

**Library Children's Room Mural
Sub-committee Report
August 8, 2018**

Background

Over several years the Board of Library Trustees and members of the library community have discussed commissioning a mural for the children's reading room. On May 16, 2018 the Board appointed Trustees Garcia and Smith to meet with the Cultural Arts Commission on the subject of such a mural. Trustees Garcia and Smith, on the recommendation of Deputy City Manager Gluba, decided that before a sub-committee of the Board approached the Cultural Arts Commission a better definition of the requirements was required.

Actions to Date:

On June 27, 2018 Trustees Garcia and Smith, met with Library Manager Spill and Deputy City Manager Gluba in the children's room to identify the appropriate wall, take its measurements and have a preliminary discussion as to a theme, goal, and artistic content for the mural. We were joined by Library Clerk II Crystal Orosco, in our discussions. Crystal is known for the energy and innovation she brings to the Children's room. At that meeting a wide range of mural themes, goals, and content was discussed. The following is a sampling of those ideas:

Possible chronologically organized mural; options:

Older children's literature to more recent literature

Dinosaurs to Space

The bookshelves below the proposed mural roughly contain: dinosaurs, space, animals, cars, health, food and could provide a historical theme for the mural

Perhaps a literary genre based approach would be appropriate

Trustee Smith has held very preliminary discussions with Margaret Aichele of the dA Center for the Arts and artist Joy McAllister. Both expressed interest in the project. In addition, artist Angel Villanueva visited the library on July 31 and discussed the project with Library Manager Spill. Mr. Villanueva had heard about the project from the dA Center. Ms McAllister said that she would visit the library.. Ms Aichele provided a cost estimate (see below). Ms Aichele said that the dA Center for the Arts would pay for the paint. Trustee Smith met with Ms McAllister at the library on August 6.

Recommendations:

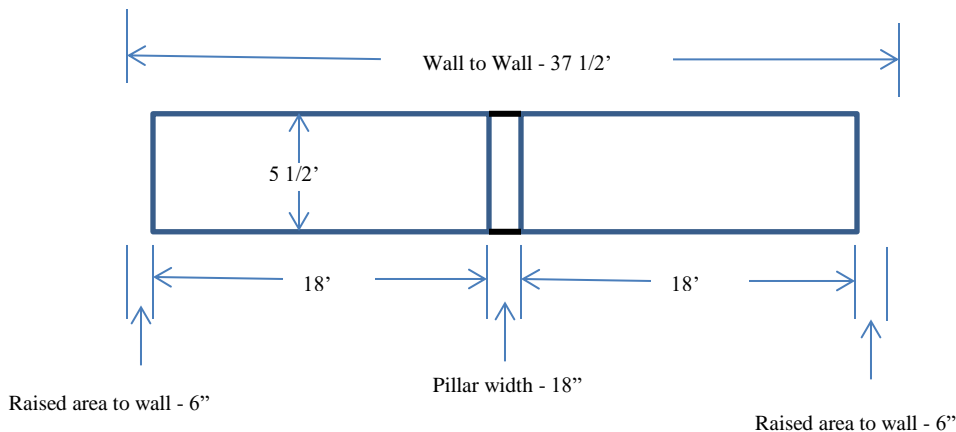
Theme: A World of Children's Literature

Artistic Goal: Illustrate the world's children's literature with specific focus on Pomona's diverse population.

Wall: The western wall from the top of the bookcase to the ceiling.
The total areas for the mural would be 206.25 square feet.



Dimensions (south wall to north wall; top of west wall book shelf to ceiling)
(not to scale)



Costs:

Cost estimates provided by Margaret Aichele of the dA Center for the Arts would be

- \$7,000
- \$10,000
- \$15,000

depending on complexity. Ms. Aichele statement on cost was “\$35, \$50, and \$75 per square foot give or take. There are so many variables.”

Joy McAllister suggested a cost of \$100.00 per square foot or \$20,000.00 for the complete project.

The following estimates are provided on FIXr’s website (<https://www.fixr.com/costs/paint-wall-mural>). They reflect national averages and assume that the mural is in a private home. The site notes, “Cost to paint a wall mural varies greatly by region.” In addition, the sub-committee does not know the reliability of these costs estimates.

National average:
\$8,020 (a 200 sq. ft. mural of midrange intricacy)

Sketching fee: most artists charge a sketching fee to formulate an artistic vision and sketch of your desired mural. Expected cost: \$600-\$1,500 flat rate.

Depends on intricacy

- A 200 sq. ft. low intricacy mural will take 40 hours and will cost \$1,400-\$2,000.
- A 200 sq. ft. mid range intricacy mural will take 80-120 hours and will cost \$2,800-\$6,400
- A 200 sq. ft. high intricacy mural will take 200 hours and will cost \$7,000-\$10,000.

Addition costs for working from a ladder \$2-\$4 per sq.ft. ie \$400 to \$800

The sub-committee recommends we use \$15,000 for planning purposes.

Other discussion:

The sub-committee believes that the details of the implementation should be left to the selected artist provided that implementation is in keeping with the stated theme and goal of the project. Of courses, the artist may and should consult library staff as to specific concerns regarding children’s literature and the demographics of Pomona.

Ms Aichele of the dA suggested we have an artist call with each artist providing a working cartoon or sketch in a size suitable for display. The cartoon or sketch would illustrate the artist’s artistic vision of how they would implement the theme and goal of the mural. The library community would then vote on their preferred implementation at a place set up for such voting in the library. While intriguing, the sub-committee believes that final decisions should be made by the Board in consultation with the Library Manager, the Deputy City Manager, and the Cultural Arts Commission as appropriate.

The sub-committee also worries that some approaches might involve copyright infringement issues.

The wall is painted brick and mortar, rough in texture and broken by a central pillar that protrudes from the wall. How might this be incorporated in the mural?

- As the theme divider
- As an integrated part of the mural

Next steps:

- Approve a theme and goal.
- Approve wall selection
- Verify cost estimates
- Developed selection process
- Meet with Cultural Arts Commission to discuss funding

Attachment: Representative examples of library murals.

Respectfully summited:

Trustee Nora Garcia

Trustee Duane Smith

Attachment





