

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 15 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We Leslie Butsch, hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Leslie Butsch

May 15, 2018

May 14, 2018

Mayor and Commissioners,

The mural project before you tonight marks an incredible opportunity for our community. The WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN mural will be the first public artwork in Lawrence about and created by local Women of Color.

Its proposed location at our beloved library is the perfect choice, because it is at the library where we gather to expand knowledge and empathy, it is where racism and inequality are challenged, it is where underrepresented voices are amplified, and it is where freedom of expression is defended and celebrated.

This beautiful and deeply meaningful collection of visual stories will express this in a way that the building itself cannot. It will be a jewel adorning our community's palace of knowledge that signifies what we believe in. We are so lucky to have this team of artists offer this gift, a gift we did not know to ask for.

I strongly encourage you to support the WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN mural.

Sincerely,
Dave Loewenstein

740 Rhode Island, #1
Lawrence, KS 66044

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Ben Harms hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 5/14/2018 6:53:53 PM PDT
FE18E7ABFDFE448...



May 15, 2018

Lawrence City Commission
Stuart Boley, Mayor
6 East Sixth Street
Lawrence KS 66044

Dear Mayor Boley and Members of the City Commission:

As word about the proposed *Womxn of Color* mural has begun to spread in the community, we have heard from a number of library supporters and donors who are concerned about the placement of the mural on the library building. We understand that you, too, have received a number of letters both in support of and in opposition to the mural's location.

It is an important project that we do not want to see mired in community controversy. In the spirit of cooperation, we offer a solution. The Library Friends and Foundation join the Library Board of Trustees in supporting the project's original proposed location on the nearby parking structure wall.

The artists' original plan, as written in their Rocket Grant proposal and reported by the *Journal World* in October 2017, was to place the mural on the north side of the Vermont Street parking garage. However, the artists more recently report that the wall's surface is too smooth to hold the paint for the mural. They have told us that they do not have enough grant money to treat the surface or put the mural on panels.

The Library Friends and Foundation are willing to participate in or support the fundraising of extra dollars for panels or surface priming. The mural will still be on the library campus in a location that was the artists' first choice. It could stretch out in its entirety along the north side of the garage. Visitors will benefit from being able to directly access, touch and see it at close range. Library patrons can sit in the library's café and have a panoramic view of the mural from the lobby windows. It will be accessible to parents with children in strollers and people using wheelchairs or walkers. Any treatment of concrete or affixing of panels to the garage would be done in consultation with the City so that no harm is done to the structure.

Should the *Womxn of Color* artists agree to paint the mural in its original location on the Vermont Street parking structure, we respectfully request that the City Commission approve the placement plan so that they can move forward with their project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stan Ring, Chair
Friends of the Library
flplchair@gmail.com

Mary Gage, Chair
Library Foundation
foundation@lplks.org

Bobbie Walthall

From: Andy Ransom <theandychrist@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 11:17 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall; Stuart Boley; Lisa Larsen; Leslie Soden; Jennifer Ananda; Matthew Herbert; Tom Markus; Diane Stoddard; Porter Arneill
Subject: Letter of support

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May _15_ 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), ___Andrea Ransom_____ hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this

very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Signature: _Andrea
__5/15/2018_____

Ransom_____

Date:

May 15, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence:

The Emily Taylor Center for Women and Gender Equity at The University of Kansas supports the proposed installation of the Wak'ó Mujeres Phũ nũ Women Mural on the south-facing side of the Lawrence Public Library. We believe that this project honoring “the daily life and work, past and present, of Womxn of Color in Lawrence, Kansas” is a welcome and necessary addition to our city's landscape.

Given that the Lawrence Public Library and the Lawrence Aquatic Center act as public gathering spaces that attract all members of Lawrence's culturally, linguistically, and socioeconomically diverse population, we feel that the south-facing side of the Library is the perfect location for prominently featuring a mural that will visually center the oral histories, contemporary experiences, and indispensable contributions of a marginalized, yet integral, group of womxn to our city.

Like the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers, we believe that this collaborative art installation has the power to create community cohesiveness by acknowledging, celebrating, and bridging the differences among us. If you – as we do – believe in the importance of co-creating an equitable future in Lawrence, Kansas, we must start by demonstrating that the lives of the Womxn of Color among us, past and present, matter. We agree with the WoC Makers that rendering Womxn of Color's stories visible in our community is “key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all.”

Lawrence City representatives, please join us in supporting this very timely project, created by local Womxn of Color, who are invested in using participatory art to recognize diversity, advance equity, and build community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

May 15, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence,

As a recent graduate of the Masters of Fine Art program at the University of Kansas and a member of the Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, I am writing to endorse the Wak'ō Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project on the south facing exterior of the Lawrence Public Library. I would love to see this mural come to fruition here! It is the perfect location for its busy foot traffic and will be seen by community members, students, and families walking to the library or public pool. I believe it would add vibrance to the modern building. It think it would be awesome to see murals continue around the base of the building covering all of the concrete!

Murals brighten cities and towns all over the country. They memorialize important histories, educate the public and bring community members together. They make our walks around town more enjoyable. This particular mural is important because it highlights those that struggle the most with representation and equality, womxn of color. I would love to see their stories, the strength, the struggles, their achievements represented during a time when womxn are finally finding their voices all over the country.

Lawrence is lucky to have such a vibrant arts community. Someone once told me the most artists per capita, which I found astonishing. Please show the womxn of color artists in Lawrence that you care about them and their history, too by allowing this mural to go forward.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sydney Pursel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sydney" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Pursel".

Sydney Pursel

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 15th, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Aundrea Shafer, hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Douglas County Community member, & support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'Home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project.

Thank you for your time,
Aundrea Shafer

May 15, 2018

Lawrence City Commission
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Commission Member & City Management Staff,

I'm writing this letter in support of the WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN MURAL project, proposed for the Lawrence Public Library building. The women behind the project have met with stakeholders to determine the best way to lift the voices of women of color, those who are most often neglected and silenced in our communities. I support this project because of its leadership and commitment to sharing the story of these communities of women.

I also support this project because I want to encourage and foster public art. Urban centers have a multitude of street art projects. Lawrence has a fair number and those that exist are well-loved and iconic. This project would only add to the unique beauty of our city, and would have the added benefit of showing our marginalized women how much we value their voices and presence.

Thank you for considering my letter. I ask that you also support the WOC mural project.

Sincerely,

Erin Besson
/s/ Erin Besson
1535 New Hampshire
Lawrence, KS 66044

Bobbie Walthall

From: Diane Stoddard
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 8:18 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: Porter Arneill
Subject: FW: Letter in support of the women of color mural at Lawrence public library

For correspondence.

From: Julia Cole <julia@charlottestreet.org>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:33 PM
To: Diane Stoddard <dstoddard@lawrenceks.org>
Subject: Letter in support of the women of color mural at Lawrence public library

To the City of Lawrence Board of Commissioners

We are writing to offer our wholehearted support of Ms. Connie Fitzpatrick and her colleagues' request to site a mural depicting the regional history of women of color at the Lawrence Public Library.

The team was awarded a prestigious Rocket Grant to undertake this work. The funding for the award comes from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and the Rocket Grants program was designed and implemented by a partnership between the Charlotte Street Foundation, in Kansas City, and the Spencer Museum of Art at KU in Lawrence. The application process for the grant is a rigorous and competitive one, with selections being made by a four-person panel that includes two high-profile national jurors and two from our region. We believe deeply in the capacity and potential of our artists to address contemporary social issues with sensitivity and imagination.

The City of Lawrence has a particularly rich history of fighting for freedom during a time when this great nation's values were in question. The Free State of Kansas celebrated the rights of people of color to enjoy the liberty for which we all yearn, and that promise of equity is still a pressing matter for public discourse. Many of those who have fought to uphold the constitution have been women – but surprisingly often their stories are not the ones that have filled our history books. This mural honors the courageous struggle that is at the core of our nation's founding by showing a more inclusive history.

Public libraries are among the most valuable public assets in America, upholding a proud tradition of providing free access to knowledge and debate for all who seek it. What better site could there be to celebrate the under-recognized individuals who have played such an important role in crafting American democracy?

While we are sympathetic to your concerns about aesthetic 'purity' in the library's architecture, we urge you to consider that the function of a library is to welcome inclusive engagement – and that this too has an aesthetic beauty of its own. Your willingness to stretch and accommodate the color and texture of human life onto the blank canvas of an institution would speak volumes about the Commissioners' desire to serve all your population, including those who have not yet felt seen, heard or publicly acknowledged.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Julia Cole
Rocket Grants program
Charlotte Street Foundation

Bobbie Walthall

From: Diane Stoddard
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 8:14 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: Porter Arneill
Subject: FW: Library Mural Opposition

For correspondence.

From: d2low@sunflower.com <d2low@sunflower.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 9:53 PM
To: Lisa Larsen <llarsen@lawrenceks.org>
Cc: Diane Stoddard <dstoddard@lawrenceks.org>
Subject: Library Mural Opposition

Dear Commissioner Larsen:

As a long-time supporter of the Lawrence Public Library and the president of the Friends of the Lawrence Public Library when the city was developing plans for our beautiful, award-winning library, I am dismayed by the plans for a mural of any kind being painted on the outside walls of the building.

The planning for the new library involved community forums, listening to community groups' requests for space usage, and brainstorming ideas and spaces for new programming such as the sound and vision studio in the library. Several plans for the outside and the inside of the building were proposed with architects meeting with various interested groups to explain their thinking. There were changes made and re-made after much thought before starting construction. Even after construction started, many people worked to fine-tune details as the city watched with pride as the reimagined library took shape.

As you are aware, people from all over come to see the library and are impressed with the beauty of the outside and inside of our building. It has won numerous awards and been featured in several publications. I firmly believe that any change to the outside of our building should be carefully considered with in-put from the community.

I, personally, am opposed to any mural being painted on the outside of this beautiful building. I have faith that you will make a wise decision.

Sincerely,

Diane Grant Low
317 Boulder Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66049
785-550-4897

Bobbie Walthall

From: Eric Kirkendall <kirkendall1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 7:57 AM
To: Stuart Boley; Leslie Soden; Jennifer Ananda; Matthew Herbert; Lisa Larsen
Cc: Diane Stoddard; Bobbie Walthall; Porter Arneill; nedra bonds; Connita Fitzpatrick; Imani Wadud; Tom Markus; Barbara Kerr; Marcia Hill
Subject: Please approve the WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN MURA mural

Dear Commissioners,

Tonight there is an item on your agenda for your consideration - the installation of a mural entitled **WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN MURAL** by the Womxn of Color on the south and west wall of the Lawrence Public Library building.

This is an important project which Lawrence Creates, Inc. and the Lawrence Creates Makespace strongly support.

As you know, people of color and their contributions to the City of Lawrence have been almost forgotten in the written and visual history of the city. This is an important and valuable way to remind people of the richness of our history and the contributions of perhaps the most underrepresented group of all - women of color.

We request that you grant approval and help make Lawrence a more beautiful and inclusive place.

Regards,

Eric Kirkendall
Director
Lawrence Creates, Inc.
512 E. 9th Street
Lawrence KS 66044

5/14/2018

To: Mayor Boley, City Commissioners & the City of Lawrence ,

Please support the approval of the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* to be painted on the Lawrence Public Library's, east-facing exterior wall.

The mural is a meaningful work of art that represents important women of color who have contributed to Lawrence's community. The individuals in the mural deserved to be recognized and celebrated in a public place, so that their stories and contributions can be shared and celebrated with the community.

The group of artists who have lead and designed this project have gone to great lengths to hold meetings, collect interviews and to research meaningful histories that are represented in the mural. Now, more than ever, it is important to uplift and amplify the voices and stories that are lesser known or have yet to be heard. Now more than ever, it is important to create public spaces to share these stories.

This is a wonderful project and it will benefit the community greatly to see that the City of Lawrence public supports and uplifts the stories and narratives of women of color in this community. I whole heartedly support this project and hope that you will approve the design and proceeding process.

Respectfully,
Amber Hansen

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Elissa Rondeau, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those **unheard and unseen**. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

I had the privilege of working with a member and designer of this project as their GTA over this past semester and I am honored to say that I learned a great deal by having them in my classroom. They spoke up about issues that surround our community, ones that many of us are too afraid to speak up about even in a political and social climate that is constantly crying out about sensitive subject matters. They helped to make the classroom a space in which we learned not only about public speaking, but about real life issues as well. To have their work, and the work of other WOC displayed in a setting such as what has been described above would be a great representation of the tenacity, courage, strength, and vulnerability that I have seen in my student and that I know is a quality in the womxn that stand beside them asking for their mural to be displayed.

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that

they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me and with the womxn that make up so much of your community as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phunu Womxn Mural Project*

Humbly yours,

Elissa Rondeau

Date: May 14, 2018

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Raul Saenz hereby commit and announce myr support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural’s planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected “south-facing” side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project’s power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the “east-facing” side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence’s diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK ‘home.’

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Signature: Raul Alberto Escarcega-Saenz

Date: May 14,2018

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May _14__

2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), _____Richard Noggle_____ hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Bobbie Walthall

From: Julia Cole <julia@charlottestreet.org>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:34 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Subject: Letter in support of the women of color mural at Lawrence public library

To the City of Lawrence Board of Commissioners

We are writing to offer our wholehearted support of Ms. Connie Fitzpatrick and her colleagues' request to site a mural depicting the regional history of women of color at the Lawrence Public Library.

The team was awarded a prestigious Rocket Grant to undertake this work. The funding for the award comes from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and the Rocket Grants program was designed and implemented by a partnership between the Charlotte Street Foundation, in Kansas City, and the Spencer Museum of Art at KU in Lawrence. The application process for the grant is a rigorous and competitive one, with selections being made by a four-person panel that includes two high-profile national jurors and two from our region. We believe deeply in the capacity and potential of our artists to address contemporary social issues with sensitivity and imagination.

The City of Lawrence has a particularly rich history of fighting for freedom during a time when this great nation's values were in question. The Free State of Kansas celebrated the rights of people of color to enjoy the liberty for which we all yearn, and that promise of equity is still a pressing matter for public discourse. Many of those who have fought to uphold the constitution have been women – but surprisingly often their stories are not the ones that have filled our history books. This mural honors the courageous struggle that is at the core of our nation's founding by showing a more inclusive history.

Public libraries are among the most valuable public assets in America, upholding a proud tradition of providing free access to knowledge and debate for all who seek it. What better site could there be to celebrate the under-recognized individuals who have played such an important role in crafting American democracy?

While we are sympathetic to your concerns about aesthetic 'purity' in the library's architecture, we urge you to consider that the function of a library is to welcome inclusive engagement – and that this too has an aesthetic beauty of its own. Your willingness to stretch and accommodate the color and texture of human life onto the blank canvas of an institution would speak volumes about the Commissioners' desire to serve all your population, including those who have not yet felt seen, heard or publicly acknowledged.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Julia Cole
Rocket Grants program
Charlotte Street Foundation

Bobbie Walthall

From: Diane Stoddard
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 9:08 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: Porter Arneill
Subject: Fwd: Womxn of Color mural project

Please add to packet.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Cathy Hamilton <boomergirluno@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 6:17:51 PM
To: Matthew Herbert
Cc: Diane Stoddard
Subject: Womxn of Color mural project

Dear
Commissioner
Herbert,

This letter is in reference to the Wom
X
n of Color mural proposed for the exterior of the Lawrence public library.

I think the mural itself is a wonderful idea and believe it should be approved for public display. However, I do NOT believe the mural should be painted onto the library but on the parking garage adjacent, as originally planned. The permanent mural would, in my opinion, a) compromise the aesthetic integrity of the sleek, award-winning architecture, and b) prompt other groups or individuals to make the case for having their OWN mural there, furthering the challenge to incorporate designs and themes to complement the structure. This is not to say the proposed artwork is "less than" but simply incongruent to the overall design.

The parking garage next door, on the other hand, would be enhanced by the artwork since the garage

is not an exemplary piece of architecture and could stand some livening up. Frankly, I think the mural would have more visual impact on the garage, facing the Library and viewed from the lobby windows, than it would if painted directly on the library. It would look more whole and "framed"

"

if that makes sense. I think patrons would love to look out the mural from the picture windows whenever they drop in. In that sense, it becomes an indoor/outdoor work of public art.

If the cost of prepping the garage walls to accept paint is a **determining** factor, I'll be happy to donate to whatever fundraising drive might develop.

Thanks for considering my thoughts and for your continued hard work for Lawrence. I appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Cathy Hamilton
1319 Engel Rd
Lawrence, KS 66044



Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

Sunrise Project hereby commits and announces our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library on the south-facing side of the building. We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green space, serving as a pedestrian thoroughfare, is ideal because of its clear visibility. Sunrise Project believes in collaboration and the power of participatory art projects to mobilize and create community cohesiveness. Therefore, we support the installation, implementation, and painting of the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. We, as a social justice organization, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. We actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is culturally, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color designed and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call Lawrence 'home.'

Our desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City Commissioners, please stand with us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely,

Emily Hampton, Executive Director

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Melissa Y Johnson hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural’s planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected “south-facing” side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project’s power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the “east-facing” side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence’s diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK ‘home.’

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 5/14/2018 1:29:36 PM PDT
F059DE88B837464...

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May ___ 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I Erin Brown hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Erin Brown 5/14/18

Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phv nu Womxn Mural Project

May 12, 2018

Sherrie Tucker
925 Holiday Drive
Lawrence, KS 66049

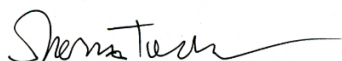
Dear City of Lawrence and Fellow Community Members:

As a community member, enthusiastic library user, and advocate for anything that genuinely expands the full inclusivity, representation, and visibility of all members of my community, I vigorously support the beautiful plans for the WOC Mural to enliven the south-facing side of the Lawrence Public Library. Our beloved LPL has become a community center *par excellence* on the inside, and the mural—a true community project—could bring that south-facing side of the building to life, and shine as a welcoming beacon to people in our community who may otherwise not feel welcomed. It thrills me to imagine the difference that the WOC Mural would make for people passing alongside that green area, to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool. It is a gorgeous design, recognizes some of the most overlooked and most active members of our community, and is created from a community research project involving WOC oral histories, collaborative design, and soon, community mural-painting. I will proudly bring all of my out-of-town guests to see it, will assign my students to study it and write about it, and anticipate that it will become a noted landmark for Lawrence visitors and residents. It is a gift to the community that I will cherish.

I understand that there is opposition to this location. I find this disheartening. That there is opposition to the most central, most visible, most traveled location does not make me feel proud of my community. I am not a WOC. I am a white woman and I see myself everywhere in this town! But there are many members of my beloved community who are seldom seen and heard, and I want the City of Lawrence to know that any opposition to the prime location for the mural *does not* represent me or the community I love. I feel very strongly that this mural—a loving participatory creative rectification of invisibility at its very core—must be as visible as possible. That is its point, and, frankly, its *gift* to Lawrence. Shoving it out of the line of sight and foot-traffic would become a permanent part of what it stands for.

The City of Lawrence has a choice: welcome the WOC Mural in the inclusive community spirit in which it is created, or accept the mural's surface while rejecting or compromising its spirit and message. It would be a very sad thing if the WOC Mural, created to “mobilize and create community cohesiveness,” became a monument instead to the City of Lawrence's inability to commit to values we routinely espouse. I feel very strongly that the City and its residents face a serious cross-roads in this decision—do we just talk the talk of “inclusion” and continue marginalizing the most marginalized among us? Or do we embrace the opportunity to showcase this beautifully expansive reflection of our community? I urge the City of Lawrence to choose the latter. Please approve the *meaningfully inclusive* option: placement of the *Wak'o Mujeres Phv nu Women Mural* on the south-facing wall of the Lawrence Public Library.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phv nu Womxn Mural Project*,



Sherrie Tucker, 785-691-5694
SherrieTu@gmail.com

Bobbie Walthall

From: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 4:00 PM
To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: Fwd: Mural on library and alcohol on streets

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Leslie Soden <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>
Date: Sun, May 13, 2018 at 11:31 AM
Subject: Fwd: Mural on library and alcohol on streets
To: Connie Mural <conniefitzp@gmail.com>, Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>

Commissioner Leslie Soden
913-890-3647

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Joan Stevenson" <js702014@att.net>
Date: May 13, 2018 at 10:13:45 AM CDT
To: <sboley@lawrenceks.org>, <llarsen@lawrenceks.org>, <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>, <jananda@lawrenceks.org>, <matthewjherbert@gmail.com>
Subject: Mural on library and alcohol on streets

OH NO here I go again!!!!!!

I see NO reason to put a mural on the rather new library. Let one group do this and you will be bombarded with 13 other groups who want the same advertising free. PLUS why ruin the library walls?

Seems more and more that Lawrence is allowing open bottles for various organizations in the downtown area. Beginning to look too frequent. Why? Again when one group is allowed then the others in town all want to have the same opportunity. I am sorry, but just don't see the need of public consumption of alcohol in public areas. Seems like open drinking has gotten more and more popular and if the city comm. Gives permits as easily as you are being asked, perhaps its time to pull a halt!!!!!! Alcoholism is an ever increasing problem anyway without the cities help. The bars are already open too long and then more trouble arises when the patrons pour out onto the streets in the wee hours of the morning!!!! Money? No doubt this is the reason for the idea of open consumption. Bad ideas!!!!

Joan Stevenson
2014Alabama

Lawrence, Kansas 66046



FREE Animations for your email [Click Here!](#)

--

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan
Director of Development and Community Partnerships
Lawrence Public Library
707 Vermont Street
Lawrence KS 66044
785-843-3833 x131

I am reading *Educated* by Tara Westover
What are you reading?

Become a fan on Facebook - www.facebook.com/lawrencepubliclibrary
Follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/lawrencelibrary
See what we're pinning on Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/lawrencelibrary/>

Bobbie Walthall

From: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 4:00 PM
To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: Fwd: library mural

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Leslie Soden** <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>
Date: Sun, May 13, 2018 at 11:31 AM
Subject: Fwd: library mural
To: Connie Mural <conniefitzp@gmail.com>, Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>

Commissioner Leslie Soden
913-890-3647

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marsha Buhler <randomtas@sunflower.com>
Date: May 13, 2018 at 10:00:12 AM CDT
To: <sboley@lawrenceks.org>, <jananda@lawrenceks.org>, <mathewjherbert@gmail.com>, <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>, <llarsen@lawrenceks.org>
Subject: library mural

Good Morning-

First a little background...I served on the library Foundation board for many years including the period of having the new building on the ballot and fundraising. The second thing I should say is really know nothing about the group requesting the mural. With that in mind I would encourage you to have the mural go on the parking garage where it was originally intended (hopefully they can raise the extra required funding). I feel like the voters approved this beautiful public library building and that the look of it should stand on its own. It also seem it would be a problem in the future when any group is able to acquire funding and want to add more art to the library.

Thanks for your work for our community-
Marsha Buhler

--

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan
Director of Development and Community Partnerships
Lawrence Public Library
707 Vermont Street
Lawrence KS 66044

785-843-3833 x131

I am reading *Educated* by Tara Westover
What are you reading?

Become a fan on Facebook - www.facebook.com/lawrencepubliclibrary

Follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/lawrencelibrary

See what we're pinning on Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/lawrencelibrary/>

Bobbie Walthall

From: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: Fwd: Womxn of Color Mural Project

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Leslie Soden <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>
Date: Sat, May 12, 2018 at 4:24 PM
Subject: Fwd: Womxn of Color Mural Project
To: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>

Commissioner Leslie Soden
913-890-3647

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kevan Vick <kevanvick@gmail.com>
Date: May 10, 2018 at 8:13:54 PM CDT
To: lsoden@lawrenceks.org
Subject: **Womxn of Color Mural Project**

Dear Commissioner Soden,

My name is Kevan Vick and it has been my honor to serve on the Library Board of Trustees for over 5 years and I will serve as the Board Chair starting next month. However, I am writing to you as a private citizen, lifelong resident of Lawrence and avid supporter of the Library. I was present for the Womxn of Color organization's presentation to the Library Board of Trustees on April 16, 2018, and was very impressed by their passion for the project, the design concept they have developed, as well as the important message the mural will convey. I have had the opportunity to discuss this project with the Board of Trustees, library staff, and library donors and I am not aware of a single person who does not support creation of the mural and the recognition it will provide to so many deserving women.

However, the same cannot be said for the proposed location of the mural. In fact, I can share with you that there is substantial opposition to the proposed mural location at all levels of constituency to include the Board, Library staff, building architect, donors and citizens. I recognize that the reasons for concern vary from one person to another and since I am writing to you as a concerned individual here are some of my personal concerns.

1. The Library was designed as a piece of art that conveys a message of welcome to all. Every aspect of the building's exterior including the windows, tiles, and concrete walls are important design elements. As such, adding a mural to the building's exterior is analogous to painting on another piece of art. I understand that the City Commission owns that decision but your approval would seem to set a dangerous precedent. We all know that there are many deserving causes and what will the decision be when the next organization or the next five organizations request approval to create a mural on the library? What rationale will there be to deny another deserving organization who requests permission to

create their mural over the top of the Womxn of Color piece of art which is in fact what they are requesting to do?

2. In simple terms, the proposal by the Womxn of Color is a unilateral demand. When it came to the location of the mural, there was no room for negotiation or discussion. There are in fact several alternative options that would preserve the integrity of the Library building, maintain the important mural message, and actually increase visibility. However, the Organization flat out rejected any discussion of alternatives.

3. Mural artists have suggested the paint that will be used can last for 25-30 years. Real world experience has proven that to be a major overstatement. When the mural falls into disrepair, and it will, the creators will not be around to refurbish it. That task and expense will reasonably fall to the library.

4. The addition of artwork on the library walls seems to convey the message that the City and the Library are OK with painting on the building walls. Unauthorized painting is certain to follow with the cost of cleanup falling to the Library.

I would also make one comment relative to the City Staff report on this subject. The report states that the Library Board issued "a letter of support for the project on the Library building." As an active participant in the preparation of this letter I would respectfully disagree. The letter from the Library Board does unequivocally support the project. However, relative to the location it states "we are open to the proposed location on the South wall of the library." The intent of this language was to recognize that the ultimate decision resides with the City Commission, and the Library Board respects the Commission's decision, whatever it might be.

Thanks for your consideration.

Kevan Vick

--

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan
Director of Development and Community Partnerships
Lawrence Public Library
707 Vermont Street
Lawrence KS 66044
785-843-3833 x131

I am reading *Educated* by Tara Westover
What are you reading?

Become a fan on Facebook - www.facebook.com/lawrencepubliclibrary
Follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/lawrencelibrary
See what we're pinning on Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/lawrencelibrary/>

Bobbie Walthall

From: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: Fwd: Mural at/near Public Library

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Leslie Soden <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>
Date: Sat, May 12, 2018 at 4:25 PM
Subject: Fwd: Mural at/near Public Library
To: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>

Commissioner Leslie Soden
913-890-3647

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Loomis, Burdett A." <bloomis@ku.edu>
Date: May 10, 2018 at 12:31:56 PM CDT
To: "matthewjherbert@gmail.com" <matthewjherbert@gmail.com>, "jananda@lawrenceks.org" <jananda@lawrenceks.org>, "lsoden@lawrenceks.org" <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>, "larsen@lawrenceks.org" <larsen@lawrenceks.org>, "sboley@lawrenceks.org" <sboley@lawrenceks.org>
Subject: Mural at/near Public Library

Commissioners:

I don't know how much you guys have been in the loop re the proposed mural celebrating women's accomplishments slated for somewhere on the S side of the Library (or maybe the parking garage). Great idea for a mural, but putting it on an architectural gem -- with multiple awards -- should be a nonstarter. Maybe on the parking garage (n side), but even that seems iffy, given the clean lines and grade of the LPL. In any event, it's on the consent agenda right now for next week. I hope that you will remove it and discuss placement before it goes through the process of approval in the commission and the LCAC.

LJW story, which focuses on parking structure. <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2017/oct/26/mural-project-collect-and-depict-local-stories-wom/>

Thanks for your consideration.

Best,

Bird Loomis

701 Louisiana St

785.766.2764

--

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan
Director of Development and Community Partnerships
Lawrence Public Library
707 Vermont Street
Lawrence KS 66044
785-843-3833 x131

I am reading *Educated* by Tara Westover
What are you reading?

Become a fan on Facebook - www.facebook.com/lawrencepubliclibrary
Follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/lawrencelibrary
See what we're pinning on Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/lawrencelibrary/>

Bobbie Walthall

From: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 3:58 PM
To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: Fwd: Mural on the Library

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Leslie Soden <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>
Date: Sat, May 12, 2018 at 4:24 PM
Subject: Fwd: Mural on the Library
To: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>

Commissioner Leslie Soden
913-890-3647

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gail Vick <gailellenavick@gmail.com>
Date: May 10, 2018 at 9:55:48 PM CDT
To: lsoden@lawrenceks.org
Subject: Mural on the Library

Commissioner Soden:

I wanted to reach out to you and tell you my thoughts about the proposed mural on the library. Along with some other very dedicated people I was part of the grass roots organization that wouldn't quit until we made sure that Lawrence had the library that it deserved. I made many phone calls for donations, wrote hundreds of personal thank you notes, put out yard signs, and held informational meetings in my home. I cheered the night the election results came in and the citizens voted to build a new library. I sat on the fundraising committee to raise the private funds to help build the library and made a personal donation as well. I was there the day the library encouraged its patrons to say their goodbyes with markers on the last remnants of sheetrock. I co-chaired the sneak peek party and anxiously sat with the fire chief as the last piece of hand rail was put in place and we were approved for occupancy as our guests were waiting at the front door. On the day the library opened, I personally held one of the doors open with tears in my eyes as thousands of my fellow citizens streamed in to see the new library. This building is personal to me.

I am so saddened that the Women of Color are determined to paint a mural on the building that is in my view a work of art itself. I think the Women of Color have an important story to tell and I'm certain their mural will be a beautiful work of art. I am completely supportive of their project. I just don't think it should be painted on the building that has become the cornerstone of our community. I would be happy to personally contribute to and to help to raise funds to put the mural on panels in the plaza area or on the parking garage. Both of those areas would be highly visible and achieve the desired results for their project.

Thank you so very much for your time and attention to this matter.

My Very Best,
Gail Ellena Vick

--

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan
Director of Development and Community Partnerships
Lawrence Public Library
707 Vermont Street
Lawrence KS 66044
785-843-3833 x131

I am reading *Educated* by Tara Westover
What are you reading?

Become a fan on Facebook - www.facebook.com/lawrencepubliclibrary
Follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/lawrencelibrary
See what we're pinning on Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/lawrencelibrary/>

Bobbie Walthall

To: Kathleen Morgan
Subject: RE: Women of color art mural

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Leslie Soden <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>
Date: Sat, May 12, 2018 at 4:24 PM
Subject: Fwd: Women of color art mural
To: Kathleen Morgan <kmorgan@lawrence.lib.ks.us>

Commissioner Leslie Soden
913-890-3647

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Lydia Belot" <lydia@sunflower.com>
Date: May 11, 2018 at 1:12:42 PM CDT
To: <sboley@lawrenceks.org>, <matthewjherbert@gmail.com>, <jananda@lawrenceks.org>, <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>, <llarsen@lawrence.org>
Subject: Women of color art mural

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing in regard to the proposal by the women of color to paint a mural on the southwest corner of the library building. I feel that this is a great project but I disagree with the proposed location.

First, the library is a work of art in itself. The building's design has won numerous architectural and environmental awards. I feel the building is meaningful to this community and should remain as is.

Secondly, I feel that by approving this project you would set a difficult precedent for the City. How will you handle further request?

Finally, it's my understanding that there is a proposal on the table to put the mural on the north side of the Vermont Street parking garage. This seems like the best solution in that the City would be supporting a meaningful project without changing the integrity of the building itself.

Thank you for your thoughtful on very important consideration of this matter!

Sincerely,
Lydia Belot

--

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan
Director of Development and Community Partnerships
Lawrence Public Library
707 Vermont Street
Lawrence KS 66044
785-843-3833 x131

I am reading *Educated* by Tara Westover
What are you reading?

Become a fan on Facebook - www.facebook.com/lawrencepubliclibrary
Follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/lawrencelibrary
See what we're pinning on Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/lawrencelibrary/>

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library
Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

We, *Lawrence Interfaith Refugee and Immigrant Ministries (LIRIM)*, hereby commit and announce our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. *Our organization has over 80 community members and well over 100 Facebook followers who support creative important projects like the mural.* We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as we do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. We, as Lawrence community members, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. We actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'ó Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

Our desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'ó Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: __LIRIM Executive Committee_____ Date: ____5-14-18_____

Signature: __Nancy Yost_____ Date: ____5-14-18_____

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 13 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Alison Collins hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:
Alison Collins
Signature: _____ Date: 5/13/2018 9:57:06 AM PDT
77A3D5CD6D5B400...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Erica Boos hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:
Erica Boos
Signature: _____ Date: 5/14/2018 12:39:36 PM PDT
35594CB9172946D...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14 2018

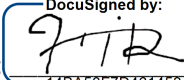
Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Harrison Cody Thomas Haynes hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 5/14/2018 12:55:54 PM PDT
14BA50F7D461453...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Lauren King hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:
Lauren King
Signature: _____ Date: 5/14/2018 9:08:03 AM PDT
B347679C5AC1457...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 10 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Pamela Brown hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural’s planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected “south-facing” side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project’s power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the “east-facing” side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence’s diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK ‘home.’

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 5/11/2018 8:43:57 PM PDT
818EA8750BD6487...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 12 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Tisha Anderson hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural’s planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected “south-facing” side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project’s power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the “east-facing” side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence’s diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK ‘home.’

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 5/12/2018 3:53:37 AM PDT
F328CC3DBAEE4EC...

To: Mayor Boley; Commissioners Soden, Larsen, Herbert, and Ananda; Tom Markus, City Manager; Dianne Stoddard, Assistant City Manager; and Porter Arneill, Director of Communications and Creative Resources

From: Jackie Carroll, 2136 Ohio St.

Re: Letter of Support for WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN MURAL Project

May 14, 2018

I stand in strong support of the WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN MURAL that has been proposed for the southwest corner of the Lawrence Public Library wall.

Reasons I support this mural include:

- Lawrence can and should lift up womxn of color at every opportunity.
- This is an arts town and supporting local artists is a strong tenet of Lawrencian life.
- The foot traffic this space receives will allow Lawrencians and visitors of all ages to see representation of peoples often silenced using their voices and abilities to tell important stories.
 - Representation also allows young people of color to see a reflection of themselves in the local art scene, which is just one piece in cultivating a vibrant and diverse art community.
 - This representation is also important for those who don't see themselves reflected in the piece as it helps set a tone for a more inclusive community overall.
- The public library is one of, if not the, premier location for us to find the best resources on art, culture, and history, and where many educational and important conversations are had. What could be a more appropriate location for a mural that celebrates all of these things?
- There are no other active proposals for this space. Van Go is a strong program for Lawrence youth, and they have already cleared up that they have not requested to be kept in mind for any exterior mural work. There are also other parts of the Library wall that they or any other group would be able to submit a proposal for if they are interested in doing so. The idea that another group in town *might* have an interest in using the same space is not a reasonable excuse for denying the sole group that has submitted a proposal. If this precedent were set, it would/could change the process for all future public art submissions.
- Considering that the city signed letters of solidarity last year, this would be an easy and obvious way to stay aligned with that admirable promise of support.
- I use the public library frequently and welcome this important and beautiful addition to one of my favorite Lawrence spaces!

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project,

Jackie Carroll
2136 Ohio St.

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

We, Nancy Yost and Douglas Wolff, hereby commit and announce our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as we do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. We, as Lawrence community members, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. We actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

Our desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: __Nancy Yost_____ Date: ____5-14-18_____

Signature: ____Douglas Wolff_____ Date: ____5-14-18_____

May 14, 2018

RE: Womxn of Color (WOC) Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL):
Wak'o Mujeures Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I support the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green that guides pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal. The proposed mural's central location will capitalize on large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months.

Art speaks to the heart. It can create and sustain community cohesiveness. To do so, it needs to be seen. A location on the "east-facing" side of the LPL offers a wonderful venue for a very important message about the power and importance of WOC within communities. I encourage you to seize this opportunity to amplify the voices of historically unheard and unseen WOC. Let the Lawrence community end this silence by portraying WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the LPL.

LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population. We live in a culturally, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse community. The Wak'o Mujeures Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color designed and organized. The mural welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the entire Lawrence community.

The mural features womxn, living and dead, unsung and unheard matriarchs. The mural will serve as a bridge between the silenced and the privileged, showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence as a space and place for all. Please support the installation of this mural to honor honest, authentic community dialogue that troubles our past and present identities in order to invest in a more just and equitable future for all of Lawrence's community. Art is an essential form of social change.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth B. Kozleski
ekozleski@fastmail.fm



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE

HELLO@USDAC.US | USDAC.US

May 14, 2018

To: The Honorable Mayor Stuart Boley; Commissioners Lisa Larsen, Leslie Soden, Jennifer Ananda, and Matthew Herbert; City Manager Tom Markus; Assistant City Manager Diane Stoddard; and Director of Communications and Creative Resources Porter Arneill

I write on behalf of the U.S. Department of Arts and Culture in support of the proposal by Womxn of Color for the WAK'Ó MUJERES PHỤ NỮ WOMXN MURAL to be sited on the south and west wall of the Lawrence Public Library building.

One of the foundations of the USDAC's work is to deploy the full potential of participatory arts projects in building loving, just, and inclusive communities. We are strongly supportive of Womxn of Color's aims in this project. Creating public art inspired by real stories of life in Lawrence is perfectly congruent with the important mission of our public libraries, to share knowledge essential to a democratic society, and to bring community members into connection and dialogue with that knowledge, enlivening civic space.

In reviewing the City Commission's 15 May agenda and ancillary materials, we have observed that approval of the project has already been conveyed by the Library Board Chair; that funding has already been received and effective planning is well underway; and that there is no other proposal under consideration for this site (made clear by the letter from Van Go, Inc.).

Decisions about public art such as murals and monuments are in the public eye these days. The core question being contested is who is represented by these sites of public memory. The proposed project clearly operates as an antidote to the monuments of an earlier era glorifying conquest and racial injustice. The Commission now has an opportunity that people across the nation will applaud. By approving this well-prepared, well-conceived work of public art, you will signal Lawrence's commitment to act on "the right side of history," in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s felicitous phrase.

We urge you to do so without delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arlene Goldbard".

Arlene Goldbard, Chief Policy Wonk, for the USDAC

TOGETHER, WE CREATE.



Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Johni Lacore, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Johni Lacore
May 14, 2018

Bobbie Walthall

To: Sally Jiang
Subject: RE: Letter of Support for WOC Mural

From: Sally Jiang <jiang.sallyjiang@gmail.com>

Date: May 14, 2018 at 12:01:22 PM CDT

To: bjwalthall@lawrenceks.org

Cc: sboley@lawrenceks.org, llarsen@lawrenceks.org, lsoden@lawrenceks.org, jananda@lawrenceks.org, matthewjherbert@gmail.com, tmarkus@lawrenceks.org, dstoddard@lawrenceks.org, parneill@lawrenceks.org

Subject: Letter of Support for WOC Mural

Hi all,

The women of color mural represents something greater and larger than all of us, larger than the library, larger than the city, larger than the bricks of the wall that we want to paint. On Mother's Day, yesterday, we are taught to give thanks to the women in our lives. This is one of the things that the mural is about.

It's also about telling the truth about what happened to our city, living up to our name of being the Free State, celebrating diversity, mentorship (I met so many amazing mentors through this program and want other younger citizens to meet role models like the ones I've met), and recognizing the contributions of people who are often erased in history. It's about Haskell, it's about its history as both an assimilation school where people have died on their grounds, and also recognizing that it has turned around to offer native language education to those who are alive today.

The mural design is really just beautiful women smiling and I think it would be a great gift to the library. It has the potential to bring in revenue to our city and attract visitors to witness history.

The library was renovated because it was seen as "uninviting" (<https://www.world-architects.com/de/architecture-news/reviews/lawrence-public-library-expansion-and-renovation>) . I see this addition to the wall as another renovation, because right now as the library stands, it is not the most inviting space to all of Lawrence.

Right now we have the opportunity to invite everyone in one gesture, and that is accepting our mural. Thank you.

Best,
Sally Jiang
Wak'o Mujeres Phu Nu Mural Design Team

Bobbie Walthall

From: Mariel Ferreiro <mferreiro60@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 12:52 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall; Stuart Boley; Lisa Larsen; Leslie Soden; Jennifer Ananda; Matthew Herbert; Tom Markus; Diane Stoddard; Porter Arneill
Subject: Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL) Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Good afternoon City Commissioners and Mayor of Lawrence, KS;

I am writing in regards to the Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project. As a women of color living in the Lawrence community, I would like to voice my full support of this group implementing their Mural installation at the Lawrence Public Library. These womxn have come together to not only understand the cultural beauty within themselves but the richness these cultures provide the Lawrence Community. These womxn want the opportunity to show the talents and history of Lawrence through the eyes of many communities that have not historically had a sit at the table. I hold a personal responsibility to support and see this installation become a strong presence in my community, not only as a person of color, but as a women who would like to see future generations see themselves represented in the world around them.

The selected section of the Lawrence Public Library is the most valuable area for this mural to shine. Many, from all backgrounds, will be able to come and enjoy this art in a location that encourages inclusiveness and community growth. I ask you to not only approve the desired location for the Womxn of Color Mural Project, but to support the community at large. This is one small, but very important decision you can make that will positively impact the community of color. Lawrence is known for our ability to be accepting and celebratory of all people, let us continue that work by supporting this amazing group.

In Solidarity with the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project,

Mariel Ferreiro
Community Activist
Immigrant Activist
Lawrencian
225 N. Minnesota St. Lawrence, KS 66044
620-682-5216

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Gehong Qu, David Campbell, & Zhen Fan hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

David Campbell

Signature: Johnny An

Zhen Fan

Date: 5/19/18

Letter of Support
Womxn of Colour Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence,

I recently graduated from UCL (University College London) in the United Kingdom with a BA in Language and Culture, specialising in Spanish and Arabic. Currently based in Toronto, Canada, I heard of the WOC Mural project and deeply resonate with the initiative.

I, Jeff Gu, hereby announce and commit my support for the implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL). As an outsider to the Lawrence community, I support the rare occasion to amplify the oral histories of those unheard and unseen. I believe that the selected side of the library is ideal because the large amount of foot traffic would highlight the proposed mural.

The *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation is an important and timely project. It is a first of its kind movement, all womxn of colour designed and organised, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue with the vast array of people groups that call Lawrence 'home.'

My desire is to welcome the WOC Mural project with open arms and feature the womxn who are living and have passed—unsung and unheard matriarchs—in the hopes of bridging community differences. This public art movement would also show those least visible in the community that they matter and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence as a space for all.

Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as I support this timely project by womxn invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring people together. Art is an essential motor for social change and I hope that you may reflect on your stance.

Sincerely in solidarity,

Jeff Gu

Date: May 14, 2018

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Rachel Atakpa, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If we Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "south-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the *rare* occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

I have been an active Lawrence and University of Kansas community member for a number of years now. I have had the privilege of being a part of the expansive and vibrant arts community her in Lawrence. As a result of this, I have witnessed the power and love that comes of collaborative, community arts endeavors. The WOC Mural is a true embodiment of the passion, love, and community support that comes of making art that makes space for people to live and breath and grow in unimaginably beautiful ways. The LPL is a thriving nexus of knowledge, community building, and art; the proposed location for the WOC Mural is a fundamental aspect of cultivating access to the kind of love and support the WOC Mural would offer to the community. If we are to open our arms, hearts, and spaces for all people to feel safe and included in our community, centering the WOC Mural in our endeavors is an abundant spot to begin and grow from.

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project,

Rachel J. Atakpa, May 14, 2018

Rachel J. Altepza

Bobbie Walthall

From: Handy, Grace Tamara <g298h403@ku.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:46 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May _14_ 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), ___Tamara Handu_____ hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn
Mural Project

Signature: _____ *T. Tamara Handy* _____ Date: _____ 05.14.18 _____

Tamara Handy
Doctoral Candidate
Department of Special Education
University of Kansas
Joseph R. Pearson Hall, Rm. 517
1122 West Campus Rd.
Lawrence, Kansas 66045-3101
(785)393-8002
tamarahandy@ku.edu
Pronouns: She/her/hers

Bobbie Walthall

From: Beer, Christian <christian.beer@ku.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:08 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of support for mural

Dear City of Lawrence and Community of Lawrence,

My name is Christian Beer, I am the media coordinator for the KU School of Languages Literatures and Cultures. I am writing you to express my personal, strong support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely,

Christian Beer

Best,

Christian Beer

Marketing Coordinator
KU School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures
(913) 285.0181 Cell

Sent from my very intelligent portable communications device

Bobbie Walthall

From: Katherine Yang <katherine.yang413@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 11:04 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: Stuart Boley; Lisa Larsen; Leslie Soden; Jennifer Ananda; Matthew Herbert; Tom Markus; Diane Stoddard; Porter Arneill
Subject: Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Katherine Yang, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the side of the Lawrence Public Library. I support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project by womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujueres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*,

Katherine Yang

Bobbie Walthall

From: Mallory Copeland <mallory.copeland23@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 10:36 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Subject: Letter of support for the womxn of color mural

May 14 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Mallory Copeland hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'ó Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

I have never witnessed a stronger group of womxn coming together to change our community, to deny them the opportunity to make our community better would be the height of folly. As a city that prides itself on progressive thinking, it feels like the process of accepting this mural has been caught up in bureaucratic processes that ultimately appear to be passively racist and unwilling to listen to POC.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'ó Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: Mallory Copeland Date: 5/14/18

Douglas County Historical Society

1047 Massachusetts Lawrence, KS 66044-2923

Phone 785-841-4109 Fax 787-841-9547

www.watkinsmuseum.org

May 8, 2018

Dear Connie, Imani, and Marilyn:

As supporters of civic engagement, diversity, and the arts in Lawrence, the Watkins staff and I heartily endorse the Wak'ó Mujeres Phų nữ Womxn Mural project.

We recognize the importance of this project as a way of highlighting and celebrating the contributions of women of color to our community. As our nation, state, and city become increasingly diverse, civic-minded groups and individuals must welcome people of color and chronicle the many ways they enrich our society. This is especially true regarding women of color.

In researching and designing the mural via crowdsourcing in the same communities to be depicted, your team has demonstrated commitment to capturing the perspectives of women of color and empowering them. The planned location of the mural on the Lawrence Public Library building is eminently suitable and likewise indicates deep commitment and planning. The Watkins staff believe the Wak'ó Mujeres Phų nữ Womxn Mural is worthy of support from the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission.

Sincerely,



Will Hickox
Public Engagement Coordinator
Watkins Museum of History



Haskell

Accredited by Higher Learning Commission
Academic Support Center
155 Indian Avenue
Lawrence, Kansas 66046-4800
www.haskell.edu

May 7, 2018

Dear Connie, Imani, and Marylin,

Thank you for including the thoughts and wishes of the people at Haskell Indian Nations University since the emergence of the Wak'ó Mujeres Phų nŭ Womxn Mural. We appreciate that you met with staff on repeated occasions to identify our matriarchs of our Haskell Community. We appreciate that you met with our students face to face for your project. Many will remain in Lawrence and become active members in our Lawrence Community.

The ASC partners with the Haskell faculty and community in developing information-literate learners and leaders within our indigenous communities. The Wak'ó Mujeres Phų nŭ Womxn Mural shows our leaders on Lawrence Community foundation, the Lawrence Public Library. Correct representation of our current leader is extremely important when our people have been misrepresented in countless ways in our society and in publication. Just as the City of Lawrence has banners on street lights, we hope to see more efforts such as the Wak'ó Mujeres Phų nŭ Womxn Mural. When the library opened, I distinctly remember seeing a young native boy with long braids in the northwest window just after the library's reopening. A simple image shows all of all our native children and people that they belong in the Lawrence Public Library. Your project idea is amazing and desperately needed in our current society. I wish you the best in your success. Efforts such as these make Lawrence, Kansas a better place.

Please let me know how else we may help. May your efforts be successful.

Sincerely,

Carrie Cornelius
Prairie Band Potawatomi/Oneida
Supervisory Librarian
Academic Support Center
Haskell Indian Nations University

The mission of Haskell Indian Nations University is to build the leadership capacity of our students by serving as the leading institution of academic excellence, cultural and intellectual prominence, and holistic education that addresses the needs of Indigenous communities.

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 14, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Akiko Takeyama, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Akiko Takeyama

Date: May 14, 2018

Bobbie Walthall

From: Jenna Groth <grothjenna@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 7:20 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Subject: women of color history mural

Dear Bobbie,

I am writing to support the women of color history mural at the Lawrence Public Library. I know two of the project leaders, Connie Fitzpatrick and Marilyn Hinojosa. They are talented artists who have devoted much time to increase representation among marginalized people of Lawrence. As a white ally, I trust that the project they are leading will empower women of color.

I also think their mural would also enhance my experience with the library. I think the Lawrence Public Library is beautiful. I have used it for meetings, to co-host library events with my employer, to print documents, and to check out books. Over the years, I have seen some artwork featured in the hallway. I would like to continue the legacy of our beautiful, artistic building by adding more art to it.

The opposition to this project's location is concerned that the mural will compromise the "integrity" of the building. I disagree. A mural will not hurt the structure of the building. I think a mural that celebrates women of color will help the moral integrity of this community. It will show that we value women, people of color, and we celebrate the arts in this community. I say we paint this mural! While space for all future art projects is limited, surely this one that intersects with so many Lawrence values should be honored and given more consideration than fears that this will hurt the library's "integrity" or architectural awards. Thank you for your consideration of this project!

Sincerely,

Jenna Groth

Bobbie Walthall

From: Marla Jackson <marlajackson028@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 10:25 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Subject: Fwd: Letter of support

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Marla Jackson** <marlajackson028@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, May 13, 2018 at 9:53 PM
Subject: Letter of support
To: Connie Fitzpatrick <conniefitzp@gmail.com>

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 13__ 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Marla Quilts Inc. African American Quilt Museum_____ hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and

participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Signature: ___Marla A. Jackson_____ Date:

Bobbie Walthall

From: andrea.zuercher@gmail.com on behalf of Andrea Zuercher <zeditor61@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 13, 2018 7:37 PM
To: Stuart Boley
Subject: Support for WOC Mural

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 13, 2018

To the Lawrence City Commission and city officials:

I am writing to express support for the proposed installation of the WOC Mural at the Lawrence Public Library, on the south-facing side of the building. This project represents the cooperative efforts of many sectors of our community and would be an asset to the library environs and the broader Lawrence arts environment.

This side of the library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool, is ideal. The central location makes it visible to a large amount of foot traffic all year round, as well as drivers entering the city from the north. I would like to see our community amplify the voices of people who often go unheard and unseen. This mural project is an excellent opportunity to do so.

The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural installation, created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call Lawrence home. Our community will be the richer if we feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs whose stories are often unknown; and the sisters who can be inspired by this project. Our town is facing increased divisiveness and struggle in a larger national context that seems to be allowing more strident nationalistic, sexist, and racist voices to drown out those of the rest of us. Lawrence has a chance to demonstrate that we are a different kind of community, one that values the participation of diverse members and welcomes healthy differences. This mural project would show those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas, as a space and place for all.

Lawrence City representatives, please do your part to encourage and support this timely project by womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and who believe that art is more than pretty pictures -- that it can achieve social change.

In solidarity with the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*,

Andrea Zuercher / 1537 Rhode Island Street / andrea.zuercher@gmail.com

Date: May 13, 2018

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 13, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Jason Badgett, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*

Jason Badgett

Date: 5/13/2018

Bobbie Walthall

To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: RE: Library Mural Project

From: Craig, Susan V. <scraig@ku.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 12:38:24 PM
To: Diane Stoddard
Subject: Library Mural Project

Dear Ms. Larsen,

I am writing to you regarding the proposed mural for the SW wall of the Lawrence Public Library. I am opposed to this project.

Several years ago I served on the committee which solicited proposals for art work for the newly renovated library. This was a lengthy, time-consuming process involving numerous community members. We received proposals from prominent artists within the Lawrence community as well as artists from around the state and the nation. After much discussion, we selected a glass artist to install work in the library ceiling, a hanging mobile, and signage in front of the building.

The current proposal has not undergone a similar competitive process yet would have an even more prominent location on this award-winning public building.

I urge you to deny this request.

Sincerely,

Susan Craig
Retired Art & Architecture Librarian at the Univ. of Kansas



PO BOX 95
Lawrence, KS 66044
www.girlsrocklawrence.org

May 13, 2018

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

Girls Rock Lawrence is in full support of the WoC Mural project's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library. As an organization that has built a strong presence in Lawrence over the past 4 years, and one that has impacted the lives of many young teens in our community through the power of creative exploration and expression, we feel this mural and oral history project represents more than just an art project. These stories are important and a truly beautiful representation of the history of our town that deserve to be told. We are all looking at our city, which boasts and prides itself on being a welcoming and diverse place, to proudly and gracefully accept this unique gift that the WoC mural project is providing. Our young people are paying attention. The next generation is preparing to become the leaders and change agents in our community, and they are looking at all of us to make the decisions that will determine how and in what ways they are seen and heard. We have partnered with the Lawrence Public Library and have seen their efforts to raise the voices of people of color. Let these efforts not be in vain. This mural is an opportunity for our city and the Lawrence Public Library to receive with open arms a gift that will not only empower the youth in our town, but will also bring positive attention to the city as a place that celebrates the accomplishments of important women of color through creative and visual artistic expression.

We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library is ideal because the proposed mural would be the most visible and this location sees high foot traffic throughout the year.

Our organization challenges the city to look more deeply at the reasons this project is important, and to reflect on how your own personal biases as individuals may keep you from seeing the weight that this project holds in our community. To raise these voices and share these stories proudly will not be forgotten, and the efforts of these important WoC will not be in vain.

We have seen dynamic change in our community of Lawrence and evidence that creative expression and community art projects such as this one can unify and bring us together.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project.*

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ronica G." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Date: 5/13/18

Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phn nu Womxn Mural Project

May 12, 2018

Sherrie Tucker
925 Holiday Drive
Lawrence, KS 66049

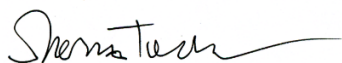
Dear City of Lawrence and Fellow Community Members:

As a community member, enthusiastic library user, and advocate for anything that genuinely expands the full inclusivity, representation, and visibility of all members of my community, I vigorously support the beautiful plans for the WOC Mural to enliven the south-facing side of the Lawrence Public Library. Our beloved LPL has become a community center *par excellence* on the inside, and the mural—a true community project—could bring that south-facing side of the building to life, and shine as a welcoming beacon to people in our community who may otherwise not feel welcomed. It thrills me to imagine the difference that the WOC Mural would make for people passing alongside that green area, to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool. It is a gorgeous design, recognizes some of the most overlooked and most active members of our community, and is created from a community research project involving WOC oral histories, collaborative design, and soon, community mural-painting. I will proudly bring all of my out-of-town guests to see it, will assign my students to study it and write about it, and anticipate that it will become a noted landmark for Lawrence visitors and residents. It is a gift to the community that I will cherish.

I understand that there is opposition to this location. I find this disheartening. That there is opposition to the most central, most visible, most traveled location does not make me feel proud of my community. I am not a WOC. I am a white woman and I see myself everywhere in this town! But there are many members of my beloved community who are seldom seen and heard, and I want the City of Lawrence to know that any opposition to the prime location for the mural *does not* represent me or the community I love. I feel very strongly that this mural—a loving participatory creative rectification of invisibility at its very core—must be as visible as possible. That is its point, and, frankly, its *gift* to Lawrence. Shoving it out of the line of sight and foot-traffic would become a permanent part of what it stands for.

The City of Lawrence has a choice: welcome the WOC Mural in the inclusive community spirit in which it is created, or accept the mural's surface while rejecting or compromising its spirit and message. It would be a very sad thing if the WOC Mural, created to “mobilize and create community cohesiveness,” became a monument instead to the City of Lawrence's inability to commit to values we routinely espouse. I feel very strongly that the City and its residents face a serious cross-roads in this decision—do we just talk the talk of “inclusion” and continue marginalizing the most marginalized among us? Or do we embrace the opportunity to showcase this beautifully expansive reflection of our community? I urge the City of Lawrence to choose the latter. Please approve the *meaningfully inclusive* option: placement of the *Wak'o Mujeres Phn nu Women Mural* on the south-facing wall of the Lawrence Public Library.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujeres Phn nu Womxn Mural Project*,



Sherrie Tucker, 785-691-5694
SherrieTu@gmail.com

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

In 2017, Human Rights Watch reported an alarming surge of populism across the globe, of misplaced blame, of needless fear-mongering, and the "othering" of our fellow human beings. Lawrence is a progressive and welcoming city. Now, more than ever, we must embrace difference and celebrate diversity—not succumb to ignorance. Art is a powerful tool. The WOC Mural project presents an exciting opportunity to tell a story, to learn new perspectives, and to more fully understand our own history. It would be a mistake to pass up this opportunity.

I, Lacey Roe, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujueeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Lacey Roe

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lacey Roe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "L" and "R".

Bobbie Walthall

From: Griffin, Alysha <a982g059@ku.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 5:02 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural.ks@gmail.com
Subject: Womxn of Color Mural

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Alysha Griffin, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'ó Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'ó Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*, I support the completion of this project. As a woman of color, I understand the importance of being recognized as integral to a community's history and culture. I am Augusta, Georgia. People of color are recognized as equal participants and contributors in the history and culture. Through monuments, school names, memorials, museums, and street name, people of color are rendered visible. This recognition and inclusion has, undoubtedly, shaped my sense of pride for my identity and my hometown. Furthermore, I am wholeheartedly devoted to contributing to that community. I would hope that Lawrence—if they are indeed a town that believes in community, diversity, and inclusion to the degree that outsiders are left to beli—would

make bigger efforts to include representations of the people who have as much investment in the Lawrence community as anyone else, but who are drastically underrepresented.

Sincerely,
Alysha Griffin



LETTER OF SUPPORT

May 11th, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and all other present:

The Women of Color oral history and mural project's final vision already exists within the hearts and minds of hundreds of people in our Lawrence community across registers of race, gender, class, sexual orientation, ability, and age. All that is left, after months of unpaid labor from the majority of the collective's participants, is the material realization of a project that has brought women of color in the City of Lawrence together in an unforeseen and powerful manner for our little and beloved college town. But being that some of our wealthier white fellow Lawrencians have, as of late, been taking a "hybrid" position on the matter (e.g. "We love women of color and their art but do not want their art on our most public walls, here are the reasons..."), I will directly bring forth a few comments on the validity, power, and beauty of the women of color mural projects's proposition on the location of the mural; that is, the south-facing side of the Library building.

For one, the mural design is objectively beautiful; beautiful not only because of the array of colors, layers, embodiments and objects represented, compositional nuances, and cultural depth of the final draft proposed to the Lawrence Public Library, but, even most importantly, beautiful because of the methodology that was developed, by Lawrencian women of color, to imagine and fulfill a collaborative effort of this level of cultural complexity and logistical magnitude. I have had the opportunity to host several of the interviews that have inspired the mural design layout within my own home. Though still working towards realizing my dream of becoming one of the few Latinos in the country with a PhD in the Humanities and having the wonderful opportunity to study at the University of Kansas (Department of American Studies), I live well below the poverty line, donate plasma regularly, and live paycheck to paycheck in an apartment that, as of today, I can no longer afford. All this to say that this small but humble space that I inhabit became a *sacred* space during each of the three interviews conducted here, and only through this experience could I really tell (especially as a man) that the mural project was most certainly *not* a two-dimensional project designed for a two-dimensional space.

The multiple dimensions of sociality, cross-cultural discussion, multi-racial collaboration, class difference, division of labor, creative/logistical processing, and the transference of women's intimate tellings onto other mediums that transcend the confines of an audio interview or a sheer painting, are among some of the most beautiful aspects of this design and its proposed location. In other words, the design itself and the location itself are but two platforms that conform a much larger installation that is thoroughly complex in its artistic breadth. As an installation, the women of color oral history and mural project includes not only the record of meetings and interviews conducted but the physical bodies of all the women, men, and children

involved in making such a tremendous effort come to life as a “singular” artistic contribution to Lawrence (i.e. a mural) with roots that cover miles and traverse multiple bodies and platforms. What these women want Lawrencians and visitors to see on the wall outside of the LPL is the tip of an iceberg that tells, upon a deeper glance, tells an incredible story only the bravest and most curious people will learn about once stepping inside and learning more about the mural’s difficult and thorough creation process. In many ways, this is the ultimate local and interactive learning experience, a true “technological” gift that is original to the Lawrence area that, to my bafflement, is somehow still being resisted. Whiteness and class privilege do indeed work in mysterious ways.

Whether the mural can be restored or not in 50 years is getting a tad bit ahead of ourselves, as hardly anyone asks these questions of much less intricate and groundbreaking artistic contributions to the public made by singular artists, such as statues or busts of white leaders or painted portraits of their faces hanging on the walls of a myriad “important” lobbies across Kansas and the nation. What we have here before us are the awkward and relatively trivial bickerings of a few within our Lawrence community who—akin to the behavior of a poorly reared child during Christmas who throws a tantrum and yells at their mother “I hate you!” when finding out, to their dismay, that they were gifted the wrong version of a Spiderman action figure so passionately coveted—want to “protect” the “integrity” of the building’s current aesthetic layout with arguments purportedly more sound than those offered by the mural project collective.

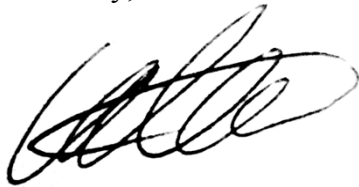
While “hatred” may be a strong word to use here and the metaphor rather reductionist, my hope is that it will paint a picture of what these women “feel” and what the rest of us supportive of the project are “feeling” with these counter-arguments and their severe lack of not only argumentative substance, but their inability to, in any compelling manner, recognize the weight of the collective gift so generously being offered to the Lawrence Public Library and the City of Lawrence at virtually no cost whatsoever. Ironically, the labor of these women—many of whom I know personally and who have been supportive of my own projects—becomes *invisibilized* in the process of verbalizing their work as beautiful while rejecting the spatial component of their groundbreaking vision. White and upper middle class/upper class supremacy works in such a way that even a proposed project that is explicit about racial visibility can also be processed through invisibilizing forms of resistance to it. Ultimately, my invitation is one of conveying that you please view this project as exactly that; an invitation—granted, an invitation that our city and our nation simply does not deserve considering the histories that have targeted and continue to target women and femmes of color everywhere. It is a tremendous gift exemplary even in its sheer selflessness.

For these above reasons I kindly encourage you to pay very close attention—to look intently and to listen deeply—at not only the racial differences present but also the overt class distinctions between the many who long for this project to be painted on the outside of the Lawrence Public Library and those who are staunchly opposed to the location while maintaining that they still “love” the design and the people of color involved. What is being gifted here is not only a mural; it is a major cultural intervention and communitarian exercise on what equity from the ground up can look like within our Lawrence community. It is a true example for the City of Lawrence, our state of Kansas, and the United State of America that sets a precedent for *all of us* about the value of non-white voices across multiple platforms, sensory experiences, and a

decisive opportunity to show women of color that their place is not in the private realms of domestic life but on the most public sites of educational, civic, and professional life, that is where they belong.

White Lawrence wants the Black Lives Matter rallies without the “illegitimate” street art produced by Black and Brown communities when their numbers begin to grow within a city. It wants its children to take Hip Hop lessons in the summer without the soothing lower decibel window-shaking thumps emanating from lowriders cruising up and down massachussetts street. They want me to teach Salsa at their religious conferences to their youth (as I have done in the past) but will still call the police on me when the cowbells and congas are getting “too noisy” into the wee hours of the night, the perfect time for celebration. White Lawrence wants to see us in their board meetings to diversify organizational decision-making but will still clutch their purses when we brush past them at the gas station mini market. Do *not* allow this instance to become a glorified example of this particular kind of hybrid mentality. Learn to love wholeheartedly, look and listen to what is actually taking place, to the nuances of the gift that is so generously being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caleb Lázaro Moreno', written in a cursive style.

Caleb Lázaro Moreno

PhD Student, Department of American Studies
University of Kansas
Pronouns: he/him/his
Contact: clazaromoreno@ku.edu

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11th, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Sierra Two Bulls hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL). I believe that this location is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and high foot traffic. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on LPL. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by LPL.

This Mural project is very important to me as a Native American/Indigenous person because I hardly see myself in mainstream society other than depicted in a historical context, often stereotypical, and not a living human being. This site is so significant because I would love to see this mural in hopes that other Indigenous people, especially those whose ancestors originally lived here before Kansas, would see this and feel more welcomed too.

Furthermore, LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with WOC as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: Sierra Two Bulls Date: 5/11/2018

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Mark Worden, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal. The public pool is a place of fun and family and many diverse children will get the opportunity to see this magnificent mural displaying the strong diverse Lawrence women who have quietly triumphed throughout the history of Lawrence.

As a Lawrence community member, I support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC in this very public space.

The Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: _____

 Date: 5/11/18

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 10 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Hailey Handy hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural’s planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected “south-facing” side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project’s power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the “east-facing” side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence’s diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK ‘home.’

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:
Hailey Handy
Signature: _____ Date: 5/11/2018 2:38:07 PM PDT
090DD0EA82DF4D8...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Gary Handy hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural’s planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected “south-facing” side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project’s power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the “east-facing” side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence’s diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK ‘home.’

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:
Gary Handy
Signature: _____ Date: 5/11/2018 2:40:30 PM PDT
0EBC0C58671B410...

Bobbie Walthall

From: Thorat, Dhanashree Ashok <dthorat@ku.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 4:43 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural.ks@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Dhanashree Thorat hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building.

As a brown woman and a recent transplant to the Midwest and to Lawrence, I am struck by the need for more conversation and greater visibility for conversations on race and racism in this part of the country. The political climate of the country has recently become increasingly hostile to people of color. We need to now, more than ever, advocate on behalf of marginalized peoples in the country. In Lawrence, we have had several racially motivated incidents, including the widely reported on car rally by white supremacists on Mass Ave. White supremacists have also taken over public spaces in other parts of the country to threaten the lives and rights of people of color. As a brown woman, I am alarmed that such a rally could take place just a few miles from where I live and work and this rally points towards the deeply rooted racial tensions in the Lawrence community. We need to reclaim these public spaces to support and celebrate the lives of people of color. We need public spaces that affirm the lives of women of color. The mural proposed by this team in a public space is an important move in this regard. I would urge the Lawrence Public Library and the city representatives of Lawrence to join these artists and activists in amplifying the voices of women of color.

I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Muejeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very

timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: Dhanashree Thorat Date: 11 May 2018
Dr. Dhanashree Thorat
Postdoctoral Researcher
Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities
University of Kansas

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Alexa Tapia hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 5/11/2018 2:27:16 PM PDT
9058A931435E47E...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11 2018

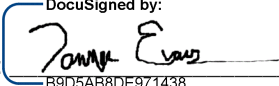
Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Tanner Evans hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural’s planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected “south-facing” side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project’s power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the “east-facing” side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence’s diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak’o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn’s Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It’s a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK ‘home.’

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak’o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 5/11/2018 10:54:02 AM PDT
B9D5AB8DE971438...

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I/We (organization name), Leah Evans hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'ó Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: Leah Evans Date: 5/11/2018 2:24:00 PM PDT

Bobbie Walthall

From: Kasim Azhar <kasimazhar@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 3:16 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Kasim Azhar hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Kasim Azhar
5/11/18

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

We, the Schwaller Family, made up of Robert Schwaller, Rachel Schwaller, and Fritz Schwaller (4 years old), hereby announce our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as our family does, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. We, as Lawrence community members, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. We actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

It is our hope and firm belief that the Lawrence community will welcome the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project.



Signature: Rachel Schwaller, Robert Schwaller, Fritz Schwaller Date: 5/11/2018

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Gibette Encarnación, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the *Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural* on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. *The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural* installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: *Wak'o Mujueres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project*



Gibette Encarnación
Doctoral Candidate, Department of English
University of Kansas

5/11/2018

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Nohemi Alvarez-Landa, hereby commit and announce my support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal. The public pool is a place of fun and family and many diverse children will get the opportunity to see this magnificent mural displaying the strong diverse Lawrence women who have quietly triumphed throughout the history of Lawrence.

As a Lawrence community member, I support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC in this very public space.

The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature: _____



_Date: _____

5/11/18

Bobbie Walthall

From: University of Kansas Latin American Student Union <adelante.lasu@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 12:58 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project

Letter of Support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

We, at Latin American Student Union of the University of Kansas, hereby commit and announce our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as we do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. We, as Lawrence community members, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. We actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'ó Mujueeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'ó Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Signature:

Executive Board of the Latin American Student Union at the University of Kansas

Date: May 11, 2018

--

Best Regards,

KU Latin American Student Union Executive Team

¡ADELANTE!

Bobbie Walthall

From: Nolan, Jennifer <jnolan@dc3.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support

Letter of support:

Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)

Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Jennifer Nolan, representing the Kansas Artist Craftsman Association hereby commit and announce our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Kansans believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. We, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. We actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujeueres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

Our desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

Jennifer Nolan 5/11/18

Jennifer Nolan
Dodge City Community College
Fine Arts Department

Bobbie Walthall

From: Laura Suarez <laurasuares2014@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 12:47 PM
To: Bobbie Walthall
Cc: wocmural@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support: Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project

Letter of Support:
Womxn of Color Oral History and Mural Project at the Lawrence Public Library (LPL)
Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Dear City of Lawrence and the Community of Lawrence at large:

I, Laura Suarez hereby commit and announce my/our support for the creative energies and implementation of the WOC Mural's planned installation at the Lawrence Public Library (*LPL), on the south-facing side of the building. I/ We believe that the selected "south-facing" side of the Library, next to the green leading pedestrians to and from the library to the Lawrence public pool is ideal because the proposed mural would be highlighted the most due to its central location and large amount of foot traffic during the spring, summer, and fall months. If us Lawrencians believe in collaboration and participatory art project's power to mobilize and create community cohesiveness, as I/We do, it then makes perfect sense to install, implement, and paint the Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Women Mural on the "east-facing" side of the Lawrence Public Library. I/ We, as a Lawrence community member, support the rare occasion presented to amplify the voices of those unheard and unseen. I/ we actively support lifting up the voices and visualizing WOC oral histories in the very public space occupied by the Lawrence Public Library.

Furthermore, the LPL is a public building and community gathering space that hosts a multitude of events that attracts Lawrence's diverse population; one that is cultural, linguistically, and socio-economically varied and diverse. The Wak'o Mujueeres Phu nu Womxn's Mural installation created by the all WOC design team and its organizers, is an important and timely project. It's a first of its kind, all womxn of color design and organized, and one that opens and welcomes community dialogue and engagement with the vast array of populations that call LFK 'home.'

My desire is to welcome with open arms the WOC Mural project, and in doing so, feature the womxn who are living and have passed; the matriarchs that are unsung and unheard in the hope of bridging community differences and showing those least visible in our community that they matter, and that their stories are key to understanding Lawrence, Kansas as a space and place for all. Lawrence City representatives, please stand with me/us as we encourage and support this very timely project my womxn who are invested in collaborative and participatory community art projects that bring us together and believe that art can be an essential form for social change.

Sincerely, and in solidarity with, the WoC Oral History and Mural Makers: Wak'o Mujeres Phu nu Womxn Mural Project

May 11, 2018

Laura Suarez
She/Her/Hers

Latin American Student Union (LASU) Community Chair and Arts Committee Chair
University of Kansas, Class of 2019

Visual Art Education Major and American Studies Minor

