

Allmendinger Park Mural Selection Panel

Proposal Concept Review and Artist Interviews

December 20th, 9am, 2nd Floor City Hall

Present: Wiltrud Simbuerger, Connie Pulcifer, Mariah Cherem, Hannah Smotrich, & Aaron Seagraves

The Allmendinger Park Mural Selection Panel met on Monday the 21st of November and reviewed 13 artist qualifications submitted in response to the City of Ann Arbor's SOQ for the project. Four artists were selected as semi-finalists. The semi-finalists were asked to submit a *proposal concept*. The *proposal concept* was intended to establish the artist's initial design direction. They were due December 8th. Review of the *proposal concepts* and artist interviews were conducted by the Selection Panel at the meeting on December 20th.

Artist Semi-Finalists:

Roberto Delgado Studios, California; lead artist, Yami Duarte
Bethany Kalk, Morehead, Kentucky
Jefferson Nelson, Liberty Center, Ohio
Mary Thiefels, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Selection Panel's Recommendation:

Upon review of the submissions and the panel's consideration of the artist's responses during the interviews, the Selection Panel elected to go forward with Mary Thiefels' concept for the mural. The Selection Panel had the option of asking for multiple final proposals, but there was consensus among the members in asking for a final art proposal from Thiefels only.

The Selection Panel selected Mary Thiefels for the following reasons:

- The community participation that will accompany the mural gives the community ownership of the project and will serve to reflect the community within the art
- The proposal has repeating design elements throughout the separate columns of the park's shelter that are visually interesting
- The familiarity of the artist with the community

The Selection Panel recommends artist Mary Thiefels to the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission and the City of Ann Arbor, for the commissioning of the artist's submitted art proposal for the mural at Allmendinger Park.

Project Budget:

In August, AAPAC agreed on a project budget of \$10,000 and an overall budget of \$12,200 (allowing for a contingency of up to \$2,200). Proposed budget: \$7,200 from AAACF donation, & \$2,800 to \$5,000 Art in Public Places pooled funds.