



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

---

**MEETING DATE:** 08/22/23

**REQUESTER:** Veronica Tracy, Recreation Manager

**PRESENTER:** Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF A DONATION OF A MURAL ENTITLED "HUICHOL BOY" VALUED AT \$5,000 TO BE PLACED ON THE WALL NEAR THE WEST-FACING DOORS AT THE NORMAN FIREHOUSE ARTS CENTER, 444 SOUTH FLOOD AVENUE.

---

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Norman Firehouse Arts Center approached the City of Norman regarding a mural project at the City-owned facility within Lion's Park at 444 South Flood Avenue. The donation of the art with supplies and honorarium is valued at \$5,000.

The Norman Board of Park Commissioners recommended on August 3, 2023, that the City accept this donation and place the mural at the Firehouse Art Center.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Chapter 12, Section 12-110 states that City Council must first accept any item donated to the City with a value above \$250. Furthermore, Chapter 2, Section 2-311 states that "the City shall accept all donations of public art, as defined herein, that are made in accordance with section 4 of the Charter. . ." Article I, Section 4 of the City Charter allows that the "City may receive bequests, gifts, and donations of all kinds of property in fee simple or trust for charitable or public purposes and perform all acts necessary to carry out the purposes of such bequests, gifts, donations or trusts, with power to manage, sell, lease or otherwise dispose of same in accordance with the terms of the bequest, gift, donation, or trust."

The proposed mural depicts a young Huichol boy in front of the composition. In the background, there is a sun in the typical Wixárika style. A yellow parrot is posing on his shoulder. In Huichol culture, the parrot is seen as one of the most positive and uplifting animals you can come across in a dream; flowers representing life and abundance surround the boy.

The mural artist, Qvetzal, recently graduated from the University of Guadalajara in Puerto Vallarta and will be visiting The Firehouse Arts Center for two weeks in September. All costs for supplies and honorarium will be paid through corporate sponsorships, in-kind gifts, and grants received for the exhibition *WAKING UP* on display from September 14- November 4, 2023. The

Norman Firehouse Arts Center anticipates that they will need to loan or rent a few supplies, such as scaffolding they intend to fund in-house.

The proposed location for the mural at The Norman Firehouse Arts Center is the wall next to the West facing doors used as the main entry and within the patio courtyard used by many Norman Firehouse Arts Center patrons.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends acceptance of the donation valued at \$5,000 of a mural to be placed on the wall near the West facing doors at Firehouse Arts Center entitled "Huichol Boy."