

## Patricia West

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**From:** Renée Barron  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 1:50 PM  
**To:** Patricia West  
**Subject:** FW: Mural

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**From:** Patrick Johnson <patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 1, 2023 9:08 AM  
**To:** Renée Barron <rbarron@gladstonemi.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Mural

It appears that is what she wants. Funding for the project came from the DDA, an art grant that Mia had, and Patronicity. The patronicity grant as a 50/50 match of community donations. Suani and I are willing to put some cash towards the deal, but are disappointed that our lease with Mia is for 7 years and we are not there yet. I'm half tempted to paint over it, but I feel that there is a value to the community by having it still. Thanks for looking into this.

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On Jun 28, 2023, at 2:04 PM, Renée Barron <[rbarron@gladstonemi.org](mailto:rbarron@gladstonemi.org)> wrote:

Hi Patrick,  
Finally got to thinking about this. Just to confirm; Mia is looking for \$2,000-\$3,000 for repairs and an additional \$1600 for the plaque? Can you remind me of the funding sources for this project.

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**From:** Patrick Johnson <[patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com](mailto:patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 12:20 PM  
**To:** Renée Barron <[rbarron@gladstonemi.org](mailto:rbarron@gladstonemi.org)>; ICE Suani Nieto <[suaninieto@gmail.com](mailto:suaninieto@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mural

Hey Renee, I was in contact with Mia regarding her art work on the wall. Below is our conversation. I was hoping I could pick your brain on how we could proceed. Please let me know.

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** mia tavonatti <[miatav@yahoo.com](mailto:miatav@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** June 18, 2023 at 10:34:24 PM EDT  
**To:** Patrick Johnson <[patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com](mailto:patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com)>  
**Subject: Re: Mural**  
**Reply-To:** mia tavonatti <[miatav@yahoo.com](mailto:miatav@yahoo.com)>

Hi Patrick,  
Sorry for the delay. yes this will be fine. I understand your need for tenant improvements.

As for the spalling, that wall was spalling way before we got there, and the large majority of it is in the top 4'-0" of the wall so, if it was a matter of the wall not being allowed to dry, it would be equal everywhere. The only thing I can even think to do is to go over all the white with a heavy coat of NovaColor paint since the areas where we painted the actual images seem to be holding with a few small exceptions. When we paint, we work very hard to fill every hole and basically put a "condom" on the wall but we didn't cover the white areas with Novacolor and the painters are never nearly as careful as we are. We used very high quality water sealing paint / primer but it shows you how much stronger the Novacolor is.

I do not have ANY money to do these additions and I don't think Jeff would want to do it and he is the only one I trust. I'll ask him. If you can raise \$2-3K for materials and labor, we can try this, but I can't guarantee it will stop the spalling since this wall just never has much time to dry out and no matter when we do it, we could just be locking in more moisture.

I also still have to pay at least \$1600 for the donor plaque. I had the design done but then covid hit...plus, I really don't have anyone to back check all the names, and I worry about missing someone, even though I keep very good records. Lorna has been on my case and I want this done before I move to Italy, so lets figure out a way to get this all done this summer!

EnJoy!  
Mia

**Mia Tavonatti Productions, Inc.**  
<http://www.miatavonatti.com>

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On Friday, June 16, 2023, 1:21:33 PM PDT, Patrick Johnson <[patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com](mailto:patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thank you Mia. I spoke with our contractor John, the guy who lent us the lift for the project. He said that the 6" of flashing already up there is very well secured and doesn't

think it's the problem. He goes up to check after every winter. He's and I are confused as to what more could be done.

Looking back, do you think that the wall got sealed up before it was dry. I noticed that the pieces Jeff worked on previously, no longer have the spalling issue.

Attached you will find a very rough drawing of the anticipated garage door. The door would replace a portion of the wall and be painted to match the original art work. Please let me know what you think?

As always, we appreciate your expertise in this project.

<image001.jpg>

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On Jun 8, 2023, at 11:53 AM, mia tavonatti <[miatav@yahoo.com](mailto:miatav@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Hi Patrick,  
I hope all is well with you.

First, can you send me a pic if the wall with a quick sketch of where exactly the garage door is being proposed?

Second, this wall has always and will continue to spall. The upper portion of the wall is the worst and this will not stop until you do some moisture abatement at the top, including, at a very minimum, flashing overlapping the top edge because the water continues to perk down through the bricks, freeze, expand and push outwards.

My foundation has already tried to address this twice and spent \$7000 the first time and \$3000 the second time. This extra spending is the reason there is no donor plaque yet, because we ate all that up trying to solve a problem that is endemic to this old brick wall.

Jeff has a full time job now and most likely isn't available. If you can address the top of the wall soon, while we have a dry period, I can probably find some \$\$ to pay someone to do the work, but this will be the last time, if we can't keep moisture out of this wall.

Let me know what you think and let's continue this conversation and hopefully find a solution because I also love this mural and would love to keep it beautiful for years to come.

Thanks,  
Mia

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Wed, Jun 7, 2023 at 5:03 PM, Patrick Johnson <[patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com](mailto:patrickjohnsondc@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hey Mia, Suani and I hope you are doing well. I wanted to reach out to you for a couple of reasons.

The first is, we have a brewery moving into the theater portion of the Rialto and he needs to punch a garage door through the wall for loading and unloading product. From my discussions with him, we determined

that the best location would be a spot 10'x10' located under the blue play button on the wall. There would be about a 3' portion of the button that would need to be removed. He would make sure the garage door would have the 3' portion of the mural on it. Would that be ok?

Second, I have noticed the upper part of the mural is starting to show more spalling of the brick. Would Jeff be able to come by and touch up the art?

We absolutely love the mural and constantly receive complements on how it has been a wonderful addition to the Gladstone Downtown. Thank you for your continued hard work and sharing your talent with our community.

Sincerely,

Patrick Johnson D.C.  
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<image0.jpeg>