



STAFF REPORT
9/11/2024

TO: Cultural and Arts Commission Chair and Commissioners

FROM: Celina Jimenez, Director of Economic Development

SUBJECT: Approve an Art in Public Places Proposal for a Mural Titled, Listening to the Rain by Nanibah “Nani” Chacon in the Amount of \$24,000

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council consider approving and awarding a grant to Nanibah “Nani” Chacon in the amount of \$24,000 from the City of Coachella’s Art in Public Places Program to install a mural titled, *Listening to the Rain* on the Frontier building wall at 933 Vine Avenue.

BACKGROUND:

On January 1, 2011, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 1034 establishing an Art in Public Places Program and implementing a new development impact fee for certain new construction, remodeling and reconstruction of public art installations. The purpose of the Art in Public Places ordinance is to develop and maintain a visual arts program for the residents and visitors of Coachella, to add to the economic vitality of the community, and to enhance the environment and unique character of Coachella by providing for the acquisition and maintenance of quality works of public art.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The submitted proposal is for a painted mural project titled, *Listening to the Rain*. The mural is in line with the artist’s focus on figurative subject matter while exploring concepts within indigenous culture and bringing the complexity of indigenous identities to the forefront. As evident by the many murals that already adorn the walls throughout downtown Coachella, murals have the power to convey a message, help build community, and be a source of pride. As part of the project, the artist will also conduct a community mural workshop tailored to Coachella’s youth. This workshop will not only engage and educate students on the technical aspect of creating a mural, but also the cultural significance and local impact they have in their community.

Budget

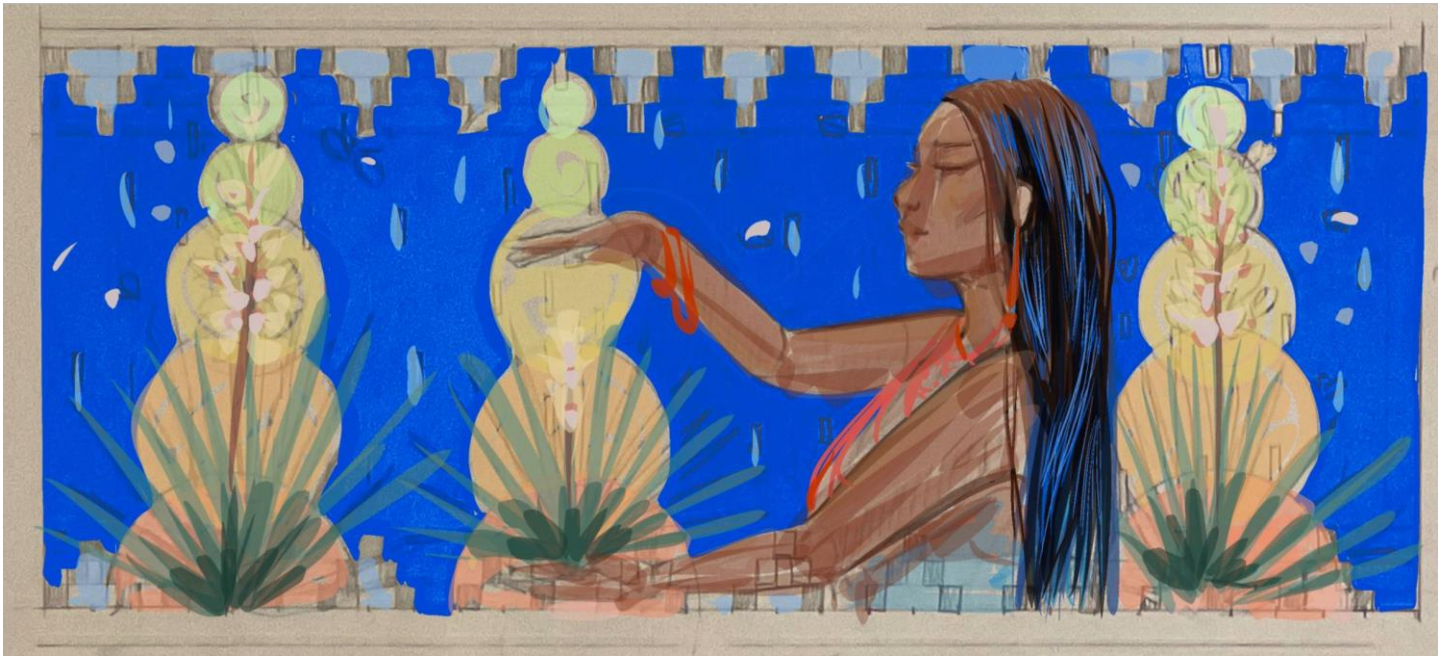
Artist Fee (labor & design, materials)	\$15,000
Hotel (\$180-215/night, for 2 weeks)	\$3,000
Flight	\$440
Per Diem (\$40/day for 2 weeks)	\$560
Community Mural Workshop	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$24,000

About the Artist

Nanibah “Nani” Chacon is a Dine (Navajo) and Chicana artist, most recognized as a painter and muralist. Ms. Chacon was born in Gallup, New Mexico and raised on the Navajo reservation and in Mexico. She is currently based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Ms. Chacon’s most notable works have been within the public arts sector, in which she has a cumulative experience of over twenty years. Her work has been recognized for its unique style and attentiveness to site specific location and content, as well as the integration of socio-political issues that affect women and indigenous peoples. Ms. Chacon received her bachelor’s degree in Education from the University of New Mexico in 2003. She has seven years of teaching experience and in writing curriculum for alternative education programs. She currently exhibits across the United States and abroad.



Proposed Mural Design Rendition
Listening to the Rain



ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve an Art in Public Places Proposal for a Mural Titled, Listening to the Rain by Nanibah "Nani" Chacon in the Amount of \$24,000
2. Not Approve the Art Mural and Provide Alternative Direction

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the City Council approves the staff recommendation, the \$24,000 will be withdrawn from the Special Revenue Funds (130) – Development Impact Fees for Public Art for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Application