ASIA CONDOMINIUMS MURAL

668 S Lane St, Seattle, WA 98104

International Special Review District (ISRD) Application for Certificate of Approval

An Huynh, SCIDpda Lauren Young Smith







ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Asia Condominiums mural project is one of three mural projects by the CID Small Business Relief Team (SBRT).

The SBRT is a joint effort between three community-based organizations in the Chinatown International District: The Chinatown International District Business Improvement Area (CIDBIA), Friends of Little Sai Gon (FLS), and the Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority (SCIDpda) to assist CID small business in COVID-19 mitigation and recovery.

The mural locations were chosen based on community interest and support, high visibility, and proximity to community gathering spaces. Our goal for this project is to create large-scale public art in the Chinatown International District that is impactful and reflective of the neighborhood's culture, history, and diverse community.

This project is funded by a Hope Corps grant from the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture (ARTS), Hope Corps Downtown Seattle Murals Project, in collaboration with the Seattle Office of Economic Development (OED), is a one-time investment to create public murals in alignment with Mayor Harrell's Downtown Activation Plan.

ABOUT THE LOCATION

Asia Condominiums is located at 668 South Lane Street. The building is across the street from Donnie Chin International Children's Park and two blocks away from the International District/Chinatown Community Center, Seattle Public Library-International District/Chinatown Branch, and **International Community Health** Services. This makes the mural site a high visibility and traffic area due to its proximity to community gathering spaces. The north facade of Asia Condos, where the mural will be located, faces a beloved neighborhood business, Ocean Star Seafood Restaurant.



ABOUT THE LOCATION

The mural will be located on the north facade of 668 South Lane Street (show here).





ABOUT THE ARTIST

The artist for the mural is Los Angeles-based artist Lauren YS. They were selected by a panel of community advocates, representatives of the Asia Condominium residents, and members of the Friends of International Children's Park. Each application (18 total) was scored on a 100-point scale for their professional experience, artistic excellence, experience with large-scale murals, and mural proposal's values and theme.



Lauren YS



Asian American Cultural Center, Yale University



Austin, Texas

ABOUT THE DESIGN

Once the artists were selected, the CID Small Business Relief Team conducted pre-design community engagement during the Lunar New Year Festival in February of 2024. SCIDpda received 32 responses from the community, which provided a launching off point for the artist.

An initial draft was completed in April. SCIDpda provided an internal review for this draft in addition to sending the draft to the selection committee, Asia Condo residents, and conducting door-to-door outreach to businesses adjacent to the mural.

The second and final draft was completed in July, and the design was reviewed by Asia Condo residents and SCIDpda staff.



Lunar New Year Festival, 2024

ABOUT THE DESIGN





- 1. HEX #E7290F
- 2. HEX #3D438F
- 3. HEX #FF6CA0
- 4. HEX #996267
- 5. HEX #742ABF
- 6. HEX #D36F00
- 7. HEX #2C3F50
- 8. HEX #005C4F
- 9. HEX #4E7BCC
- 10. HEX #B80059

ABOUT THE DESIGN

This mural aims to capture the powerful links between past, present and future within the Asian community surrounding Seattle Chinatown.

A constellation of characters inspired by important members of the diaspora center around a family scene in which siblings, parents and grandparents share food, a ubiquitous gesture of togetherness and generational love across cultures.

While this family scene is warmly lit and painted with cues signifying a contemporary setting, the characters surrounding them are painted in less-saturated, dreamy colors to denote generational ties and the presence of our ancestors. An elder character holding fish represents the fisherman's history in Seattle with nods to the Vietnamese immigrant experience, and a femme character performing martial arts gives a nod to the fighter's legacy in Seattle. A character represents the Seattle Chinese Community girls' drill team, the only one of its kind in the world. Japanese taiko drumming, traditional filipina garb and a character from a traditional chinese lion dance are also represented.

The characters are organized with gazes meant to lead the viewer around the image, led by a dragon that connects each element, and backed by traditional chinese kites. The image is meant to express a sense of synthesis and community in music, athletics, industry and art across generations and genders, all unified around the power of family and food.

INSTALLATION METHOD

The mural will be painted directly on the wall's surface using industrial grade house paints and spray paints.

The wall will be primed initially, then buffed a solid background color (blue), then the rest will be spray paint (A mixture of montana black and gold). A coat of anti-graffiti covering will be applied, which ensures decades of color resistance and longevity. A boom lift will be used to complete all of this work. The lift will be parked in the Ocean Star parking lot.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

If a Certificate of Approval is given in August 2024, we anticipate installation will take place in late August to mid September. Lauren YS is booked for other projects from mid-September to early November, and mural installation in Seattle during the fall is highly challenging. Therefore, we are working to ensure everything aligns for installation to be completed before mid-September.

October - November 2023	Request for Qualifications
December 2023	Finalists Selected
January 2024	Artists Interviews & Final Selection
February 2024	Lunar New Year Community Engagement
April 2024	1st Draft Completed
May, June 2024	Community Feedback on 1st Draft
July 2024	2nd Draft Completed
July 2024	Community Feedback on 2nd Draft
August 2024	ISRD Application Submitted and Approved (Anticipated)
August 2024	Installation Begins (Anticipated)
Mid-September 2024	Installation Completed (Anticipated)

PROPERTY OWNER APPROVAL

