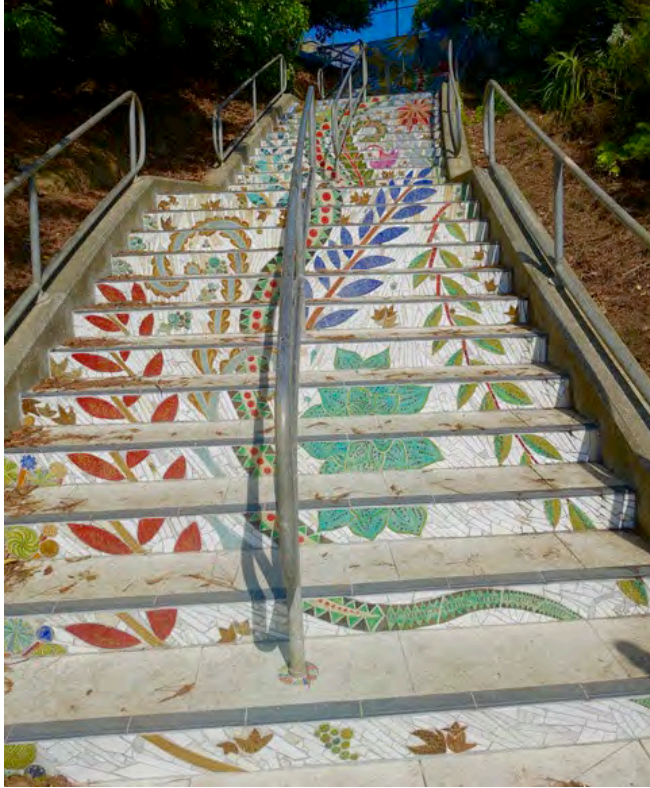
**Examples of Colette Crutcher's Mosaic Tile Artwork in
San Francisco and the Greater Bay Area**



Vallejo Capitol Stairs (detail), Crutcher/Barr, 2021



Jardin de Ninos Park, Redwood City, Crutcher/Barr 2016



SFUSD Miraloma elementary School, Crutcher/Barr, 2020



Taraval Streetscape, SF, Crutcher, 2016



SFUSD Visitacion Valley Elementary School, Crutcher/Barr, 2019



Reading in the Rain, SFUSD Daniel Webster Elementary School, Crutcher 2017



Balboa Streetscape, SF, Crutcher, 2014



Burnside Steps, Glen Park, SF, Crutcher/Barr, 2024



Perhaps the world's longest mosaic staircase was conceived and fabricated by Irish ceramicist Aileen Barr and San Francisco mosaic artist Colette Crutcher.

Over a two and a half year period, a tireless group of neighbors raised funds and lobbied City government to make the project, unveiled in August 2005, a reality.

The names of over 300 sponsors are woven into the sweeping sea-to-sky design. Over 2000 handmade tiles and 75,000 fragments of tile, mirror and stained glass went into the finished piece.

The Tiled Steps have been awarded:

- 2006 Beautification Award, San Francisco Beautiful
- Special Recognition Award, Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center
- Certificate of Appreciation, Art Deco Society of California
- City's Clean and Green Award

16th Avenue Tiled Steps

2005

16th Ave. & Moraga,
San Francisco,
California

163 steps,
82' high

History & Facts



Quetzatcoatl



Quetzalcoatl_1.jpg

Quezalcoatl

2006

24th & York,
Mini Park
San Francisco
California

Concrete, Mosaic

This mosaic sculpture represents Quetzalcoatl, the Mesoamerican feathered serpent god, who is both life giver and culture hero, bestowing various gifts on humankind such as agriculture, writing and architecture. These are represented by five cast concrete medallions along the serpent's body.

The proposed artwork will be located at the Good Prospect Community Garden steps and retaining wall at 100 Cortland Avenue in Bernal Heights



Image of Prospect Ave Stairway and retaining wall. (~100 Cortland Ave.)



Step dimensions: 12ft wide x 5.5in height

**Prospect Avenue steps:
7 upper steps and 14 lower steps**



**Site of the
eastern garden**

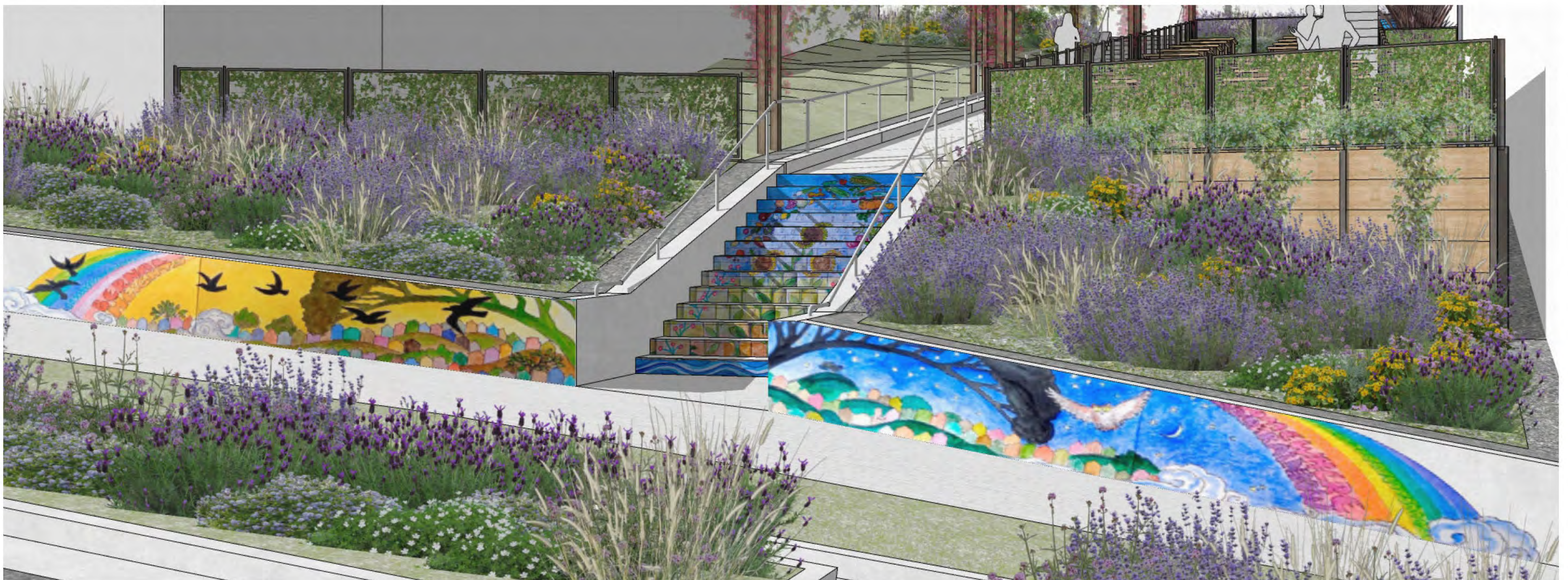
**Mosaic art murals on two panels,
22ft x 3ft each**

**Site of the
western garden**

Prospect Avenue Stairs and Retaining Wall Mosaic Tile Mural

Rainbow Over Bernal Heights

Designed by Colette Crutcher



East Wall Mosaic Design:



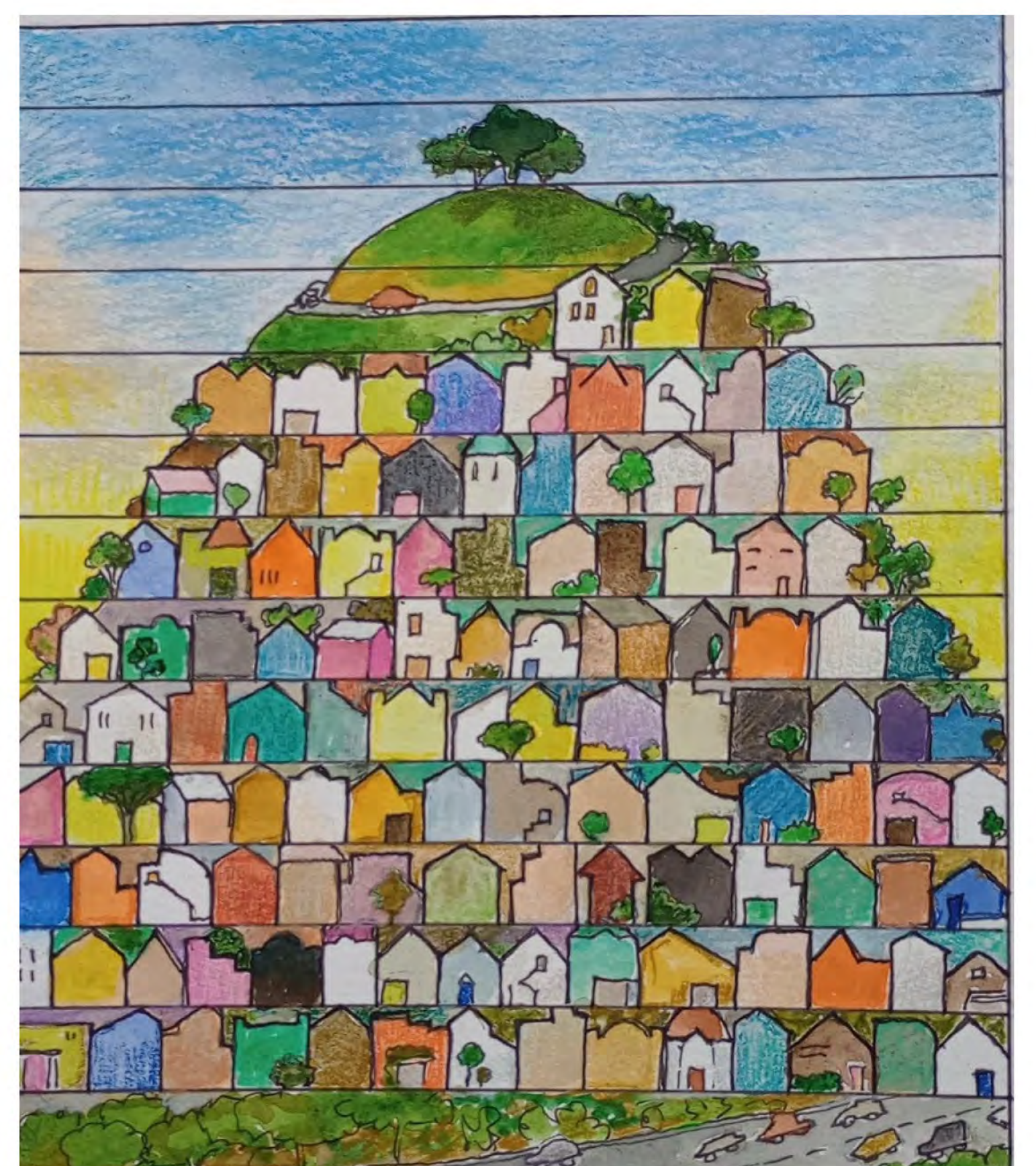
West Wall Mosaic Design:



Upper steps:



Lower steps:



Site-specific artwork dimensions: Colette Crutcher will design a mosaic mural for the Good Prospect Community Garden retaining walls and stairs that includes the following: Two retaining walls facing Cortland Avenue (each wall measures approximately 22' W x 3' H); retaining wall returns on either side of the adjacent stairs (each measures approximately 21 sq. ft); there are 14 steps near Cortland and 7 steps near Santa Marina with a sidewalk-style walkway between. Step treads are 12" deep; each riser is 5 ½".

**100 Cortland Avenue
Good Prospect Community Garden**

bernalbeautiful@gmail.com

Rainbow Over Bernal Heights
Tile Mural Mosaic by Colette Crutcher

Maintenance Plan

Mosaic stairways require minimal maintenance largely due to the high-grade sealant and glaze of the tiles that provides excellent protection from the elements. In addition, ground level tile mosaics are not the most desirable surface for tagging. In her 25 years of installing murals in San Francisco, artist Colette Crutcher has only had to deal with one vandalism incident. Regardless, we have the following maintenance plans in place:

- Monthly assessment and review by Bernal's monthly clean-up team;
- Ongoing assessment, and surface and spot cleaning by the Good Prospect Community Gardeners (who are on site multiple times each week, and have a monthly group meetings);
- We have begun to fundraise for a \$5,000 set-aside maintenance fund; graffiti may be removed with warm, soapy water, and grout will need to be reapplied in the areas where they are discolored which is faster and easier than cleaning.



THE HARTFORD
BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER
3600 WISEMAN BLVD
SAN ANTONIO TX 78251

June 17, 2025

Community Challenge Grants
office of the city administrator
1 CARLTON B GOODLETT PL STE 362
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94102-4605

Account Information:

Policy Holder Details :	COLETTE CRUTCHER
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Contact Us

Need Help?

Chat online or call us at

(866) 467-8730.

We're here Monday - Friday.

Enclosed please find a Certificate Of Insurance for the above referenced Policyholder. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Your Hartford Service Team



CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)
06/17/2025

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER MAURY DONNELLY & PARR INC 30720261 24 COMMERCE STREET BALTIMORE MD 21202	CONTACT NAME:	
	PHONE (410) 685-4625 (A/C, No, Ext):	FAX (410) 685-3071 (A/C, No):
	E-MAIL ADDRESS:	
	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE	
	NAIC#	
INSURED COLETTE CRUTCHER 316 HIGHLAND AVE SAN FRANCISCO CA 94110-5813	INSURER A: Hartford Underwriters Insurance Company	
	INSURER B:	
	INSURER C:	
	INSURER D:	
	INSURER E:	
	INSURER F:	

COVERAGES

CERTIFICATE NUMBER:

REVISION NUMBER:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSR	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/Y YYY)	LIMITS	
A	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Liability	X		30 SBM BNOHPE	07/16/2025	07/16/2026	EACH OCCURRENCE	\$1,000,000
	DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence)						\$1,000,000	
	MED EXP (Any one person)						\$10,000	
	PERSONAL & ADV INJURY						\$1,000,000	
	GENERAL AGGREGATE						\$2,000,000	
	GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-JECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER:							
A	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS			30 SBM BNOHPE	07/16/2025	07/16/2026	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident)	\$1,000,000
	BODILY INJURY (Per person)							
	BODILY INJURY (Per accident)							
	PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident)							
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> DED <input type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$ 10,000			30 SBM BNOHPE	07/16/2025	07/16/2026	EACH OCCURRENCE	\$1,000,000
	AGGREGATE						\$1,000,000	
	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	Y/N <input type="checkbox"/> N/A					<input type="checkbox"/> PER STATUTE <input type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER	
	E.L. EACH ACCIDENT							
	E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE							
	E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT							

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

Those usual to the Insured's Operations. The Business Liability Coverage Part includes a Blanket Additional Insured By Contract Endorsement, Form SL 30 32.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

Community Challenge Grants
office of the city administrator
1 CARLTON B GOODLETT PL STE 362
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94102-4605

CANCELLATION

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Susan L. Castaneda

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August 8, 2025

San Francisco Arts Commission Visual Arts Committee
401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 325
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Commissioners Ferras, Beltran, Walker, Musleh, Hakimi and Lu:

I am pleased to submit this letter expressing my support for the Colette Crutcher mosaic mural design and installation at the Good Prospect Community Garden stairs and retaining wall in Bernal Heights, at the intersection of Prospect Avenue and the south side of Cortland Avenue, the primary commercial thoroughfare in the neighborhood.

This project has been in process for *years*. In early 2023, prompted by SFPUC's watermain replacement project adjacent to the Good Prospect Community Garden, neighbors gathered to envision what could be developed to beautify the empty lot where the watermain was installed. (This is on the western side of the Prospect Avenue easement, on the opposite side of a sidewalk/pathway from the community garden.) From the earliest of many discussions, Bernal residents were interested in installing an art element into the re-imagined parcel. Fast forward some nine months, a group of neighbors put out a call for artist proposals to solicit design ideas for the retaining wall along Cortland at the base of the garden and the stair risers that connect Cortland Avenue to Santa Marina Street, one block south.

After exhaustive outreach and solicitation, in January 2024 we received a number of artist proposals, posted them on our website to solicit community input, posted hard copies of designs in the garden area, flyer'd the neighbors and Cortland Avenue businesses, and talked to Bernal residents about what they liked in the proposals. Colette Crutcher's design was by far the preferred design of the community and received the vast majority of approval votes. Neighbors also really liked that Colette is a decades-long Bernal resident, and while she has completed highly celebrated mosaics around San Francisco, she has never done one for her own community.

Since committing to work with Colette, the Bernal Beautiful community group has had dozens of meetings (at the Bernal branch library, Cortland Avenue restaurants and cafes, and in neighbors' living rooms), implemented robust micro-local fundraisers (e.g., Cortland Avenue restaurant strolls, small individual donations by neighbors, garage sales, etc.) to garner support for Colette and her art installation. We plan to sell tiles to raise funds; she will create tiles with images of people's houses and/or pets so the community will literally see themselves in the final installation. Colette has and will continue to do a number of community-based tilemaking workshops to incorporate Bernal residents' own tiles into the final installation. And we plan to apply to the Community Challenge Grant program's October 2025 deadline to seek additional funds.

As a 30+ year resident of that intersection on Cortland Avenue, and a ~18-year member of the garden (and a former SFAC employee), I'm incredibly excited about this addition to our neighborhood. It will build our already strong community pride, enhance the aesthetics of the area for residents and visitors to Bernal, welcome people to the Cortland commercial corridor, and become a gathering spot for Bernal. I couldn't be more supportive of the wonderful Colette Crutcher, her mosaic tile stairs, the public art she's proposing, and this community-driven initiative.

Thank you for your consideration of Colette Crutcher's design. I am hopeful you will vote to approve it.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Axel

Rachelle Axel
115 Cortland Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94110
rachelleaxel14@gmail.com

August 11, 2025

San Francisco Arts Commission

Attn: Visual Arts Committee

Letter of Support for Good Prospect Garden Mosaic Art Installation Project

Dear Visual Arts Committee.:

My name is Richard Preston and I live at 152 Santa Marina Street in Bernal Heights with my wife Judy Preston. We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for the proposed mosaic art installation at the Prospect Stairs and retaining wall, which will be located at the entrance to the Good Prospect Community Garden—a space I have had the privilege to nurture for our neighborhood. From November 2022- March 2025, I was the lead on an expansion and improvement project of the garden site. We have a garden plot in the Good Prospect Community Garden.

This art installation project, designed by acclaimed local artist Colette Crutcher, will transform the garden's entrance into a vibrant and welcoming landmark. For years, the Good Prospect Community Garden has served as a gathering place for neighbors to connect, grow food, and care for our shared environment. The addition of this mosaic gateway will not only beautify the space, but also invite more people to discover and enjoy what our community has built together.

This art project is completely community-led and the neighbors have done an outstanding and inclusive job engaging the neighborhood—numerous community meetings, hosting potlucks, facilitating mosaic tile workshops, implementing a fair voting process to select a finalist, and gathering input from residents so that this project reflects the character and values of our community. This kind of robust process builds pride, strengthens relationships, and ensures that everyone feels a sense of ownership in the finished work.

We have been involved with the outreach to artists to submit a proposal and participated in the the extensive community outreach to select an artist for the project. We have studied Ms. Crutcher's and we are familiar with her work after looking at her website and visiting many of her art pieces around San Francisco including the work on 24th Street in the Mission, the 16th Avenue Steps and the Burnside Steps. Based on this information, we support the application to approve the project for a mosaic tile mural.

We believe this installation will serve as a point of pride for the Good Prospect Community Garden and the entire neighborhood. It will draw foot traffic, boost visibility for nearby small businesses, and signal that this is a cared-for and vibrant place.

We strongly urge you to approve this proposal so that we can bring this vision to life for the benefit of both the garden and the wider community.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Very best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RJP', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Richard and Judy Preston
152 Santa Marina Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

Ruth Ferguson
52 Santa Marina Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

ruthferg13@gmail.com


Tuesday, August 5, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to share my strong support for the Prospect Stairs mosaic project, a community-led effort by Bernal Beautiful in collaboration with artist Colette Crutcher.

As both a neighbor and a candidate for public office, I've seen how projects like this can do far more than add beauty to a space—they build connections. From neighborhood potlucks to hands-on tile-making workshops, Bernal Beautiful has invited people in at every stage, making sure the final design reflects our voices and values. That kind of engagement creates pride, trust, and a real sense of belonging.

The Prospect Stairs lead right into the heart of our community. Turning them into a vibrant mosaic gateway will not only brighten the walk but also encourage more foot traffic to our local shops and gathering places. It's an investment in both the cultural and economic life of Bernal.

Colette's reputation for thoughtful, high-quality public art speaks for itself. Paired with the dedication of the Bernal Beautiful team, I have no doubt this project will be a lasting source of pride for our neighborhood.

I urge you to approve it and help us bring this vision to life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ruth Ferguson

Ruth Ferguson

Waiver of Proprietary Rights

for Artwork Placed Upon CITY PROPERTY under VARA and CAPA

Artist has designed a work of visual art, described as follows:

DESCRIPTION: [type, mural, medium]: Tile mosaic mural along stair risers and retaining walls of Good Prospect Community Garden. Mosaic themes address the flora and fauna of the community, along with stylized depictions of Bernal Heights homes.

TITLE, DATE: Somewhere Under the Rainbow

DIMENSIONS: PANELS (33FT X 3FT EACH), 21 STEP RISERS (6FT X 0.5FT EACH)

ADDRESS/LOCATION: 100 Cortland Avenue (cross street Prospect Avenue)

("the Work"). In consideration of the City's approval to place the Work on City property, the Artist agrees to waive and does hereby waive voluntarily all rights to attribution and integrity with respect to the Work and any and all claims as may arise under the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990, 17 U.S.C. §§106A and 113(d) ("VARA"), the California Art Preservation Act (Cal. Civ. Code §§987 and 989) ("CAPA"), and/or any other local, state, foreign or international law, as currently drafted or as may be hereafter amended, that conveys the same or similar rights ("Moral Rights Laws"), with respect to the Work, its display, removal from display, exhibition, installation, conservation, storage, study, alteration and any other activities conducted by the City, its officers, employees, agents, contractors, licensees, successors or assigns. If the Work is incorporated into a building such that the Work cannot be removed from the building without physical defacement, mutilation, alternation, distortion, destruction, or other modification (collectively, "Modification") of the Work, Artist waives any and all such claims under any Moral Rights Laws arising out of or against any current or future owners of the site, and its agents, officers and employees, for Modification of the Work.

The City has the absolute right to change, modify, destroy, remove, relocate, move, replace, transport, repair or restore the Work, in whole or in part, in City's sole discretion.

The City has no obligation to pursue claims against third parties for modifications or damage to the Work done without the City's authorization. However, the City may pursue claims against third parties for modifications or damage or to restore the Work if the work has been modified without the City's authorization. If the City pursues such a claim, it shall notify the Artist, and Artist shall cooperate with the City's efforts to prosecute such claims.

If the City modifies the Work without the Artist's consent in a manner that is prejudicial to Artist's reputation, Artist retains the right to disclaim authorship of the Work in accordance with 17 U.S.C. § 106A (a) (2).

Artist bears the sole responsibility for providing the City with any changes to the Artist's Address for Notice. Notice of changes must be mailed to the Arts Commission, 401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 325, San Francisco, CA 94102 AND to the City Agency with jurisdiction over the property.

CITY AGENCY

Agency: _____ Authorized Agent: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: ____/____/____

ARTIST

ARTIST understands the effect of this waiver and hereby acknowledges that ARTIST is surrendering the rights described herein with respect to the Work.

Artist: Colette Crutcher

Address: 316 Highland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110

Email: kramm51@earthlink.net /

Phone: 415-xxx-5414

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: ____/____/____

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION

Authorized Agent: Craig Corpora

Address: San Francisco Arts Commission
401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 325
San Francisco, CA 94102

Email: craig.corpora@sfgov.org

Phone: 415-252-2249

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: ____/____/____

For more information regarding VARA and CAPA:

<http://www.sfartscommission.org/our-role-impact/about-commission/policies-guidelines/visual-artists-rights-act>

<http://www.sfartscommission.org/our-role-impact/about-commission/policies-guidelines/california-art-preservation-act>