



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Staff Report

Date: April 14, 2026

From: Erika Valentine, Arts & Culture Program Coordinator

Subject: Hispanic Heritage Month Temporary Mural

Recommended Action:

Receive information from staff about this project and provide design suggestions/input for staff to pass on to Artist.

Background:

Angenette Escobar is a professional artist, advisor to the National Art Honor Society, and teacher of several art classes at WHS. Additionally, she is a Mexican-American artist that was raised along the Mexican border in South Texas in the Rio Grande Valley. She often draws inspiration from her upbringing and heritage. Last year, Angenette's design was selected for one of the heARTS of Wilsonville, which she completed with her advanced art students. She is also the WHS staff that heads the planning of the Dia De Los Muertos Event.

In November 2025, Arts & Culture staff met with Angenette to meet to discuss ways to support Angenette's work and efforts as it relates to the ACHC's priority of *suggesting ways to make cultural diversity, ethnic inclusivity and accessibility for all community members a priority for cultural programs*. The ACHC has also consistently expressed interest in more collaboration with students/schools.

From that meeting, plans developed to commission a temporary mural for Hispanic Heritage Month which runs Tues, Sept 15 – Th, Oct 15, led by Angenette, in collaboration with her students. The purpose of the mural would be to: *increase visibility, and promote awareness, in order to ensure a wider audience can see, appreciate and celebrate the diversity and richness of Hispanic and Latinx culture and experiences.*

Staff brought this project idea and plan to the ACHC at their March 18, 2026 meeting. The ACHC opted to intentionally not pass on any design direction to Angenette, but to rather trust her creative expression and experience as a professional artist and expert on relevant subject matter for this specific mural theme.

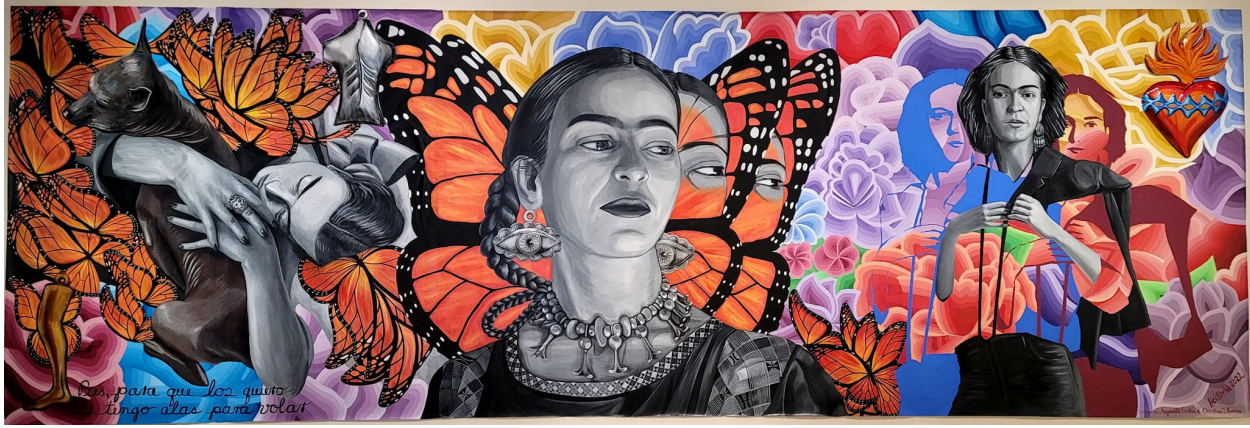
Budget:

The Artist stipend for this project is \$3,000 which includes everything (design work/time, supplies, etc.).

Next Steps:

Staff will pass on any input received by the DEI Committee to Angenette. A design would come to a future ACHC meeting for final approval (August 2026), and we would have 1 – 2 volunteers from the DEI Committee participate in that meeting as well.

Past Mural Work:



Attachments

1. Hispanic Heritage Month Mural Project Information