



NOTICE & AGENDA of A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Public Arts Advisory Commission will hold a special meeting on **Tuesday, December 10 at 9:30 am** in ROOM 110, City Hall, 419 Fulton Street

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Banners and Boxes Policy and Application
3. Artist Selection for Peoria County Bicentennial Art Installation
4. New Business
5. Public Comment
6. Adjournment with Roll Call Vote



APPLICATION BANNERS AND BOXES

The City of Peoria is issuing a Call for Artists, open to all ages, to participate in a public art installation. The Banners and Boxes Beautification Program seeks to use street light banners and traffic box cabinets as “canvases” to beautify areas of the City, primarily the City’s Central Business District and the Warehouse District, to showcase local talent.

Artwork may be modified to fit a banner or a vinyl wrap that will be affixed to a box. The City will make its best efforts to honor the intentions of the artist, but the final decision of artwork placement will rest with City staff. Additionally, artwork will be available for display online through the City’s website on www.peoriagov.org for at least one year. The display period on a banner or a box will be at least one calendar year. The City reserves the right to modify the display periods without notice to the artist.

Each artist can submit up to three pieces of artwork, by separate application, to either the banner or the box category for each piece of artwork. Each piece of artwork will only be chosen for either a banner or a box, not both. Artists will be compensated \$500 per selected artwork regardless of duplication or the length of display.

1. This application is being made by a person who resides in Peoria, Illinois or who has a studio in Peoria, Illinois.

☐ Yes ☐ No

2. This is for consideration of a:

☐ Banner ☐ Box (check one only)

3. Contact Information (if studio is in Peoria, please list your studio address):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

4. What is the name of the proposed artwork?

- a. **Please download the template for either Banner or Box and sketch how you would like your artwork represented. You may only submit for the category in which you are being considered (do not submit for both a Banner and Box in one application).** Artists must submit a four-sided drawing/sketch, if applying for the Box category, since the vinyl wrap will cover the Boxes on two or four sides.

Your sketch must be uploaded with your application.

CHECKLIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

1. () High- quality photograph of the proposed artwork taken by a professional photographer.
 - a. Images should be saved individually as PNG or JPG and be at least 300 dpi.
 - b. All digital images should be clearly labeled with name of artist, title of work, and image number. STYLE:Artistfirstlastname-imagename-imagenumber Example: StacySmith-BeautifulArtwork-1
2. () A drawing/sketch of how the design will appear on all sides of the Box or Banner (you will be required to use a 360 degree four sided flattened rendering for the sketch for the banner or box pdf).
3. () Artist statement regarding the proposed artwork
4. () Short biography for the artist (125 words maximum)
5. () Resume
6. () Signed agreement for the City to use the artwork, including a hold harmless and indemnity provision within this agreement and a W9 (both the Agreement and the W9 form will be provided after the artist is notified of being selected)

APPROVAL PROCESS STEPS

1. Complete this application, upload the template of the Banner or Box and JPG of your artwork [online](https://www.peoriagov.org) to [peoriagov.org](https://www.peoriagov.org) by 5:00 p.m. on March 22, 2025. If you have technical issues, please email Stacy Peterson at speterson@peoriagov.org.
2. Applications will be reviewed during a specially scheduled Public Arts Advisory Committee (“PAAC”) meeting in April of 2025.
3. After the special PAAC meeting in April, Stacy Peterson will notify artists of their approval.
4. Payment of \$500 for each piece of artwork selected will be made to the artist via check.. The check will be mailed to the artist at the address provided on this application.
5. After being notified of approval, and prior to the check being issued, the applicant must complete the Agreement for the City to use the artwork, including a hold harmless and indemnity provision within this agreement. This must be emailed to Assistant City Attorney, Mas Perkins, at mperkins@peoriagov.org. No check will be issued until this Agreement and a W9 is executed and confirmed as received. A check will be issued within 60 days of the Agreement being confirmed as complete and received.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Arts Advisory Commission
THRU: Stacy Peterson, Strategic Communications Manager
FROM: Masum Perkins, Assistant City Attorney II
DATE: November 26, 2024
RE: Guidelines for Street Light Pole Banners (“Banners”) and Traffic Box Cabinets/ Electrical Box Cabinets (“Boxes”) Artwork Display in Peoria’s Central Business District through American Rescue Funds Act Funding- Banners and Boxes Beautification Program

The City of Peoria is issuing a Call for Artists, open to all ages, to participate in a public art installation. The Banners and Boxes Beautification Program seeks to use street light banners and traffic box cabinets as “canvases” to beautify areas of the City, primarily the City’s Central Business District and the Warehouse District, to showcase local talent. Artwork will be selected by members of the City’s Public Arts Advisory Commission (“PAAC”) and representatives from the City’s Public Works Department.

The PAAC and the City’s Public Works Department will select artwork created by artists who reside in Peoria or who have a studio in Peoria. Artwork can be either two or three-dimensional but must be professionally photographed for submission since the high-resolution images will be printed on Banners or affixed to Boxes via a vinyl wrap in Peoria’s Central Business and Warehouse Districts. There are 50 streetlights in Peoria’s Central Business District which allows for the installation of 100 Banners. Fifteen boxes in the Central Business and Warehouse Districts have been identified for the wraps on the Boxes. Up to 23 pieces of artwork can be selected by the PAAC and the City’s Public Works Department. Artists may submit up to three pieces of artwork to the Banner or Box category. An artist can submit one piece of artwork to both the Banner and Box category by separate application. One piece of artwork submitted to the Banner and Box category will count as two out of three submissions.

The proposed guidelines included in this memorandum are provided to initiate a discussion within the PAAC for the development of guidelines to review the artwork submissions. The intent of these guidelines is to provide a neutral review process to facilitate the public display of artwork while limiting the cost and liability to the City. At no time does the City intend to regulate the nature of the artwork. The City reserves the right to make final decisions on placement, to modify the suggested design, to reproduce the artwork, and to use the artwork for promotional materials on the City’s website and social media.

Legal questions may be directed to Masum Perkins at (309) 494-8595 or mperkins@peoriagov.org.

Guidelines for Street Light Pole Banners (“Banners”) and Traffic Box Cabinets/ Electrical Box Cabinets (“Boxes”) Artwork Display in Peoria’s Central Business District through American Rescue Funds Act (“ARPA”) Funding- Banners and Boxes Beautification Program



1. Purpose

- a. A portion of the City’s ARPA funding was designated for public art and this funding needs to be committed by December 31, 2024. This program has been designed to incorporate two of the City’s strategic priorities as determined by the community and City Council: Quality of Life and Downtown Development.
- b. It is important to maintain collaborative and cooperative partnerships between local artists and the City. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a framework for review and approval of artwork that is presented for consideration through high resolution images to be placed on the Banners and Boxes primarily in Peoria’s Central Business and Warehouse Districts. These guidelines are limited to the artwork to be displayed on Banners and Boxes by and through ARPA funds.
- c. Additionally, the purpose of these guidelines is to emphasize the intent of the City to provide a pleasing experience for the City’s community members and visitors.
- d. Artist in these guidelines is defined as a person who creates artwork who resides in Peoria and/ or has a studio in Peoria.
- e. This policy will be available to the public.

2. Reviewing Bodies

- a. The Public Arts Advisory Commission (“PAAC”) shall be the primary reviewing body for selecting up to 23 pieces of artwork.
- b. Staff from Peoria’s Public Works Department shall be the primary reviewing body for traffic safety compliance.

3. Display Locations

- a. There are 100 locations for Banners in the Central Business District and 15 Boxes in the Central Business and Warehouse Districts available to display the selected artwork.
- b. Peoria’s Public Works Department shall have the sole discretion to determine placement of the artwork, volume of display of any given artwork, and the method the artwork is displayed, whether it be through Banners or Boxes or a combination of both.
- c. The Banners may be moved to different parts of the City depending on the reservations of light poles. Temporary or permanent locations of the Banners will be determined by City Staff. City staff will not notify the artist of removal or relocation of the Banners.

4. Timeline

- a. PAAC members shall circulate these guidelines and application to potential applicants upon passage of this policy by the PAAC. This policy shall also be posted on the City’s website.
- b. ArtsPartners will issue a Call to Artists to solicit applications.

- c. Artists who choose to submit applications should have all materials submitted to the City's Strategic Communications Manager, Stacy Peterson, via the City's online form, found at www.peoriagov.org by 5:00 PM on the 22nd of March, 2025.
 - d. The PAAC will approve or deny all submitted applications during a special meeting in April of 2025.
 - e. Stacy Peterson, the City's Strategic Communications Manager, will notify applicants about approval or denial of the applications and artwork selected after the PAAC special meeting in April of 2025.
 - f. Artwork will be on display on a Banner or Box for at least one calendar year beginning in Spring/Summer of 2025 to Spring/Summer of 2026, beginning date of display to be determined based on the timeline of the vendor that is selected and availability of Banner locations.
 - g. Artwork will be on display online through the City's website on peoriagov.org for at least one year. Artwork may be used on the City's social media.
 - h. The City reserves the right to modify the display period in 4f or 4g of this Policy without notice to the artist.
5. Application Process
- a. The application form shall be made available to the public on the City's website.
 - b. Each applicant can submit up to three pieces of artwork, but one application must be submitted for each piece of artwork. Artists must indicate on the application if the piece they are submitting for a Banner or Box.**
 - c. An artist can submit one piece of artwork to both the Banner and Box category by separate application. One piece of artwork submitted to the Banner and Box category will count as two out of three submissions. The application form shall require the following information:
 - i. Name and contact information of the artist
 - ii. Selecting whether the artwork is being submitted for a Banner or Box
 - iii. Name of the proposed artwork
 - iv. High-quality photograph(s) of the proposed artwork taken by a professional photographer. This is to ensure that the artist's work will be recreated in banner and wrap form in the best possible light.
 - 1. Images should be saved individually as PNG or JPG and be at least 300 dpi.
 - 2. All digital images should be clearly labeled with name of artist, title of work, and image number. STYLE:Artistfirstlastname-imagename-imagenumber Example: StacySmith-BeautifulArtwork-1
 - v. Using the template provided on the website, the artist will provide a drawing/sketch of how the design will appear on all sides of the Box or Banner (you will be required to use a 360 degree flattened rendering for the sketch or the banner pdf). For Banners, artists may want to consider images in portrait orientation for best consideration. A template of the Banner will also be available, and the artist will be required to sketch how they would like the artwork represented. City staff reserve the right to modify submissions to fit the Banners or Boxes. The Boxes will be

covered with vinyl wrap with artwork printed on the vinyl wrap. Artists must submit a four-sided drawing/sketch, if applying for the Box category, since the vinyl wrap will cover the Boxes on two or four sides.

- vi. Artist statement
- vii. Short biography (125 words maximum)
- viii. Resume/ Curriculum Vitae
- ix. Acknowledgement of an Agreement for the City to use the artwork, including a hold harmless and indemnity provision within this agreement. The Agreement and a W9 will be emailed to the artists after they are notified of being selected.

6. Design Requirements

- a. The artwork's appearance and visual relationships with the surrounding environment may be considered. Artwork that presents significant concerns regarding public interest or public safety may not be approved.
- b. The following design features may not be approved:
 - i. Bright colors that simulate lighting
 - ii. Company logos or symbols
 - iii. Flags and banners
 - iv. Text

7. Selection Process

- a. The PAAC, and representatives from Public Works, will review the submitted applications.
- b. All artwork submitted must be original work.
- c. PAAC and a representative from Public Works will consider the following when reviewing applications:
 - i. The quality of the high resolution image for replication on a Banner or Box
 - ii. Technique
 - iii. Elements likely to distract drivers
 - iv. AI generated artwork
 - 1. Artificial intelligence (AI) generated artwork is any form of artwork that is completely created by AI tools.

8. Additional Details

- a. There will be a \$500 payment for each piece of artwork that is selected. There may be multiple Banners and/ or Boxes that may display a single piece of artwork. The \$500 payment is for each selected piece of artwork the number of times it is duplicated on Banners and/or Boxes or displayed. This payment also encompasses online display through the City's website on peoriagov.org.
- b. The City will provide information for community members regarding the artwork (i.e. name of the artwork, artist's name on the City's website. In no circumstances will the City or its agents act as an agent or conduit for the artist.
- c. This is a public art installation.
- d. Artwork will be available for display online through on www.peoriagov.org.

- e. The artist will be required to provide PAAC with a high-quality photograph(s) or images of the artwork so that it can be used for the online gallery and for reproduction on the Banners and Boxes. The artwork cannot be photographed in frames.
- f. The artist statement is for use on the City's website only.
- g. City Public Works staff or contracted vendors will be the only people authorized to hang and remove Banners and Boxes.
- h. Any graffiti placed on a Banner or Box will be cause for immediate removal of the Banner or cover up of the Box. However, in no circumstance will the City be beholden to a timeline to coverup or remove the graffiti.
- i. Any other damage, whether weather created or otherwise, to a Banner or Box may be cause for immediate removal of the Banner or cover up of the Box. City staff will determine if the damage is cause for removal or cover up. In no circumstance will the City be beholden to a timeline to remove or cover up artwork on the Banners or Boxes.
- j. City staff may not replace the artwork that is damaged as stated in paragraphs 8h and 8i in this Policy.
- k. The City reserves the right to adjust the image provided by the artist for the Banners and Boxes.
- l. A vinyl wrap will be used to affix the artwork to Boxes. The vinyl wrap used to cover the Boxes will be printed to cover either two sides or four sides of a Box. The City will match up the artwork to the Box. No vinyl wrap will be placed on the top of a Box.
- m. There is no age limit to submit.

9. Responsibilities

- a. The City will be responsible for:
 - i. Finalizing the placement of the art on the Banners or Boxes
 - ii. The hanging, affixing, and removal of the Banners and Boxes
 - iii. Maintaining the Banners and Boxes
 - iv. Payment for artwork to be printed on the Banners and affixed on the Boxes
- b. The artist will be responsible for:
 - i. Executing an agreement authorizing the City to use and reproduce their artwork for a period of one year, within this agreement will be a hold harmless and indemnity provision as explained in paragraph 10(b) of these guidelines.

10. Liability

- a. The City does not provide insurance coverage for damaged reproduction. The artist may want to maintain property damage insurance on their artwork, listing the City as additional insured.
- b. Every artist loaning their artwork shall hold harmless and indemnify the City and its agents from any damages, theft, liability, costs, or expenses incurred because of any injury to their reproductions of loaned artwork. The hold harmless will apply to personal, business, character, reputation, sustained by any person or loaned

artwork. A signed form will be required to be submitted to the City's legal department by every artist.

Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Connie Andrews

Written Statement: I am interested in this project because I truly love the idea of telling/showing a story on a 3-dimensional surface. I have had a lot of experience with public art and am excited to share my views and love of Peoria on this uniquely shaped "canvas".

Also, painting the colorful bison this last summer, makes me feel as if this might be the next logical step in my work. As I did with the American Gothic sculpture, I look forward to bringing this large piece to life using the landscape, scenery and life of this area. While I cannot commit to having this large project successfully completed by December 16th, I can commit to it being complete by middle to later January.

Design Proposal: Colorful, beautiful and meaningful scenes of Peoria, current and historical, wrapped around the bison's figure.

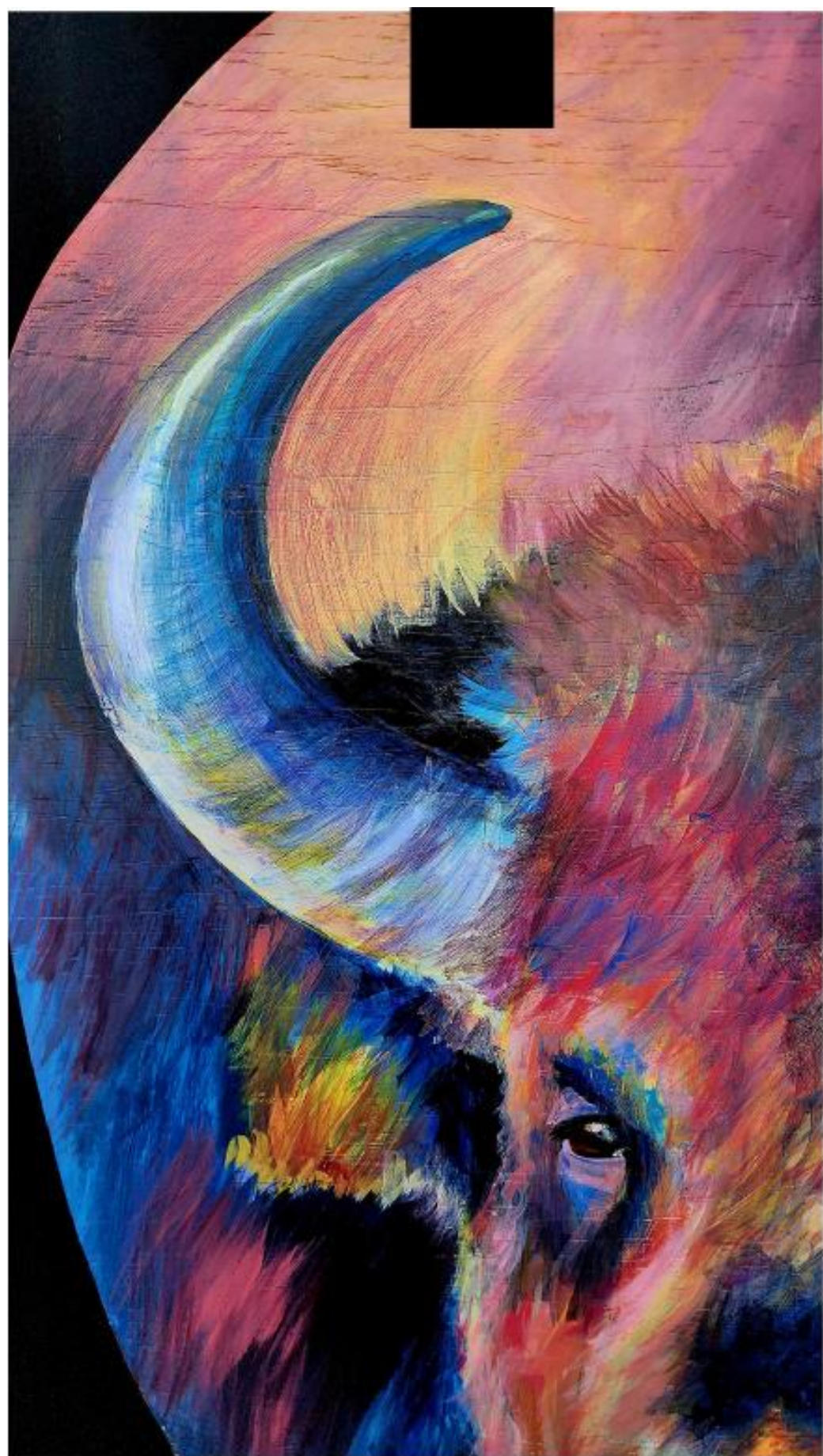
Website: <https://www.connieandrews.com/>











Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Kagan Masters

Written Statement: I enjoy finding ways to educate others through artwork. One of the ways I would be accomplishing that is by incorporating native plants into the bison's design. I would like to encourage viewers to consider the importance of our native biodiversity and its preservation.

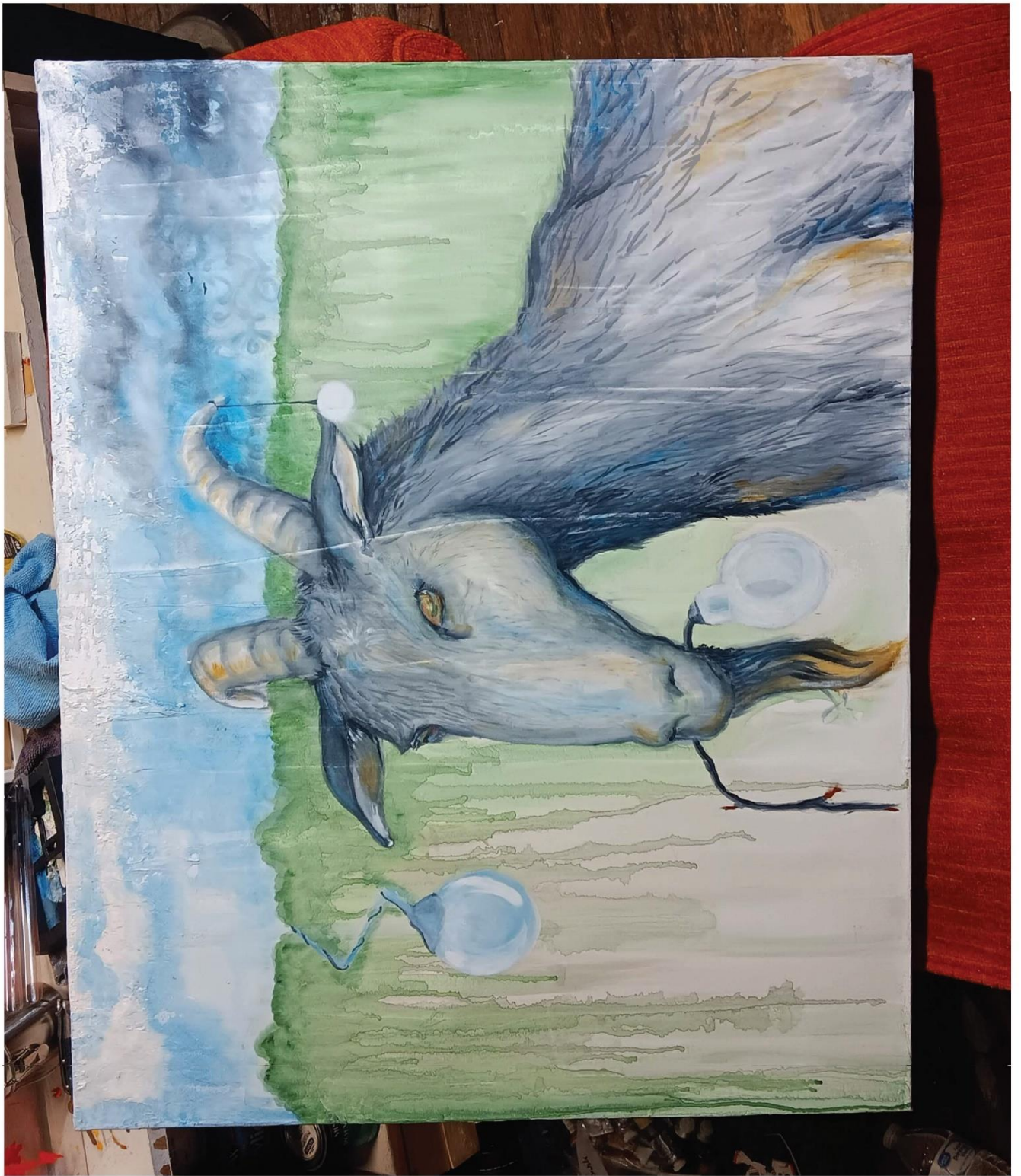
Design Proposal: I intend to lightly sand and prep the fiberglass bison before painting. Prime and paint with epoxy paints if the desired medium is not readily attainable acrylic will be used. Lightly sanding in-between layers as needed.

Utilizing the form of the fiberglass shell and my knowledge from observation/study of bison and animal figures in general, I will create a semi-realistic looking bison complimenting the shape of the fiberglass.

In addition to the painted bison, I would like to include painted native grasses and flowering plants from Illinois. These are represented by the green and yellow dots on the bison reference image. Their placements would be approximate to the dots and appear to be tucked into tufts of fur. With yellow dots representing flowers and green dots representing the grasses or non-flowering native plants.

Work will be done in my studio located on the 3rd floor of the Contemporary Art Center in Peoria and will be open for public viewing during the CAC's normal open hours of 11-5 Tuesday through Saturday. I will require delivery to and from my studio, I will also utilize the materials stipend.

Website: www.instagram.com/kaganmasters











Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Hattie Lee Mendoza

Written Statement: I have both deep multigenerational ties to Peoria (my maternal grandfather's side), while also being a transplant (I grew up in Kansas). I would celebrate the nuances of the people who make up, or have made up, Peoria County through vibrant, stylized patterns. As a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, I would also use this opportunity to honor to the First Peoples of this geographic location as well as the many Natives who reside in our county.

I intend to bring joy as well as awareness to how our differences can be beautiful while creating a vibrant, nuanced community as a whole. Peoria, as we currently know it, was founded by immigrants/settlers and continues to be cultivated by the descendants who stayed as well those of us who move here and make Peoria their home.

A special request I would have, if awarded the commission, would be that I would be allowed to use part of the \$1,000 supplies allotment to include small honorariums to anyone I would go to for cultural reference questions or materials.

For example: If I went to a Filipina Special Ed teacher I know in Peoria and ask her to supply me with reference images and/or sketches of Filipino patterns from traditional fabrics/etc that I could manipulate and change to work in the composition, I would then like to be able to give her a small compensation for her time and input on the project. This way, I can involve as well as help financially more members of our community within this one project's budget.

An example of how I see this breaking down would be: \$300 for any paints or brushes I would need (while supplementing with my own existing supplies), \$100 honorarium given once the request for cultural materials was completed with a contact- which would make it possible to approach 7 people with this request.

If, due to the time constraint, I wasn't able to approach that many people, or they were unable to help supply materials in a timely manner, I would of course not include as many expenses for this.

I also recognize that with the size of this project, my actual materials cost may be greater than anticipated, so it would all be flexible until the final totals came in. I would, however, be conscientious as I went, with my ultimate goal being able to make this a communally beneficial project.

Design Proposal: Below is an extremely rough mock-up with an overlay of a previous small painting I made earlier this year, utilizing pattern designs from various cultures citizens of

Peoria have come from. I envision painting a similar idea on the bison, with overlapping circles on its body on both sides, filled with cultural patterns of people I know in Peoria.

The colors would be vibrant, with a background color that would be darker and still filled with pattern. Filler patterns would represent stitch work lines, beadwork dots, and native basketry patterns.

The overarching patterns/compositions relate to my own Cherokee Nation heritage. However, I intend to use patterns of Native peoples who historically existed on this specific land (Peoria, Kaskaskia, Kickapoo, and the broader Illinois Confederation tribes.) After reaching out to the Peoria tribe to confer about appropriateness and other pattern ideas, I initially intend to include the four arrows of the Peoria tribe on the buffalo, going across his back to his forehead-the red arrow of the sun, the turquoise arrow of the soil, the blue arrow of the waters, and the green arrow of grass and trees (these are on their website at peoriatribes.com.) However, if the Peoria tribe is uncomfortable with this application, I won't include it.

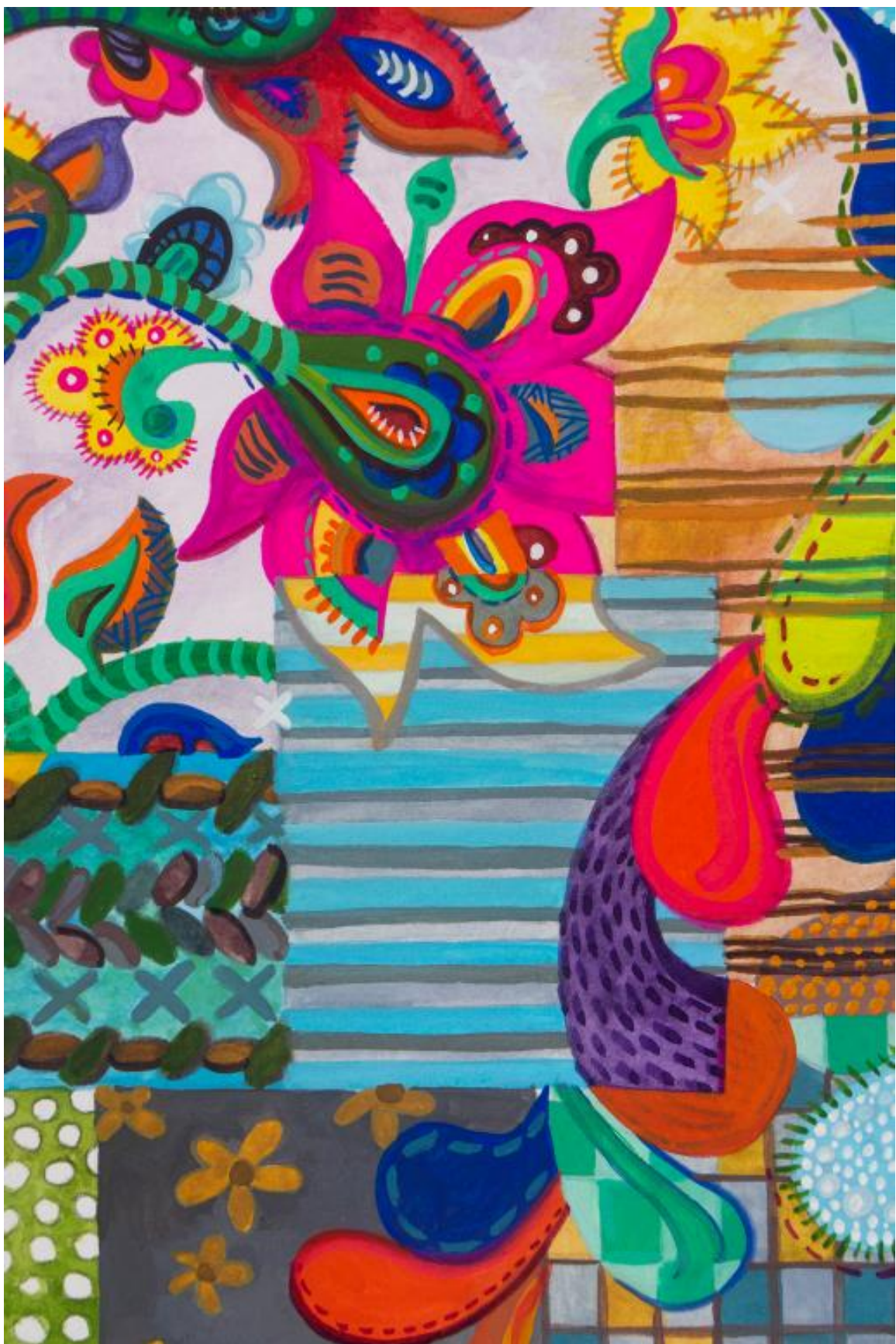
I would also ask for cultural advice from people on other reference materials, such as Ghana patterns, Choctaw, Filipino, India, Mexico, German, Scottish, Dutch, etc. In this way, not only can the artwork itself represent the collaboration of people and cultures that make Peoria a tapestry of nuance and beauty (both from Natives already here, migrants at the founding of the country, and migrants/transplants who continue to call Peoria county home), but can also be a process of collaboration itself.

The only possible constraint is the timeline and Holiday season- needing to complete the work on a quick turnaround with Thanksgiving and Holiday markets thrown in the middle, I may not be able to consult with individuals as deeply as I'd wish (and people relations often take longer than intended). However, I would do as much as possible in the allotted time while progressing on painting.

I would use acrylic paints or acrylic spray paints, which can then be clear coated. I may include neon or metallic accents, which may change with the coating (I haven't been able to test this) but should show regardless.

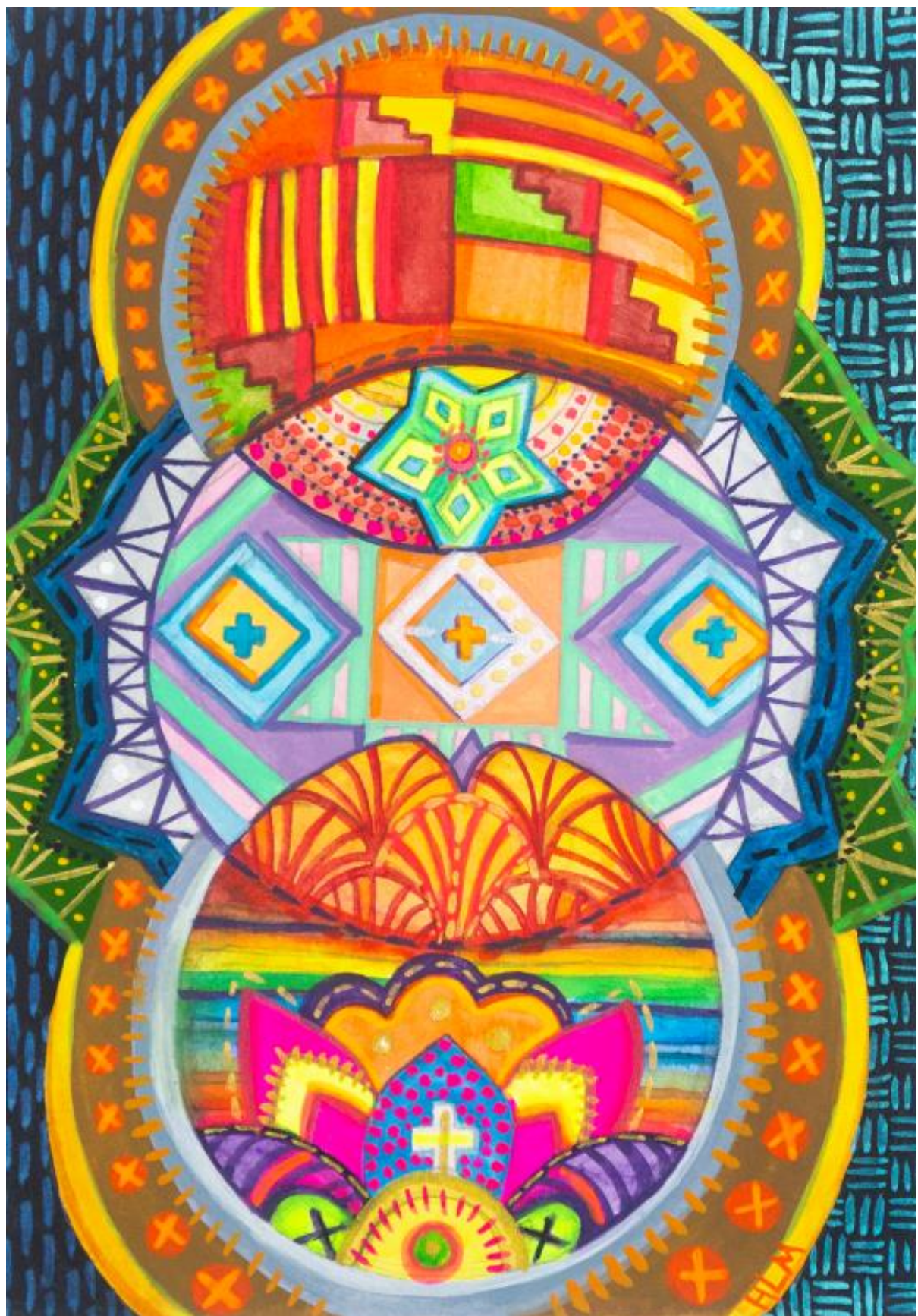
Website: hattieleemendoza.com













Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Amanda Lardner, Charlotte Tolly, Lucy Robbins, and Rachel Rudy

Written Statement: None of the artists are native to Peoria, however, have all found a home here through their university. We want to honor the place we have grown to love, and take on an ambitious project together. We are all artists, and have painted, sculpted, drawn, for our whole lives. Each artist is involved creatively at Bradley University, and want to extend their passions to help the community at large.

Design Proposal: For this project, we want to honor the flora and fauna of Peoria, both present and past. Peoria, as well as Illinois as a whole, is incredibly biologically diverse. We want to showcase this biological diversity and beauty of the region by painting numerous indigenous plants, animals, fungi and fossils. If we are given two statues to work with, we would like to have one bison focus on the Illinois River's life, and one bison focus on life on land.

However, if we were only given one bison to work with, we would create a cohesive piece, with the river leading to the shore and then the sky. Some of the species we would like to include are: bald eagles, luna moths, monarch butterflies, alligator gar, blue gills, channel catfish, and white tailed deer. We would draw artistic inspiration from field guides, scientific drawings, and vintage illustrations.

We would primarily use paint for this project (both spray and acrylic) with the possibility of adding 3D printed resin pieces if time allows. We would also need a dedicated studio space, as each artist is a college student.

Website: None.



F.B.I.

Fuse Bureau of Investigation

Rodenticide ("Rat Poison")

A bottle of rat poison that was found near the scene of the crime. Judging by the toxicology report from Mr. Banks' autopsy, there's no doubt that **an ingestion of this** was his cause of death. This stuff was only found in specific drinks and in the same amount, thus ruling out an accidental spill, so we've got a theory going around that this was no accident, that **someone mixed this into his drink unknowingly.**



EVIDENCE

1



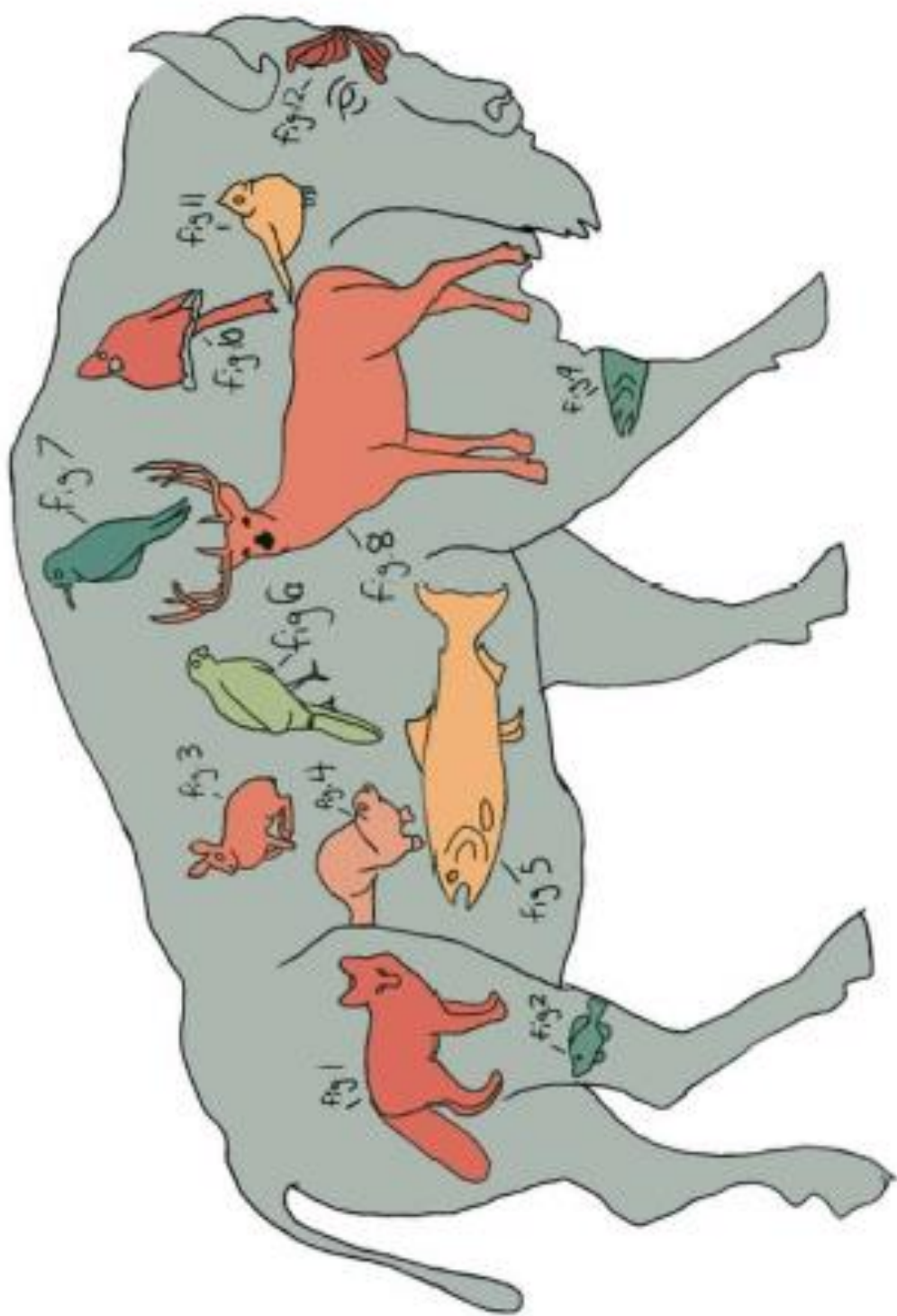


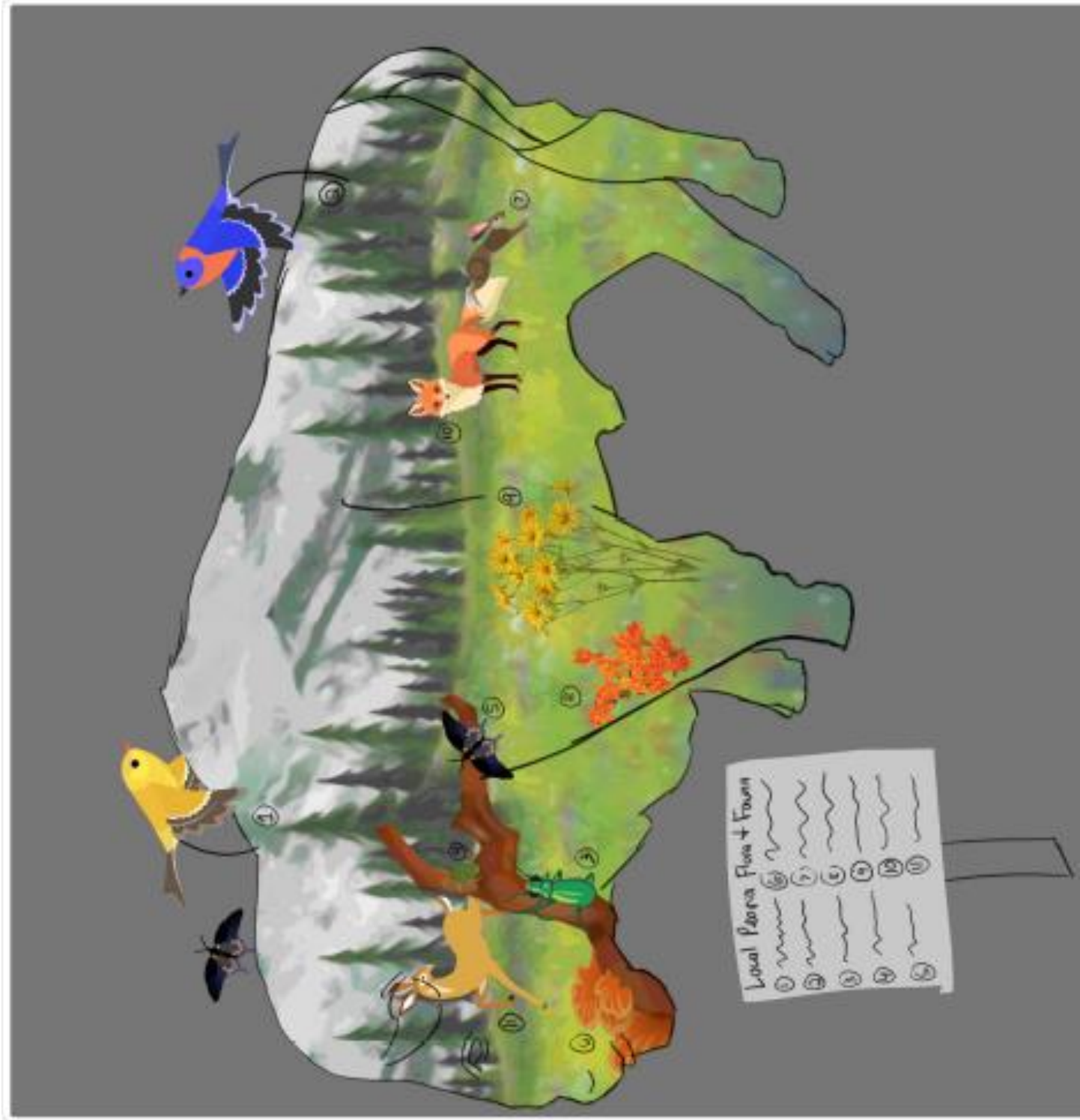


What, then, is
this blue sky,
which veils from
us the stars
during the day?

Camille
Flammarion
1873











Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Ellie Shaw

Written Statement:

When I see bison, I think of the poem "Buffalo Dusk" by Carl Sandburg.

"The buffaloes are gone, and those who saw the buffaloes are gone..."

My proposal involves painting a landscape of Banner Marsh, on the edge of Peoria County. It's a staggeringly beautiful place, and I grew up a few miles from it. Banner Marsh was once a strip mine, but now is a beautiful natural area that so many people enjoy, and the site of a thriving ecosystem. Its story parallels that of the bison population. We can't undo what has been done, but we can work to honor a natural history through conservation and education. I would love the opportunity to highlight the incredible natural beauty of our area and conservation efforts in Peoria County through painting the bison sculpture. Thank you for your consideration.

Design Proposal: My approach to the bison would be to adapt my painting of Banner Marsh (included in the photos I uploaded) to the side of the bison. I would paint the face and head shades of green and yellow, with the facial details filled in, and fade the design into landscape with cattails on the mane. I plan to use acrylic paint and will prep the sculpture before painting if necessary.

Website: None





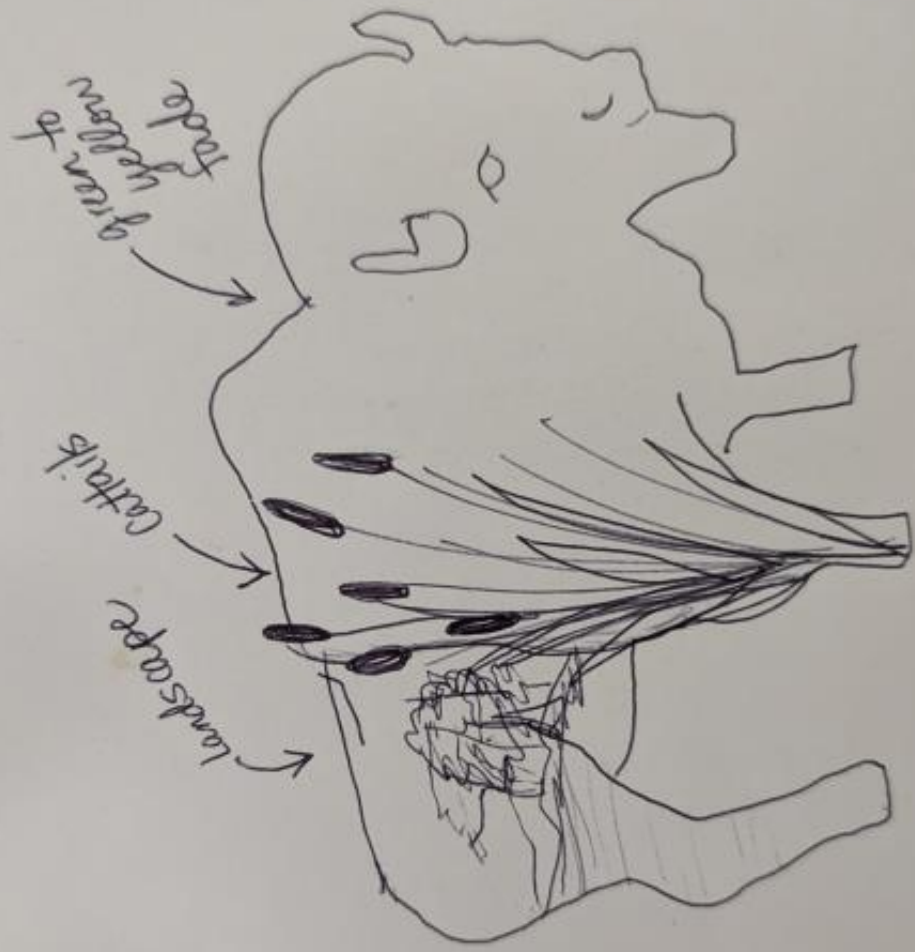
E. Ford



Ellie Shaw '24



Gilgarnesh "Gil" - E. Ford



**Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative
Entries**

Jaci E Willis

Written Statement/Design Proposal: I have twenty years experience creating murals in Central Illinois. Though I have been doing public sculpture using bronze and stainless steel, I think this would be an interesting project!

There are two ways I could work this Bison. If placed in an historical section of the city, I would the research in the archives to paint the landscape of that time period. The coloration would be from the traditional oil painting style. There would be fluidity throughout the mural to work with the continuity of the timelines.

If placed in one of our more retro areas, I'd challenge myself to combine industry icons and more pop coloration. More bright secondary coloration would be used to make the bison stand out as a piece of modern art. I would incorporate zen tangle motif and add texture such as buttons, fabric, etc. I would be sealing it all for weather using resin.

Website: None







Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Gillian Ziegler

Written Statement: I am interested in this project as I have always loved the animal sculptures and their creative designs. I love raising my family in Peoria and would love to be a part of this. My bison idea is abstract pointillism that showcases our natural features and skyline in a vibrant landscape of colors.

Design Proposal:

Website: None













Peoria

County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Megan Couri

Written Statement: I am interested in this project because I am drawn to nature, the complexities of our culture, and where we originate from.

Design Proposal: I am interested in this project as a current resident Peoria artist because I think it is important to bring awareness of cultural backgrounds, our origination, and forward movement thinking.

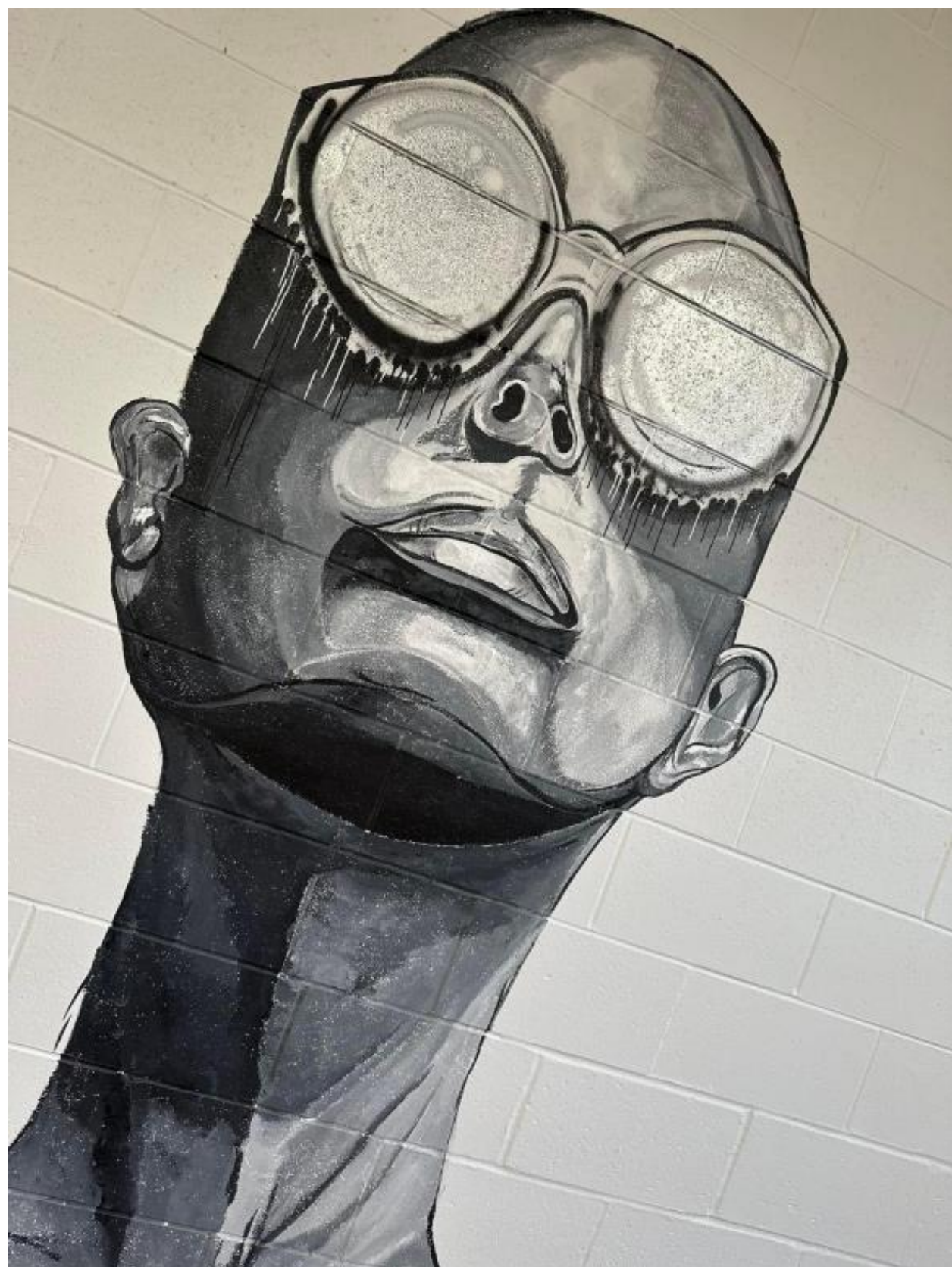
My goal with this design is to paint the front part of the bison from the head to the front hunches with vibrant prism colors. Prisms represent to me transparency and uniqueness. Color promotes positive feelings and creative thought. The face and eyes of the bison would be detailed, and the eye would be a reflection of a Native American ancestor. Something representing a deep-rooted relationship.

From the hunches to the tail would be a faded Plainsfield with bison running. The colors would be more of an earth tone, but would blend in some of the more vibrant colors.

I think it is vital as a community to not become a cancel culture where we forget about our roots and where we came from. Transitions and growth are important. Lead with love and art!

Website: www.megancouri.com











Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative Entries

Linda Webb

Written Statement: I enjoy being involved in community art. My mock up and proposal explain my ideas of combining my experienced in pattern design with my experience in clay mosaic. I would apply a faux mosaic with paint and fill each area with a unique pattern design reminiscent of local pottery over the years.

Design Proposal: Pottery using clay has been an important part of Peoria's history and arts for the past 200 years and beyond. Shards of ancient pottery can be found along the Illinois river banks. Several large pottery companies have made their home in Peoria thanks in part to our climate and ideal soil content.

Clay pots over the years have frequently been a place where creators can also show their skills of surface pattern design.

Many people in the community know my work as a clay mosaic artist but not everyone knows I have also done illustration and surface pattern design professionally for over 20 years. I have 100s of designs that have been licensed for use on products such as handbags, fabric and footwear.

I'd like to combine my experience as a clay mosaic artist with my work as an illustrator to make a unique bison design. I would section off the bison with paint to create a faux mosaic effect. Inside each section, I would fill in a different pattern design from my collection. Some of the sections may overlap. Neutral earthen pottery colors would be used (see colors in my photo 2). The patterns would represent the decorative pottery styles over the years. Some will be very simple, others will be geometric, some more elaborate. My work has always merged hand-drawn elements with computer technology. For this project, I would use original artwork applied by hand and with templates made from a digital cutting machine.

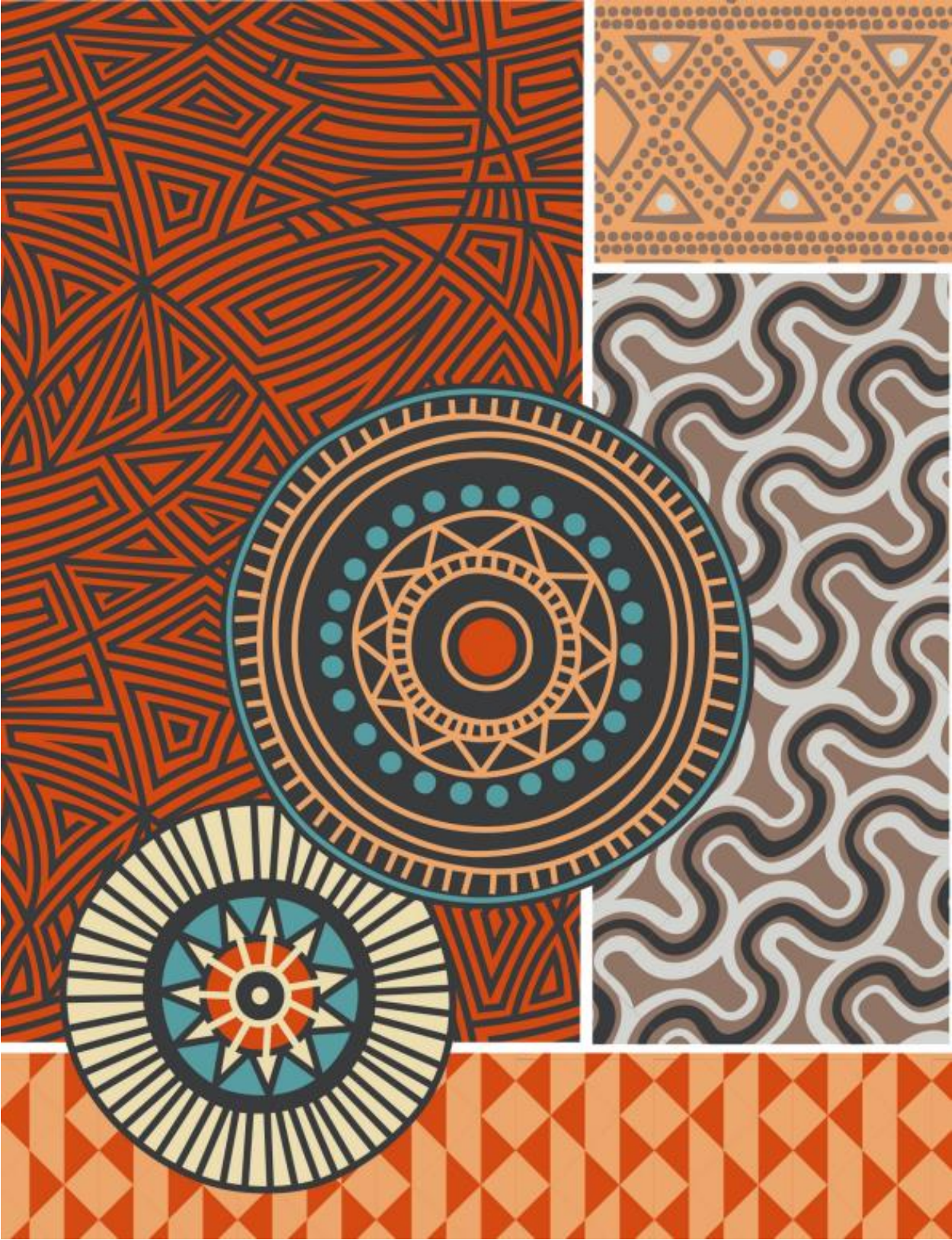
When I cross the Illinois river, I like to imagine all the broken pottery bits lost below me from all the years gone by. When I visit museums and old collections, I like to see the bits of pottery especially if they have a pattern engraved or applied to the surface. My bison design proposal is meant to piece some of those broken bits of history together to create something new and interesting. I've been involved with several large-scale projects and I feel confident of my abilities to produce a high-quality artistic piece on schedule.

My photo 4 is a rough mockup.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thanks!









Peoria County's Bicentennial Installation: Sculpting Our Narrative

Large-Scale Public Art Project Call For Entry

Contact Email: info@artspartners.org

Call Type: Public Art

Eligibility: Artists in Peoria County and the surrounding area

Entry Deadline: October 29, 2024

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Images: Minimum: 3, Maximum: 5
2. Design Proposal
3. Written Statement

Call for Entries

In celebration of Peoria County's 200th anniversary, Peoria County and ArtsPartners of Central Illinois invite local artists to submit qualifications for a public art project featuring multiple large fiberglass bison sculptures. This exciting project will commemorate the rich cultural and historical heritage of the region, with the decorated bison to be prominently displayed in public spaces throughout 2025. Peoria County is looking to decorate a minimum of two bison through this call for entry; more may be selected at a later date.

Artists will be selected based on their submitted work, and those chosen will receive a stipend of \$2,000, along with up to \$1,000 to cover material costs. The fiberglass bison sculptures measure 62 inches in height, 27 inches wide, 8 feet 4 inches in length, and weigh approximately 100 pounds.

Artists should aim to create dynamic, engaging artwork. There is no strict requirement to follow a specific theme.

Artist Eligibility

This call is open to artists living or who have a studio in Peoria County. Artists may use any medium, but the bison's shape and structural integrity must be maintained. Previous experience with public art or large-scale projects is preferred but not required.

Peoria County can arrange for transport of the bison to and from studios within Peoria County. Artists living outside the boundaries of Peoria County may have to arrange to transport the sculpture to and from the clear-coating site, depending on the distance. Peoria County will attempt to work with artists on a case-by-case basis.

Compensation

- Each selected artist will receive a \$2,000 stipend.
- Up to \$1,000 will be provided for materials, based on documented expenses.
- Peoria County will own the final artwork, including copyright.

Project Timeline

- Submission deadline: October 29, 2024
- Artist selection: Week of November 11, 2024
- Work commencement: As soon as possible after contract signing
- Completed work due: December 16, 2024
 - This call for artists is primarily for sculptures that can be ready for transport, or be delivered to the designated location in Peoria, for clear-coating by December 16, 2024.
 - Artists who know that they are not able to complete the project within the timeline are still encouraged to submit. Artists submitting for a later time frame must clearly communicate a timeline to completion in their entry.

Application Requirements

There is no cost to apply. All components must be submitted digitally and include the following:

1. **Sample Images:**
 - Minimum of 3, maximum of 5 images of previous work.
 - Images should be 144 ppi and no larger than 2000 pixels on the longest side.
 - Label images as: Lastname_Firstname_1.jpg, Lastname_Firstname_2.jpg, etc.
2. **Design Proposal:**
 - Submit either a rough mock-up of your proposed design for the bison and/or a written description (400 words or less) detailing your artistic approach. See Attachment A for a visual representation of the bison.
3. **Written Statement:**
 - A few sentences explaining your interest in this project and your vision for the bison design. Reference your submitted work if relevant.
4. **Optional:**
 - Website link for additional work or context. This will not replace the required image submissions.

Design Requirements

The proposed artwork must not interfere with public safety. Prohibited elements include:

- Bold or vibrant colors that can be mistaken for signal lights
- Lighting or reflective elements that are not incorporated into the artwork
- Flashing disks that simulate lighting
- 3D effects
- Company logos or symbols
- Flags and banners
- Text
- Depictions of violence

After the artist has completed their work, the sculpture will be clear-coated at Woodruff Career and Technical Center or other organization. Beforehand, a sticker with the Peoria County

bicentennial logo will be affixed to the left rear hip or rump of each bison. Depending on the dimensions, the maximum size would be 6 inches x 2 inches or 4 inches x 4 inches. It will cover some portion of the design. The exact placement will be determined by County staff before it is clear-coated. If the placement needs to be changed due to the design, we can determine that on a case-by-case basis.

Selection Process

A selection committee will review all submissions and may choose not to select an artist if no suitable proposals are submitted. The committee reserves the right to delay selection.

Additional Policies

- Peoria County will retain ownership and copyright of the completed artwork and design.
- Peoria County retains the right to amend design requirements.
- Artists are responsible for securing any permissions related to reference images.
- ArtsPartners and Peoria County may use submitted images for promotional purposes.
- Selected artists will receive recognition via Peoria County's website, social media, and other promotional avenues.
- By submitting, artists agree to the terms outlined in this call for entry.

For questions or more information, contact: info@artspartners.org.

Attachment A

Use the following image as a reference:

