



## **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Staff Report**

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**Date: February 10, 2026**

**From: Zoe Mombert, Assistant to the City Manager**

**Subject: Temporary Pride Month Mural Art Review**

**Recommended Action:**

Select two DEI Committee members to participate in the March 21, 2026 Arts, Culture and Heritage Commission (ACHC) meeting to review the Temporary Pride Mural art before the ACHC approves the mural design.

**Background and Process:**

The purpose and goal of the mural is to provide visual representation to uplift, recognize and celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community and celebrate and honor Pride Month.

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pride Month Mural Process the ACHC has participated in. Last year, city staff worked with the organization Portland Street Art Alliance (PSAA), due to their large network of muralists. PSAA provided staff with a list of ten artists who they thought would be a good fit for the project. Staff narrowed that list down to five artists. PSAA reached out to those five artists to see if they were interested in the project. Artists were given information about the project such as "Designs may incorporate or be inspired by the Progress Pride Flag and its colors, but ultimately artists should use their own creativity when submitting a design that they feel is representative, celebratory and meaningful of the LGBTQIA+ community and Pride Month". They were also told that the site is very visible by both pedestrians and cars and will likely be utilized as a photo opportunity. The Selection Panel was provided with three artist options and recommended that two artists (Paola De La Cruz and Daren Todd) be compensated to create unique designs. Daren Todd was awarded the project in 2025.

For the 2026 Pride Mural process, staff has utilized the same artist roster from PSAA from 2025. Staff provided the ACHC with three Artist options and they selected Paola De La Cruz. She was a finalist for the 2025 Mural. The ACHC will review the Artist's 2026 design at their March 21, 2026 meeting. In the past, two (2) DEI Committee members have reviewed Pride Mural Art, and the DEI Committee is invited to participate in the art review in 2026 as well.

**Next Steps:**

The ACHC will meet on March 21, 2026 to review the 2026 Temporary Pride Mural art. The DEI Committee can select two (2) committee members to review the Temporary Pride Mural art at the ACHC's March meeting.