
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE REPORT

JULY 25, 2022, COMMISSION MEETING

FY22 MURALSDC 15th Anniversary – Bold, New, Next-Level Designs

The FY22 MuralsDC program will fund the 12 muralists of the finalist roster recommended by the Public Art Committee at the June 27, 2022, Commission meeting. Additionally, the program will maximize the funding for the selected walls. This includes an increase of \$80,000 in grants for this year's program, resulting in the total funding for the FY22 MuralsDC program of \$180,000.

This year's program includes six (6) walls secured by MuralsDC partner Department of Public Works (DPW). One wall is an alleyway that can accommodate 7 artists. The other five (5) locations are individual walls across the District that range in size and complexity.

The alleyway wall is a unique site that creates a gallery type experience with murals lined along the wall that will complement an existing mural alley gallery on opposite this side of the alley. This has the potential to become a destination for viewing murals in the H Street neighborhood that attracts people from across the city and beyond. As more people spend time outside, having a mural cluster in a popular area will bring more awareness to the MuralsDC program, the caliber of artists awarded, and the unique sites found for mural installations. Combined with the other five (5) walls, the impact on DC's artistic landscape is a fitting tribute to the MuralsDC 15th Anniversary.

Justification: The increase of \$80,000 to the FY22 MuralsDC is in the spirit of the Commission's desire at the June 27 meeting to expand the program financially support more artists. This increase in the program will provide the opportunity to award all selected finalists with a mural site. The additional funding will also enable the program to maximize the grant amount for the other sites. The grant range is keeping with the posted amount of \$10,000-\$25,000

Color the Curb: School Safety Program

The Color the Curb: School Safety Program is complete at the four schools. The designated curb extensions at intersections adjacent to the schools have been activated with bright, bold, and fun-filled designs inspired by the students at each elementary school. The schools, artists, and designs are noted below.

- CW Harris Elementary School, 301 53rd Street, SE., *The Future is Bright, Slow Down* by Adrienne Gaither
- Houston Elementary School, 100 50th PL., NE, *Force Field* by JD Deardourff
- Plummer Elementary School, 4601 Texas Ave., SE, *Adventure to the Hidden Treasure* by Candice Taylor
- Drew Elementary School, 5600 Eads St., NE., *Grow Your Garden!* by Ashley Jaye Williams



FY22 Color the Curb: School Safety



Summary

Color the Curb is a collaborative design and placemaking project between the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT)'s Arts in the Right-of-Way (AROW) program. For FY22 Color the Curb Program collaborated with the DC Public Schools (DCPS) to grant four local exterior mural artists with youth engagement experience to design and install ground murals in the intersections outside four schools in Ward 7 in Washington, DC. Those schools were; Drew Elementary, CW Harris Elementary, Houston Elementary, and Plummer Elementary. Artists worked closely with faculty and students at the paired school, to create a final mural design. CAH provided a ground mural technical expert to help with implementation of the approved final design.

Goals

Color the Curb ground murals are meant to:

- Supports slower and safer roadways on the blocks adjacent to selected school entrances.
- Engages students in the creative and design processes to make an impact on and foster a sense of stewardship in their community.
- Creates a public canvas that features the artwork of local artists and/or graphic designers inspired by youth from each school.



May 5, 2022 - Bike to School Day
Grantee's participated in Bike to School Day activations with students and staff at their assigned schools.

Technical Assistance

Grantee's worked with muralist Chelsea Ritter-Soronen to learn proper techniques and necessary prep work for their ground murals





JD Deardourff in art class working at Houston Elementary School



Finished mural at Houston Elementary School

Force Field

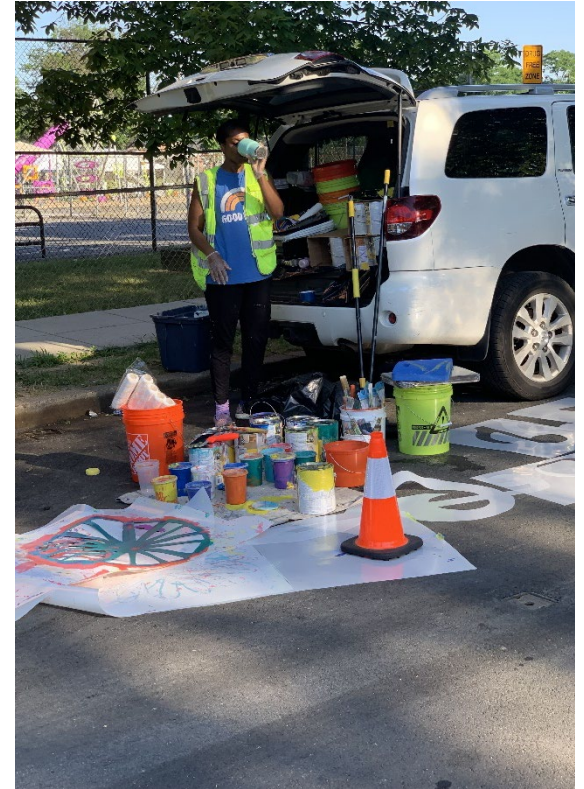
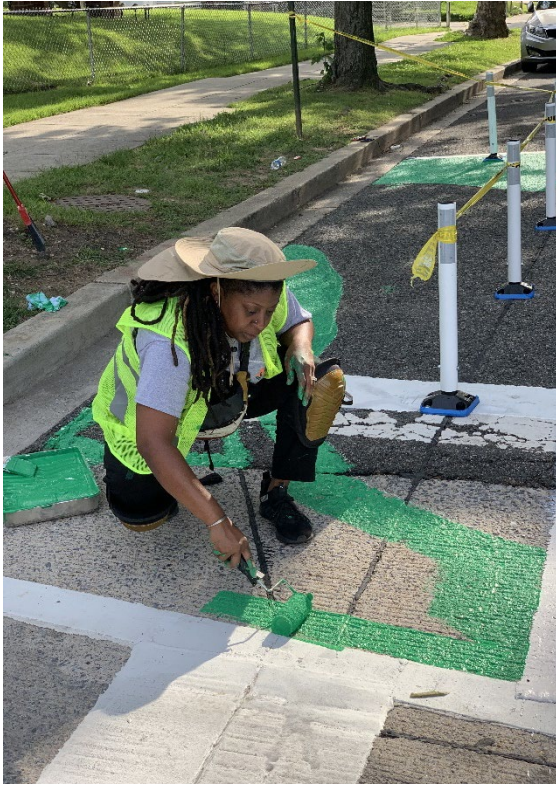
by JD Deardourff



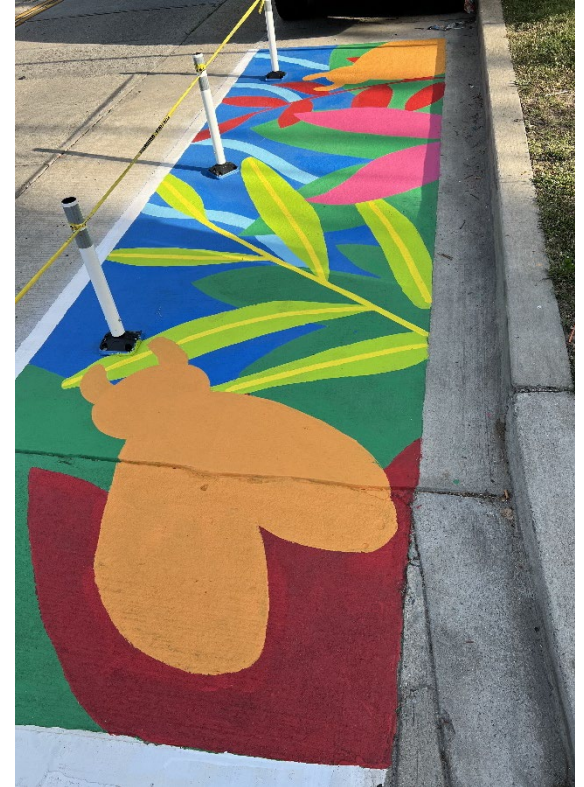
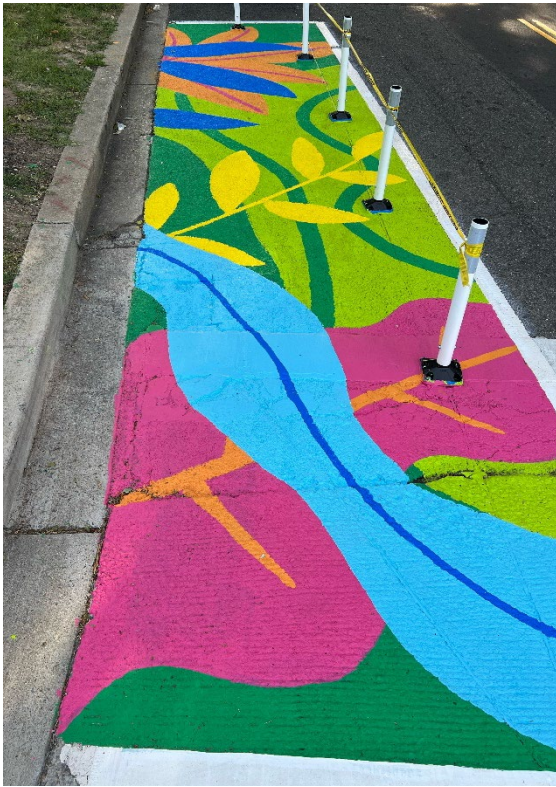
Adrienne Gaither and team installing mural at CW Harris Elementary School



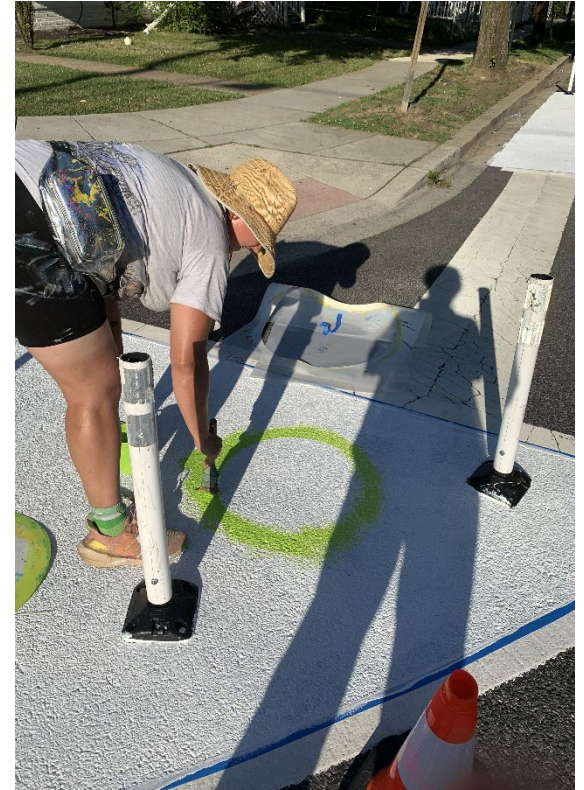
Finished mural at CW Harris Elementary School
The Future is Bright, Slow Down
by Adrienne Gaither



Candice Taylor and team installing mural at Plummer Elementary School



Finished mural at Plummer Elementary School
Adventure to the Hidden Treasure
by Candice Taylor



Ashley Jaye Williams and crew installing mural at Drew Elementary School



Finished mural at Drew Elementary School

Grow Your Garden!

by Ashley Jaye Williams



Color the Curb Engagement

Each site has a QR code decal placed on or near the mural. Each QR will lead to a dedicated page on DDOT's AROW website. There is a link to CAH's website on the page



Example:
[CTC page](#)

