

Mural Proposal for Thousand Oaks Elementary School:
“Women and Girls Who Make an Impact”

Contents:

- Sketch of mural p. 2
- Mural proposal slideshow pp. 3-8
- Photo showing mural location p. 9
- Description of how mural meets criteria of BP 7151 pp. 10-11



Names of the individuals will be included on an accompanying plaque: (left to right) Ruth Asawa, Dolores Huerta, Malala Yousafzai, Kamala Harris, Serena Williams and Anne Frank.



Women and Girls Who Make an Impact

Proposal for a Mural/Student Engagement Project at Thousand Oaks Elementary



Submitted by the Thousand Oaks Elementary PTA

Tax ID # 946174641



Objectives of effort

- Create a highly visible, permanent mural depicting a collage of noteworthy women and girls
- Construct space for the stories of women, providing young children with a more complete version of history and robust source of inspiration
- Stimulate critical conversations, thinking and analysis within the classrooms about women's history and women's role in society
- Foster the opportunity for senior high school art students to participate in creating a high profile art installation
- Provide a beautiful, powerful visual enhancement to the school grounds to be enjoyed and engage the Thousand Oaks Elementary School community and beyond*

* Thousand Oaks' campus, unique among the 11 elementary schools, serves as an open access space for the broader community during weekends. Weekends find the green and play spaces filled with dog-walkers, basketball players, children and family from the local community

Overview of Project

- The mural will be installed on a 27 x 9 foot space on the northwest side of the schoolyard. The area is highly visible from most parts of the playground and is next to a wide set of stairs that lead from the playground up to the K-2 classrooms.
- Miriam Klein Stahl has agreed to lead this project and supervise her Arts and Humanities Academy leadership students from Berkeley High School (see next slide for details about Miriam)
- The mural will feature a collage of women who have made an impact (see slide 5 for criteria).
- Each of the 19 Thousand Oaks classrooms, representing K-5th grade, will use the month of March 2018 (which is Women's History Month) to discuss and learn about notable women and their roles in the political process, arts, environment, sciences and beyond. Each class will nominate one woman for possible inclusion in the mural.



The Artist: Miriam Klein Stahl

- Miriam Klein Stahl is a **Bay Area artist, educator and activist** and the New York Times-bestselling illustrator of Rad American Women A-Z and Rad Women Worldwide .
- In addition to her work in printmaking, drawing, sculpture, paper-cut and public art, she is also the **co-founder of the Arts and Humanities Academy at Berkeley High School** where she's taught since 1995.
- As an artist, she follows in a **tradition of making socially relevant work**, creating portraits of political activists, misfits, radicals and radical movements.
- As an educator, she has dedicated her teaching practice to **addressing equity through the lens of the arts**. Her work has been widely exhibited and reproduced internationally.
- She lives in **Berkeley, California** with her wife, artist Lena Wolff, daughter Hazel, and their dog Lenny.



Proposed Selection Criteria

(and examples of types of women who might be featured)

A woman or girl who:

- Reflects a type of individual that is NOT OTHERWISE WELL REPRESENTED
- Is likely to be ENDURING
- Is INSPIRING, especially to school children
- Reflects Berkeley community VALUES such as equity, inclusion, social justice, valuing diversity, ecology, etc.



Kamala Harris, the first Indian American senator and California's first black senator, is a Thousand Oaks Elementary graduate



African-American journalist and activist who led an anti-lynching crusade in the United States in the 1890s.



Leading suffragette and first woman elected to federal office (1916)



Dolores Huerta is a California labor leader and civil rights activist who was the co-founder of the National Farmworkers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers

Cost and timeline

- The project will commence immediately and be completed by the end of the academic calendar year (June 2018)
- Mural costs – \$35 per square foot, this includes all costs: sanding, sealing cement, paint, brushes, drop cloth/tarp, art supplies, transportation for artists from BHS: \$8500
- School-wide mural opening celebration/community building event with speakers, songs, book and poster giveaways for students : \$500
- **Budget requested: \$9,000**



REQUEST FOR APPROVAL – THOUSAND OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INSPIRING WOMEN AND GIRLS MURAL

Public Art Criteria as outlined in BUSD Board Policy 7151 Public Art Policy

1. The art work will identify the building as a student-centered environment. The work will be developmentally appropriate to the students of the school.

The site for the mural is on a wall highly visible from many angles of the Thousand Oaks playground. It is above one of the sets of stairs that K-2 students use to walk from the playground to the classrooms. It will feature women and girls who are inspirational, and be selected by the elementary students themselves.

2. Projects may be opportunities for students to have a hands-on learning experience. The permanence of a project will be used to bring significance to the contributions of the students.

The BHS students who will work on the Mural have the opportunity to work with artist Miriam Klein Stahl and will participate in its installation.

3. Where feasible, projects should provide staff development or support teacher-directed classroom projects.

Each classroom at Thousand Oaks will lead discussions and study of women and in girls in connection with Women's History Month in order to select a girl or woman to nominate for the Mural.

4. The public artwork at our schools should be considered in the overall context of the school and will have a sense of inclusiveness and be broadly meaningful to the larger community.

The mural addresses the often under-examined and under-celebrated contributions of women and girls in society at a time when women are still under represented in leadership and management roles in most aspects of society (political, art, business, medicine, technology, etc.). The Thousand Oaks community is roughly 50% girls and women and this theme connected directly with the TO and BUSD values regarding equity and inclusivity.

5. The work will complement the architecture of the building and the physical environment, including form, scale, and materials.

The mural fits well in the space and balances a mural across the playground.

6. The proposed materials will withstand weather, vandalism, and maintenance.

The processes used to create this mural are being managed by an experienced public artist, Miriam K. Stahl.

7. Project will have artistic merit.

Merit is in the eye of the beholder, but the style to be employed will be similar to that used in Miriam's New York Times best-selling books Rad Women A-Z and Rad Women Worldwide. It's unique, energizing, powerful and beautiful!

8. Applicants will demonstrate appropriate experience and the organizational capacity to carry out the proposed activity and achieve the intended outcome.

Outside funding is being obtained to insure that District or BHS resources will not be needed, and we will work closely with BUSD Facilities to insure that the instillation will meet the highest standard that they expect.
